

# Chronicles

CAREER QUEST LEARNING CENTERS • FEBRUARY 2019

## What do you *Love* about Career Quest?

Since February is the month of love, it seems like a good time to ask some members of our team, as well as current and former students, what they love about Career Quest. Please join them in sharing your thoughts at [www.facebook.com/CareerQuestLC](http://www.facebook.com/CareerQuestLC).

*"What I'm learning in class is definitely going to be directly relevant to what I'm going to be doing when I graduate. I'm learning exactly what I need to know. It's an amazing, accelerated program that you should do if you're looking to be an MA." –Jaelyn Mott-Hale, Medical Assistant Student, Bay City*

*"The learning environment here is wonderful. If you need something, there is always somebody here to help you. Even on a Sunday at 8:00 at night, you can pick up the phone and call your instructor, which I have, and they're right there to help." –Betty Druweheller, Ophthalmic Technician Student, Lansing*

*"I love our students. Every day they inspire me to be a better person. I can never express my gratitude for how thankful I am for everything they do. They encounter a lot of hardships throughout the process of getting their diploma, certificate and/or degree. They persevere through these hardships knowing their lives are going to change for the better. Career Quest allows them to gain the confidence they need and remind them that they can do this. Helping our students gain that confidence and education makes it really easy to love Career Quest." –Stephanie Nye, Business Instructor, Lansing*

*"Your instructors are always there no matter what, after class, before class, they're willing to help you succeed. And I love that because you don't get that at a local college. I like having small classes, I like having that extra help if you need it." –Aunauda Boquar, Medical Assistant Graduate, Jackson*

*"The instructors are great. They care about us and they know what's going on. I've got a wife and kid at home as well, and CQ just fits in with family life, work life and everything." –Andrew Harroun, Medical Assistant Student, Lansing*

*"One thing that makes CQ a great place to be is the students who tell you how much they appreciate you and your teaching style. I love what I do, and who I teach it to!" –Sarah Gottleber, Medical Instructor, Mt. Pleasant*

*"The curriculum has been what I needed to succeed, and I feel like once I get out there in the field, I'll be prepared. And it's CQ that I have to thank for that. There is no comparison. CQ is the best because it's focused on the career." –Rob Holbrook, Medical Assistant Graduate, Jackson*

*"I interviewed for one of the positions through a referral from the instructor here at CQ, was offered the job and took it. I had achieved my goal even before school was done." –Charles Dunn, IT Graduate, Lansing*

*"Working has never been so enjoyable! Every day that I can help students smile, push themselves and achieve goals they had only dreamt of, makes it all worthwhile and immensely rewarding! Career Quest has provided me with such great joy and satisfaction." –Nate Kretschmer, IT Instructor, Lansing*

*"CQ gave me the confidence to be able to speak in front of people. Confidence not only in my knowledge but in myself. I know I can do it." –Dawien Isaac, Administrative Assistant Graduate, Lansing*

*"No matter how much you have going on in your personal life, you can still succeed in this place. They give you what you need, and they help you along the way, no matter what struggles you have." –Adrienne Heath, Medical Assistant Graduate, Mt. Pleasant*

*"The thing I love most about Career Quest is seeing students change their lives. It's amazing to see the transformation in students. A student may start out in his or her respective program lacking professionalism and confidence. By the end of the program (or even a Mod) this same student is transformed into a complete and total professional exuding confidence. It makes my position as a faculty member at Career Quest very rewarding. I love my job!" –Shelley Thomas, Legal & Business Instructor, Jackson*

*"I enjoyed CQ because they got to the point. They got you where you needed to be and they support you all the way around." –Ivonne Rouwers, Medical Billing & Coding Graduate, Lansing*

*"They're very understanding. They want to see you succeed and you don't get that with other colleges. As soon as you walk in here, it's a welcoming feeling. It was honestly the best decision that I've ever made." –Skye Wood, Medical Assistant Student, Mt. Pleasant*

*"They motivate you as you're motivating them and they're basically your support system. They all want you to succeed and you want to succeed so it's awesome." –Bethany Visser, Medical Assistant Graduate, Bay City*

*"If you're reading this, YOU are the reason Career Quest is simply the very best. Our students, employees, communities and employers are what make us so outstanding. Our teachers especially, are paramount to our success. Any school is only as strong as its weakest teacher, which is why CQLC is so strong." Dr. Jiu Hutton, CEO*

## Regional Employee of the Month



We're proud to announce CQLC's Director of Career Services, **Talisa McKissic**, as February's Regional Employee of the Month. "She's always 100% dedicated to helping our students excel. And she does an amazing job ensuring that the Career Services department provides outstanding customer service and professional coaching to students," says Lansing Campus President Mollie Woodworth. "Talisa works tirelessly to organize events and workshops that will assist our students with their professional endeavors, and ultimately help them to gain the soft skills and professionalism employers are looking for." Talisa is always willing to step in and help whenever needed, no matter what the task is. She tackles any challenge with a 'We can do it!' attitude, and it's clear she puts our students before all else. Thank you, Talisa, for all you do!

## Alumna Highlight

### Vannessa Nogueras: Following the Path of Doc McStuffins

Vannessa Nogueras says her children couldn't be prouder of their mom as she puts on her uniform every day and heads to work in a doctor's office. "I tell them, do you know Hallie the Hippo who helps Doc McStuffins? That's what mommy does!"

Except Vannessa isn't assisting an imaginary doctor and her patients aren't stuffed animals. Vannessa works as a medical assistant for McLaren Health Care. And she says she wouldn't be doing a job she loves if it weren't for Career Quest Learning Centers (CQLC). "McLaren came to Quest and I happened to be one of the students they picked right from there for an externship," Vannessa shares.

She completed her externship on October 4th and on November 12th she started her job. It was that quick—from an unpaid externship to a paid career! And Vannessa says she uses everything she learned at Career Quest on the job now. She helps orient patients, takes vitals and urine cultures, does blood work, and helps the doctor.

"I absolutely love it," she says. "I work in family practice and I get to see infants when they're fresh out of the hospital. The people are great. The doctor is great. I love everything I do. I wake up every day, excited to go to work. Never in a million years did I think I'd be working for such a big company, and that I'd become something more than the average person working in a factory."

Factory work was taking its toll on her. She says she was working 12-hour days, seven days a week. She had little time for her three kids and when she wasn't



working, she was either sleeping or awake and agitated because she was so tired all the time.

"Now, I get to spend more time with my kids and they're super ecstatic to say Mommy works at the doctor's office," she says. She now works normal hours (8-5) and shares, "My life has definitely taken a turn for the best."

Vannessa graduated from the Medical Assistant Program in Lansing and says she couldn't have done it without the support team she had at CQLC. "The teachers were super, super helpful. They care about the students and how they're doing outside of school. If you're ever wondering or questioning what you're doing, they're there for you," she says. "My best teacher was Charlene Blanchard. She just pushes you to succeed. She doesn't take excuses. She was my rock during school."

"If I can recommend Career Quest to anybody, I do," says Vannessa. "I tell them, 'It starts with you. Make sure you go. Make sure you do the work.'"

And for Vannessa, all that hard work paid off. "I never knew I'd have people be so proud of me — people in and out of Career Quest," she shares. "I posted a picture of my McLaren badge and 140 people liked it!"

If you want a career you can be proud of, take a look at all the healthcare programs offered at Career Quest Learning Centers. One of them could change your life!

## Jackson campus

209 E. Washington Ave., Ste 241 • Jackson, MI 49201 • 517-990-9595

### Student of the Month • January



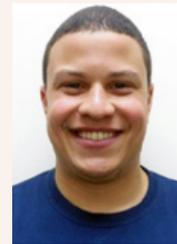
Administrative Assistant student **Opal Collins** moved her children to the Jackson area when she was met with challenges, and she continues to work hard to overcome them. Now that she's at Career Quest, she is always available to assist other students in class and she has an infectious laugh. "Opal participates with the Student Association, is consistently on the President's List, takes a leadership role

both in and outside the classroom, and is always striving to better herself and her family," said Jackson Campus President Terry Ferris. "She is on campus early to get her work done and stays late to do spot jobs. And she's very professional." Congrats Opal. Keep up the great work!

## Lansing campus

3215 S. Pennsylvania Ave. • Lansing, MI 48910 • 517-318-3330

### Student of the Month • January



**Anthony Ashton** is an IT student who brings a tremendous amount of positive energy to the classroom. He's in the final mod of his diploma program, and he's rolling directly into the Associate's Program. "Despite being quiet by nature, Anthony is so enthusiastic and highly motivated to give 100% in the classroom," shares Lansing Campus President Mollie Woodworth. "He actively participates with

Student Association events, and he's always willing to lend an extra hand." We can always count on Anthony to help with any task given to him, big or small, in class or on campus. Congrats Anthony!

## Mount Pleasant campus

2116 Mission St. • Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 • 989-817-4431

### Student of the Month • January



MA student **Crystal Brock** is an exemplary student with a positive and driven attitude. "She tackles everything thrown her way, including her academics," says Mt. Pleasant Campus President Shelby Dalgleish. "She's always very helpful during study sessions and encourages others to participate in open labs, while also taking part in Student Association."

There is no doubt Crystal has what it takes to become an outstanding medical assistant. Way to go Crystal!

## Bay City campus

3900 State Street Rd., Ste 200 • Bay City, MI 48706 • 989-322-3900

### Student of the Month • January



**Heidi Petrimoulx** is a dedicated MA student who consistently strives for perfect attendance and excellence in the classroom. "Heidi doesn't shy away from a challenge and is always eager to speak her mind," shares Bay City Campus President Cassie Ferrer. "She's an excellent critical thinker who not only recognizes problems but is willing to come up with solutions." Heidi is now in her senior mod. We'll be sad to see her go, but we're thrilled to see her embark on the next chapter of her life!

# FEBRUARY EVENTS

## Jackson

- Feb. 1** ..... Faculty/Staff Super Bowl Potluck (Jeans, Jerseys, & Tennis Shoes allowed)
- Feb. 4** ..... Valentines Door Decoration Contest starts, through Feb. 12th
- Feb. 6** ..... Student Association Meet & Greet, Student Lounge, 1:15 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Feb. 7** ..... Student Association Meet & Greet, Student Lounge, 1:15 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Feb. 11** ..... Student Association Candy Gram Fundraiser begins, through Feb. 14th
- Feb. 13** ..... Student Association Meet & Greet, Student Lounge, 1:15 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.  
Valentines Door Decoration Contest judging
- Feb. 14** ..... Student Association Candy Grams delivered  
Student Association Meet & Greet, Student Lounge, 1:15 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Feb. 20** ..... Student Association Meet & Greet, Student Lounge, 1:15 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Feb. 21** ..... Student Association Meet & Greet, Student Lounge, 1:15 p.m. and 5:00 p.m.
- Feb. 26** ..... Career Services Student Presentation, Location TBD, 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- Feb. 27** ..... Senior Send-Off, 1:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
New Student Orientation, 1:15 p.m.

## Mount Pleasant

- Feb. 1** ..... CPR Class, 9:00 a.m.
- Feb. 4** ..... Resume Workshop, 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 13** ..... Student Appreciation, 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.  
Open Labs, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Feb. 14** ..... Open Labs, 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Feb. 15** ..... Mock Interview Workshop, 1:30 p.m.
- Feb. 27** ..... Interview Tips, 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.  
Employer of the Day, 11:00 a.m.
- Feb. 28** ..... Interview Tips, 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.  
Last Day of Mod

## Lansing

- Feb. 1** ..... CPR Training, Room 12, 11:45 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 4** ..... Open Lab/Study Time, Room 9, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 6** ..... Computer Navigation, Room 9, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 7** ..... Open Lab/Study Time, Room 9, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.  
Student Association Meet & Greet, Room 7, 1:20 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 11** ..... Open Lab/Study Time, Room 9, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 13** ..... Student Association Hot Chocolate/Valentine's Day Fundraiser  
Computer Navigation, Room 9, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 14** ..... Student Association Hot Chocolate/Valentine's Day Fundraiser  
Open Lab/Study Time, Room 9, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 18** ..... Open Lab/Study Time, Room 9, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 20** ..... Student Association Hot Dog Fundraiser  
Computer Navigation, Room 9, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 21** ..... Student Association Hot Dog Fundraiser  
Open Lab/Study Time, Room 9, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 25** ..... Open Lab/Study Time, Room 9, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Feb. 27** ..... New Student Orientation, 1:00 p.m.  
Computer Navigation, Room 9, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 28** ..... Open Lab/Study Time, Room 9, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

## Bay City

- Feb. 4** ..... Super Bowl Tailgate Cook-Off
- Feb. 8** ..... Campus Closed for All Staff Meeting
- Feb. 12** ..... Student Appreciation, 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
- Feb. 27** ..... Senior Walk, 11:00 a.m.
- Feb. 28** ..... New Student Orientation, 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

## February Holidays All Campuses

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Feb. 1-7</b> ..... Patient Recognition Week            | <b>Feb. 11</b> ..... Clean Out Your Computer Day |
| <b>Feb. 2</b> ..... Groundhog Day                         | <b>Feb. 14</b> ..... Valentine's Day             |
| <b>Feb. 3</b> ..... Super Bowl Sunday                     | <b>Feb. 17</b> ..... Random Acts of Kindness Day |
| <b>Feb. 4</b> ..... Rosa Parks Day                        | <b>Feb. 18</b> ..... President's Day             |
| <b>Feb. 5</b> ..... Chinese New Year                      |  |
| <b>Feb. 8</b> ..... Campuses Closed for All Staff Meeting |  |

### February is

- Black History Month
- American Heart Month
- Low Vision Awareness Month
- National Cancer Prevention Month