



STOCKTON'S CONNECTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

2024-2025





WELCOME to Stockton University's 2024–2025 Connections to the Community Report. This year's publication offers a fresh look at the many ways Stockton collaborates with partners throughout Atlantic County and the broader Southern New Jersey region. Our role as an anchor institution continues to guide our work—opening doors for community access to campus resources, creating hands-on learning experiences for students, and supporting initiatives that advance equity, sustainability, and positive change.

The progress highlighted in this report is possible because of the dedication of our faculty, students, and staff, along with the commitment of our community partners. Together, we are moving forward on shared priorities and fulfilling our mission to prepare individuals for lifelong learning, civic responsibility, and active engagement in an interconnected world.

We invite you to explore the stories and initiatives within these pages to see how Stockton is strengthening relationships, expanding opportunities, and deepening its impact across the region.

Brian K. Jackson

Vice President for Community Engagement



Mullica River Osprey Survey

Sampling of Signature Programs That Drive Community-Wide Impact

THE PEACEFUL PATHWAYS FORWARD SERIES

In response to the tragic loss of life resulting from the conflict between Israel and Palestine, as well as other conflicts both within the United States and around the world, Stockton sought meaningful ways to reflect on the events, in recognition of the profound grief experienced by many across our campus and the broader community.

In collaboration with the Office of the Vice President for Community Engagement, AC Campus Operations, the Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center, the Office of Student Development, the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy, Women's, Gender & Sexuality Center, and the Bridge of Faith organization, a series of programs were developed to reaffirm the importance of dialogue, understanding, and support for all those affected.

Bridge of Faith—comprised of local faith, civic, and community leaders—meets regularly at places of worship throughout Atlantic County to engage in conversations on issues of global significance. The group serves as a conduit for individuals of different faiths and backgrounds to pursue harmony, compassion, and shared knowledge.

This partnership inspired the creation of the Peaceful Pathways Forward Series, a collaborative effort dedicated to fostering reflection, dialogue, and healing during these challenging times.



Programs in 2024-2025:

- Sept. 30, 2024 – *Interfaith Dinner and Meeting (Michael Jacobson Board Room, Galloway Campus)*

Stockton hosted the inaugural Interfaith Dinner and Meeting, bringing together more than 25 faith leaders representing Christian, Muslim, and Jewish traditions, along with members of the University's Senior Leadership Team. Participants discussed how to help the community move forward, promoting understanding and the art of disagreement without discord,

exploring the role of faith leaders during times of uncertainty and fear, and identifying a shared call to action. The meeting concluded with a unified commitment to continued engagement and collaboration between Stockton and local faith communities through the Bridge of Faith.

- Oct. 7, 2024 – *A Day of Prayer, Meditation, and Understanding (Campus Center Theatre, Galloway Campus)*

Leaders from nine faith communities participated in a campus-wide Day of Prayer, Meditation, and Understanding. The Campus Center Theatre became a quiet space for reflection, where Stockton community members were invited to meditate as faith leaders offered prayers and spiritual guidance.

- Rev. Fr. John Buckthese Chinnappan, Our Lady Star of the Sea, Atlantic City
- Dr. Guia Calicdan-Apostle, representing the Bahai Faith
- Imam Amin Muhammad, Majid Muhammad Islamic Center, Atlantic City
- Pastor Vicky Ney, Margate Community Church
- Rabbi Meir Rapoport, Advisor, Stockton Chabad
- Kaleem Shabazz, President, NAACP-Atlantic City Chapter and Vice President, Atlantic City Council (Ward 3) and co-founder of Bridge of Faith
- Brittany Shields, Campus Minister, Stockton Newman Center and Advisor to the Newman Club
- Pastor Lou Strugala, Church by the Bay, Galloway

- Oct. 27, 2024 – *Good Neighbor Walk (Atlantic City Boardwalk)*

Stockton and the Bridge of Faith partnered to host the Good Neighbor Walk, in collaboration with the NAACP Atlantic City Branch, the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office, the Coalition for a Safe Community, the Fellowship of Churches, the Jewish Community Relations Council, the Jewish Federation of Atlantic & Cape May Counties, and Masjid Muhammad of Atlantic City. More than 50 residents and community members walked together in solidarity for peace.

- Nov. 4, 2024 – *An Interfaith Perspective: Bridging Divides and Building Community in the Face of Conflict (Michael Jacobson Board Room, Galloway Campus)*

This panel discussion was developed to honor shared values of mutual respect and civic engagement, focusing on how communities can foster unity and understanding across different faiths. Moderated by staff from Stockton's William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy, the panel included:

- Rabbi Jonathan Kremer, Shirat Hayam, Ventnor
- Imam Benjamin Marriable, Advisor to the Stockton Muslim Student Association; Imam, Medina Islamic Center, Pleasantville
- Kayla Megronigle, Co-President, Stockton Chabad
- Rabbi Abby Michaleski, Beth Israel Congregation, Vineland; Co-President, South Jersey Board of Rabbis and Cantors
- Andrea Sandoval, President, Stockton University Student Senate
- Pastor Lou Strugala, Church by the Bay, Galloway Township
- March 31, 2025 – *Celebrating Strength: Women of Faith in*

community. The outcomes of these conversations inspired all involved to encourage the campus community to work toward mutual understanding, respect, kindness, and civility.



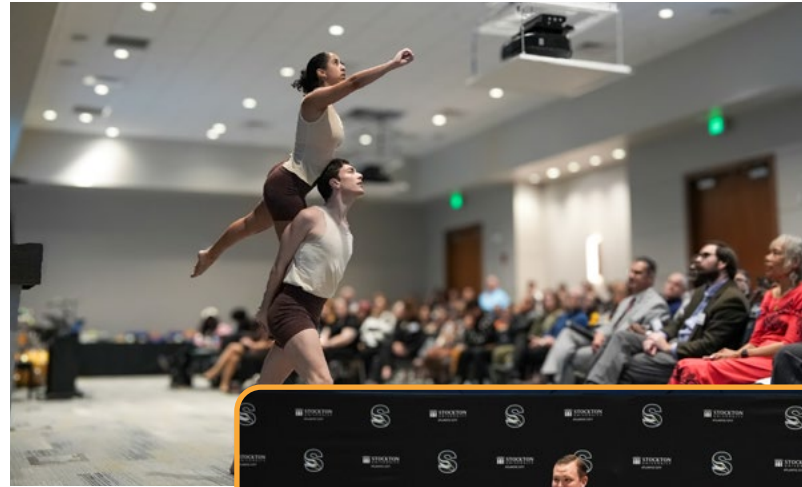
Leadership Panel (Michael Jacobson Board Room, Galloway Campus)

The panel discussion was created to honor shared values of mutual respect and civic engagement, highlighting how communities can build unity and understanding across diverse faith traditions.

The conversation was moderated by staff from Stockton University’s William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy and featured a distinguished group of faith leaders:

- Pastor Deborah Blanks, St. James A.M.E. Church
- Rabbi Abby Michaleski, Beth Israel Congregation, Vineland
- Taryn Megronigle, Co-President, Stockton Chabad
- Pastor Vicky Ney, Margate Community Church
- Pastor Veronica Silver, Grace Assembly of God, Atlantic City

In the spirit of the Peaceful Pathways Forward Series, Stockton President Joe Bertolino hosted several small group luncheons, inviting student and faculty leaders representing Muslim, Jewish, and other faith communities, along with staff and members of Bridge of Faith, to engage in dialogue centered around conflict in the Middle East and its impact on the campus and broader



REGIONAL ARTS & CULTURE SUMMIT

Stockton’s Second Annual Regional Arts & Culture Summit was held on April 4, 2025. The summit brought together 150 arts representatives from more than 40 different organizations, along with artists, students and educators for a day-long event featuring panel discussions on topics including funding for the arts; art, culture and citizenship; art and our natural resources; technology and artistic expression; and art and community engagement.

The upcoming 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026 served as this year’s central theme. Bill Moen, New Jersey Assemblyman and chairman of the State Assembly on Tourism, Gaming and the Arts Committee, said he believed the summit served as a “Resource for the community and gives us an understanding, from the state’s perspective, of where we can be investing in the future and supporting the good work that’s being done. The University’s role as an Anchor Institution will continue to be a key part of the revitalization of Atlantic City.”



21st ANNUAL MLK DAY OF SERVICE: CELEBRATING THE LEGACY OF REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Stockton hosted the region’s largest coordinated Day of Service on Jan. 20, 2025, with nearly 900 volunteers completing more than 25 projects across Atlantic City, Galloway, Hammonton, and Woodbine. Service projects ranged from craft projects to enhance local schools, hospitals and senior living communities, and making pet toys and beds for dogs and cats in local animal shelters, to packaging hygiene and wellness kits for local rescue missions and panel discussions on disparities in maternal health care. The day’s goal is to provide intensive, community-wide experiences for students, faculty, staff and community members, and to introduce them to community partners where they can develop ongoing relationships.

9TH ANNUAL MLK HIGH SCHOOL PANEL

Stockton’s Annual MLK High School Panel was held on Feb. 20, 2025, at Stockton University Atlantic City. The program welcomed 129 students from five high schools including Atlantic City, Cedar Creek, Egg Harbor Township, Oakcrest, and Pleasantville. Each school selected one student to serve as a panelist.

Now in its ninth year, the event’s theme was, “Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s Legacy by Advancing His Dream for Generations to Come.” High school administrators, teachers, Stockton students, faculty, staff, and community members were also in attendance.

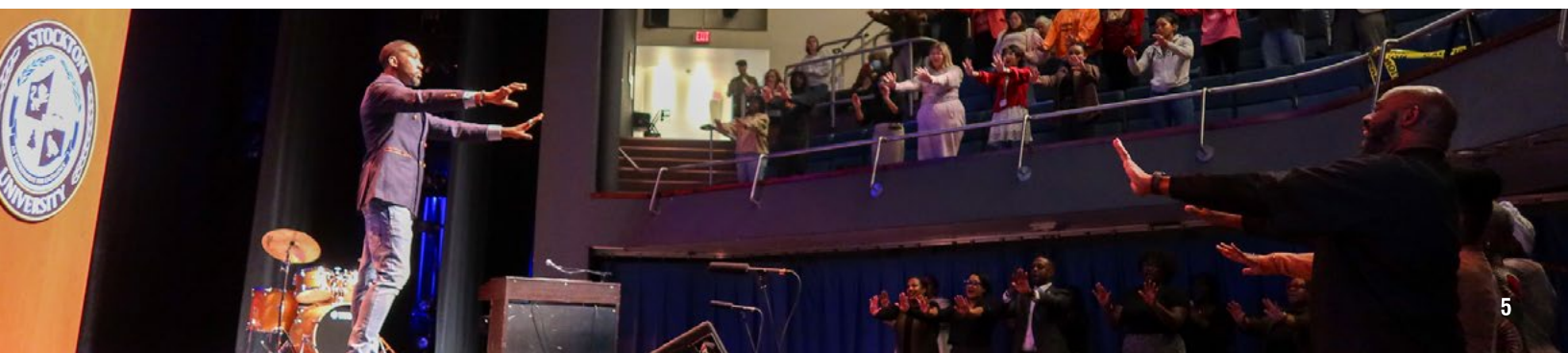
WELLNESS FAIR

The 2025 Wellness Fair drew over 40 community organizations, campus departments, student clubs, and student organizations, creating an engaging environment that connected students, faculty, and staff with a wide range of wellness resources and support services. Participants explored interactive tables, educational displays, and hands-on activities designed to support physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being.

21st ANNUAL FANNIE LOU HAMER HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS SYMPOSIUM

Stockton hosted the 21st Annual Fannie Lou Hamer Human and Civil Rights Symposium on Oct . 8, 2024, in the Performing Arts Center. The guest speaker was Ndaba Nelson, grandson of Nelson Mandela and co-founder of the Africa Rising Foundation. Nelson spoke to hundreds of community members, area high school students, and Stockton students, faculty, and staff on leadership and the collective impact in making the world a better place.

The symposium’s theme was “Generation Next: New Voices in the Fight for Social Justice,” and included additional speeches by Stockton President Joe Bertolino and faculty from the Africana Studies program, as well as musical performances, and a poetry recitation.





ATLANTIC CITY COAST DAY

Hosted by Stockton’s Marine Science program on Oct. 18, 2024, Atlantic City Coast Day showcased coastal zone research through exhibits, presentations, and hands-on activities led by faculty, staff, students and area experts. Students in grades K–12 from across the region engaged with experts on fisheries, wetlands, birds and beaches, including representatives from Stockton’s Coastal Research Center and Marine Field Station.

LINES ON THE PINES

The 36th Annual Pinelands Short Course was held on March 9, 2025, at the Galloway campus and featured 30 presentations and over 80 authors, including programs that explored the region’s unique history, ecology, culture and music associated with the Pinelands National Reserve. The event also included a “Lines on the Pines for KIDS” experience featuring hands-on displays, crafts and activities.

4th ANNUAL STOCKTON ATLANTIC CITY SUMMER EXPERIENCE: LIVE-WORK-LEARN SUMMER PROGRAM

The Stockton Atlantic City Summer Experience: Live-Work-Learn (LWL) program included 200 students and 14 participating employers, representing industries such as hospitality, health care, gaming, and non-profits.

- 39% – Students in the summer 2025 cohort had also participated in the previous summer.
- 49% – Students in the LWL program enrolled in summer courses, generating 910 credits.
- 86% – Students who participated in summer 2025 lived outside of Atlantic County.
- Full-time graduate students were eligible to participate for the first time.



Emma Martin began working for the Chelsea Economic Development Corporation in summer 2024 as part of the Live-Work-Learn program. After graduating from Stockton in 2025, she accepted a full-time job with the nonprofit.

Students surveyed in LWL program indicated the following about their experiences:

- 85% – Were satisfied with their experience in the program.
 - 72% – Were interested in applying again to the program for summer 2026.
 - 25% – Said the position they were hired into was directly related to their future career interests.
 - 47% – Made positive connection towards their future career goals as a result of their experience in LWL.
 - 81% – Learned on-the-job skills that will apply to their future career goals.
- The Press of Atlantic City published an article highlighting several students who, because of their experience in the program, accepted full-time job offers.
 - Brian K. Jackson, vice president for Community Engagement, was invited to present at the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU) Annual Conference on Oct. 21, 2024, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. His presentation, titled “The Live-Work-Learn Program: Leveraging Relationships Between Students, Businesses, and Your Institution,” highlighted innovative strategies for strengthening partnerships that support student success, workforce development, and institutional-community collaboration.

“I don’t think I would have had anywhere near the same job experience that I have now working at Borgata, and I don’t think I would have had as strong of a career trajectory without this program.”

— **Michael Mora**, 2025 Stockton graduate and currently enrolled in Stockton’s Master of Business Administration program. Mora entered the Live-Work-Learn program in summer 2022 and continued working through the academic year and summers for the remainder of his undergraduate and graduate studies.



Community-wide Outreach and Cross-Sector Collaborations

PRESIDENT ESTABLISHES COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Community stakeholders were assembled for a new initiative emphasizing the University's role as a regional Anchor Institution. The formation of the President's Community Advisory Board creates stronger partnerships with leaders who can provide strategic input into advancing Stockton's mission and help Stockton to better engage and serve the community.

"This diverse group of leaders will serve as a bridge between the University and the region, offering insight and guidance to advance shared goals and keep our finger on the pulse of community needs," Bertolino said.

The board will focus on five primary goals, including: engaging with community stakeholders to help ensure University priorities contribute to the well-being of the community; sharing information to provide an understanding of local issues and opportunities; providing advice and recommendations to the University to support informed decision-making that positively impacts both the University and the region; creating relationships that enhance the educational experience, contribute to the vitality of the community, and support for the local workforce, and; empowering community members through educational opportunities, events and initiatives.

Community Advisory Board Members

- Ann Arena, Divisional Vice President, Spencer's & Spirit
- Christina Fuentes, Vice President of Community and Business Development, New Jersey Economic Development Authority
- Cindy Herdman Ivans, Chief Administration Officer, Center for Family Services
- Brian K. Jackson, Vice President for Community Engagement, Stockton
- Samantha Kiley, Vice President for Community Health and Social Impact, AtlantiCare Health System, and President, Midtown Community Development Corporation
- Bert Lopez, Manager of Public Affairs, Atlantic City Electric, and President, Hispanic Association of Atlantic County
- Perry Mays, Chairperson, Coalition for a Safe Community in Atlantic County
- Lauren H. Moore, President, Atlantic County Economic Alliance
- Dorrie Papademetriou, Founder, MudGirls Studios
- Christian Ragland, Assistant Vice President of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, AtlantiCare Health System
- Christina Renna, President and CEO, Chamber of Commerce of Southern NJ
- Elizabeth C. Terenik, President, Chelsea Economic Development Corporation
- Mohammed Zahirul Islam, President, Bangladesh Association of South Jersey

ATLANTIC CITY

- The men's basketball team served as volunteers for the Atlantic City Marathon, assisting with distributing water and rallying behind thousands of runners.
- Atlantic City Campus Operations co-hosted with MOSAIC (Meaningful Outreach & Support for Aging Individuals & Caregivers) Foundation, the 15th Annual 5K run/walk on the Boardwalk benefiting Dementia and Alzheimer's outreach programs on April 27, 2025. The Run & Health Walk started and finished at Stockton University Atlantic City and was attended by over 150 participants.
- Stockton partnered with the Chelsea Economic Development Corporation, AC DEVCO, and El Pueblo Unido in co-sponsoring the Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration in O'Donnell Park in Atlantic City on Dec. 4, 2024. Staff and students from the Division of Community Engagement served holiday treats to over 400 youth and adults who came out to enjoy musical performances by local students and community groups, The Grinch and Santa's arrival, and the lighting of the holiday tree in the University District.
- On Aug. 6, 2024, Stockton collaborated with Commissioner Jacquelyn A. Suarez and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to host, for the first time in Atlantic City, one of the four Community Partnership "Roadshow" meetings in Kesselman Hall. The event drew more than 75 local residents and community partners. Designed to educate and raise awareness about the Department's services and programs, the roadshow ensures that residents across the state—through their community partners—are well-informed about available resources. By traveling to different cities and towns, the initiative brings the Department's offerings directly to communities, making it easier for them to engage with and benefit from these services. The South Jersey session placed a special focus on Disaster Recovery, and DCA Commissioner Suarez was in attendance.
- As part of their fall orientation, 22 Atlantic City Campus Student Operations Assistants and staff volunteered for a day of service with two local non-profits. At MudGirls Studios, students and staff rolled and cut handmade tiles for a mural installation. In collaboration with Westminster Christian Worship, students and staff organized and distributed food and personal care products to nearly 100 area residents at Venice Park United Methodist Church in Atlantic City.
- Atlantic City Campus Operations collaborated with the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office Community Outreach Team to host "Breaking Bias: Bridging Divides in Criminal Justice" in the Fannie Lou Hamer Event Room. The program included a panel discussion on bias and discrimination in policing, courts, and the community.
- In recognition of Black History Month, Atlantic City Campus Operations sponsored a special exhibition of "This Little Light of Mine: The Black Church in Atlantic City," curated by the African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey. The exhibit was on display in the John F. Scarpa Center from Feb. 2-21, 2025, offering visitors an opportunity to explore the history, culture, and impact of historically Black churches in Atlantic City.
- The Office of the Vice President for Community Engagement, in collaboration with Dr. Donnetrice Allison, professor of Africana Studies and Communication Studies, welcomed students from Richmond Avenue School in Atlantic



Student and staff volunteers at Sister Jean's Kitchen

City to the Stockton Atlantic City campus for a special Black History Month program. Held on Feb. 6, 2025, in the Fannie Lou Hamer Event Room, the program included more than 130 fifth- and sixth-graders and teachers who enjoyed an interactive lecture titled “From Lemons to Lemonade: Black History & Music.” The Program explored the history and influence of African American culture on today’s music. The event concluded with light refreshments and an open Q&A session where students asked questions about Stockton and college life. As a token of appreciation, the students later sent handwritten notes — cut into the shape of musical notes — expressing their gratitude and sharing what they learned. This marks the third year that Richmond Avenue School students have visited the Atlantic City campus for educational programming and engagement opportunities.

- Staff from the Division of Administration and Finance selected the Atlantic City Rescue Mission as a beneficiary of its support this year. The team donated 215 pairs of socks and 54 blankets to support those in need through the Atlantic City Rescue Mission. They also responded to “National Hunger Day” by assembling 860 cutlery/napkin wraps and collected 45 bulk-sized seasonings at the request of the Rescue Mission’s kitchen.



Black History Month program at Richmond Avenue School



Chartwells and Stockton at Let's Get Cookin' event for Boys and Girls Club of Atlantic City

- On Feb. 5, 2025, Stockton, in collaboration with Chartwells Dining Services, participated in the Boys and Girls Club of Atlantic City’s largest fundraising event, Let’s Get Cookin.’ Over 100 amateur and top professional chefs from the region showcased gourmet offerings for hundreds of guests who attended in support of the Boys and Girls Club of Atlantic City’s mission to empower youth through its programs and services. Chartwells Executive Chef Scott Bencze was selected by a panel of culinary experts as “Best Chef” for his Bulgogi Brisket Tacos, which included syrup tapped from Stockton’s Syrup Project, which is funded through a \$1.5 million grant awarded to Stockton from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- The 5th Annual Jersey Shoreview, hosted by LIGHT on Oct. 3, 2024, provided a review of the summer tourism season, predictions for the shoulder season, and a public forum for discussing trends impacting the region’s gaming, hospitality and tourism industries. This hybrid in-person/virtual event took place in the Fannie Lou Hamer Event Room at Stockton Atlantic City and attracted approximately 30 community members, including local press.
- LIGHT graduated a cohort of 17 students on March 4, 2025, as part of an eight-week Integrated Casino Resort Operations certificate program designed to prepare managerial and supervisory employees to take the next step into executive roles at integrated casino resorts. A team of industry experts taught a curriculum that covered the breadth of integrated casino resort operations from gaming and surveillance to food & beverage and meetings & conventions to give participants a firm foundation in all departments.



KRAMER HALL - HAMMONTON

- Collaborated with the Noyes Museum of Art to offer periodic programming that reflected the diversity and interests of our students and the Greater Hammonton community.
- Worked with various student organizations, including Lambda Theta Alpha Latin Sorority and the Counseling Student Organization, to engage a wider audience with Kramer Hall's cultural offerings and increase campus awareness.
- Collaborations with the Stockton Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning, the Stockton Center on Successful Aging (SCOSA), and the Noyes Museum of Art continued to thrive. Together, we delivered engaging initiatives including the MLK Day of Service, the Pinelands Summer Short Course, the Atlantic County Teen Arts Festival, and a range of arts-focused programs. Over the year, Kramer Hall welcomed 7,835 community visitors and maintained strong student and faculty engagement — underscoring our role as a vital center for education, creativity, and community in Hammonton.
- On June 12, 2025, Kramer Hall hosted “Under the Spotlight: Trans Identity, Drag Artistry, and the Politics of Now,” a Pride Month panel presented by the Noyes Museum of Art and Hammonton Pride.

Featuring members of the Trans Equity Coalition and local drag performers, the discussion explored the differences between trans identity and drag artistry, clarified common misconceptions, and examined the political issues impacting both communities. Through personal storytelling and open dialogue, the event encouraged understanding, challenged stigma, and highlighted the importance of equity and advocacy.



Volunteers participating in community projects in Kramer Hall for MLK Day of Service.



Hammonton Pride Panel Discussion



**STOCKTON
UNIVERSITY**

MANAHAWKIN

- Our partnership with the Ocean County Board of Health offered on-site, complimentary health screenings for students and community members. Services included blood pressure, cholesterol, and glucose assessments, along with Flu and COVID vaccinations.
- BSN faculty collected non-perishable food to stock the Osprey Pantry at Manahawkin.
- Dr. Padden-Denmead taught free yoga classes from June through September 2024 at Belhaven RV Resort, Green Bank, New Jersey.
- The Manahawkin instructional site hosted Lois Allen, a highly respected artist who, through the Stockton Center on Successful Aging (SCOSA), hosted sessions twice a week, in programs featuring Knitting & Crochet, One-Stroke Painting, Chair Yoga, Tap Dance, and Belly Dancing. The programs provided Ocean County seniors with a warm and inspiring space for creative expression.



GALLOWAY

Stockton Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning (SCCESL)

HOMEWORK COMPLETION PROGRAMS

On Sept. 23, 2024, the Homework Completion Programs at Stanley S. Holmes Village and at the Pleasantville Public Library began their 10th and 8th years, respectively. These milestone years reflect sustained collaboration among the SCCESL, Atlantic City Police Department, Atlantic City Housing Authority, Pleasantville Police Department, City of Pleasantville, and the Urban Development Agency, all of which have been committed to youth academic achievement and community trust-building.

The program operates Monday through Thursday from 3 to 5 p.m., providing supervised homework assistance and offering consistent mentoring from University student volunteers, SCCESL staff, and public safety personnel, creating safe, supportive spaces that promote emotional well-being and measuring changes in youth perceptions of police through pre- and post-program surveys for youth ages 5–18.

Participation and Output Data (2024–2025)

90

youth participants

1,336

total visits

367

Stockton University Student Engagement Leadership
Team members (ETLs) and student volunteers

The program maintained consistent attendance and participation throughout the school year, providing over 1,300 instances of structured homework support. The high number of student involvement demonstrates strong University engagement and a significant community investment in youth success.

Perception of Law Enforcement

End-of-program surveys conducted in May 2025 revealed a measurable and meaningful shift in youth perceptions of police officers and law enforcement.

At Program Inception (Historical Baseline):

- Most youth reported feeling “scared” when seeing police officers.
- Most youth commonly identified police officers as individuals who “arrest” or “kill” people.

End of 2024–2025 Program Year:

- Most youth reported feeling “happy” and “calm” when seeing police officers.
- An overwhelming majority selected “help” when asked what police officers do.

This represents a significant positive change in perception and demonstrates progress toward the program’s trust-building objective.

The Homework Completion Programs continue to strengthen relationships between youth and law enforcement, provide structured academic support in underserved communities, encourage long-term educational aspirations, and promote positive youth development through mentoring.

After 10 years at Stanley S. Holmes Village and 8 years in Pleasantville, the programs demonstrate sustained effectiveness and measurable community benefit.

The 2024–2025 program year reflected strong participation, meaningful volunteer engagement, and demonstrable impact on youth perceptions and academic engagement. Continued support will ensure that these programs remain a vital resource for youth development and for building community trust in Atlantic County.



On April 24, 2025, in partnership with the Atlantic City Police Department, youth who participated in the Stanley Holmes Village Homework Completion Program visited the African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey in Atlantic City and received a personal tour from Mr. Ralph Hunter, Sr., the museum’s founder and president.

SERVICE-LEARNING

In FY25, 1,039 students participated in at least one of 53 service-learning courses taught by 49 faculty members. Projects included students serving at the Homework Completion Programs in Atlantic City and Pleasantville, the Goddard School, Angels in Motion, the Tuckerton Environmental Commission, and St. Andrews Church in Atlantic City.

In end-of-semester assessments, students were asked about the meaning they found in their service experiences. Many students described the service-learning experience as a way to better understand their strengths, interests, and future career goals or to recognize the value of service and their commitment to giving back. Students also described becoming more socially conscious, developing gratitude for their own opportunities, and gaining a deeper understanding of populations such as individuals with disabilities, underserved youth, older adults, and communities facing structural inequities.

Sampling of Student Quotes:

“It reminded me of the importance of giving back to the community and how small actions... can have a positive impact on someone's day.”

“I learned that I am someone who can take charge of a group if no one else will... being that person who takes the lead was fulfilling.”

“I learned to be very fortunate in what I have... after the service-learning experience, I saw how everyone's life is different and not everyone is as fortunate as you are.”

SOCIAL HOUR

The Social Hour programs were held at two of the Atlantic City Housing Authority and Urban Development Agency high-rises, Altman Terrace and Shore Park, the Pleasantville Housing Authority High Rise, and community rooms at Atlantic Marina and Community Haven. The program directly combats loneliness and social fragmentation among residents of housing authority communities by creating opportunities for recreational engagement, creative expression, and informal social interaction with Stockton students. Twelve Social Hour sessions were held, attended by a total of 109 residents across all programs.

COMPUTER, ENGLISH, AND NATURALIZATION CLASSES

The SCCESL hosted three programs in the John F. Scarpa Academic Center at Stockton Atlantic City, delivering 50 educational sessions to strengthen digital literacy, language skills, and civic engagement in the community.

These sessions included 24 classes focused on computer literacy and English language instruction, as well as 26 sessions dedicated to supporting individuals through the naturalization process.

The English classes served 72 participants, helping individuals develop essential language skills that enhance employment opportunities, support educational advancement, and improve everyday communication. The computer literacy classes engaged 14 participants, equipping them with critical digital skills needed to navigate modern workplaces, access online resources, and stay connected in an increasingly technology-driven world.

Additionally, 21 participants took part in naturalization classes, where they received guidance and preparation to successfully pursue U.S. citizenship. Through these programs, SCCESL continues to foster opportunity, empowerment, and civic participation within the Atlantic City community.



Student volunteers and staff pose with Bishop Witherspoon at Westminister Christian Worship Center

- Student and staff volunteers played an active role in serving approximately 5,000 individuals during monthly outreach events held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Westminister Christian Worship Center in Atlantic City. Through their dedicated service, students helped support community members by assisting with pantry setup and food and supply distribution, strengthening both community impact and student civic involvement.
- To support awareness about the issue of child abuse and its prevention in Atlantic County, the SCCESL supported the Atlantic County Youth Services Commission's Pinwheel Project on April 17, 2025, by displaying and holding up the blue and white pinwheels at the Homework Completion Programs and Social Hour Program at Pleasantville High Rise. Participants included youth and adults in the programs as well as Stockton students. According to the Atlantic County Youth Services Commission Child Abuse Prevention Program, "The purpose of displaying pinwheels during Child Abuse Prevention Month is to raise awareness and advocate for the well-being of children. The pinwheel symbolizes childhood innocence, joy, and the carefree experiences that should define childhood."

MBA PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP WITH CAPE MAY COUNTY CHAMBER

- The Cape May County Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation and Stockton partnered on an innovative program to provide Leadership Cape May graduates with the opportunity to earn college credits toward a Master of Business Administration (MBA). Participants and alumni who complete coursework in the foundation's Leadership Cape May County program and then enroll in Stockton's MBA or Master of Business Administration in Healthcare Administration and Leadership programs will earn 3 college credits towards the 36 credits required for degree completion.

"This innovative partnership aligns with the foundation's goals and broadens our commitment to provide exceptional opportunities for the county's citizens, from high school graduates to emerging leaders in business and nonprofits," said Laura Bishop, president of the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation's Board of Trustees.

NEW AND EXPANDED ACADEMIC AGREEMENTS BOLSTER ACCESS TO STOCKTON DEGREES

- Stockton and Atlantic Cape Community College announced a new articulation agreement in March 2025 to benefit fine and visual arts students. Under the partnership, Atlantic Cape graduates will have the opportunity to pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Visual Art or a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art or Visual Communications degree at Stockton once admitted to the University and meeting standard admission requirements for New Jersey community college graduates. Upon graduating from Atlantic Cape, transferring students would have junior-year status as they work toward earning a bachelor's degree.



- On June 5, 2025, Stockton joined a statewide initiative, the New Jersey Prior Learning Assessment Network (NJ PLAN), powered by Thomas Edison State University (TESU), which helps students earn college credit for prior learning. The collaboration expanded Stockton students' access to Thomas Edison's nationally recognized Credit for Prior Learning options. Through NJ PLAN, students can be assessed for college-level knowledge acquired outside the traditional classroom—whether through work, military training, community service, independent study or other life experiences. The results include faster degree completion, reduced tuition costs, and less student debt.
- Students in four majors at Ocean County College (OCC) are now able to transfer to Stockton's four-year programs as part of a new memorandum of understanding signed in September 2024. The agreement calls for a 3 + 1 pathway for OCC majors in Accounting, Marketing and Business Administration to Stockton's School of Business, and a 2 + 2 pathway for OCC's Social Work major to Stockton's School of Social and Behavioral Sciences.
- In December 2024, the two schools signed a new 3 + 1 agreement for students interested in earning a four-year degree

in Hospitality, Tourism and Event Management. Students can complete their first three years of study at OCC and then transfer to Stockton. The agreement offers a pathway for students who complete their associate degree in Hospitality, Recreation & Tourism Management at OCC to earn up to 90 credits that may be transferred to Stockton. During their third year at Ocean County College, students will take Stockton-level courses at the county college tuition rate. They then will transfer their three years of coursework and complete their final year at Stockton at the University's tuition rate, earning a baccalaureate degree in Hospitality, Tourism and Event Management through Stockton's School of Business.

- A series of new articulation agreements signed in June 2025 by OCC and Stockton will also provide students in the arts and humanities with a direct pathway between an associate degree at OCC and a comparable bachelor's degree program at Stockton. The agreements are designed to facilitate transfer for students who earn an associate of arts at OCC in Music, History, Fine Arts, Graphic Arts, Design & Media and Philosophy & Religion into corresponding academic majors at Stockton, where they can complete their four-year degree.

THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL INSTITUTE AND EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRAINING CENTER (SRI&ETTC)

The Southern Regional Institute (SRI) and Educational Technology Training Center (ETTC) provide professional development opportunities for thousands of PreK–12 educators, technology coordinators, school administrators, and other professionals who offer support services to schools. The many community activities undertaken by the SRI&ETTC include:

- **Expanding regional access to computer science education:** Serving as a regional partner and host for Girls Who Code, supporting 14 active clubs serving students in grades 3–12 with free, flexible programming; provided ongoing teacher support, professional development, and lending-library resources, with plans for a regional in-person student event in 2025–2026.
- **Delivering high-impact district planning and policy analysis:** Conducting feasibility studies for 13 school districts and regional partnerships across New Jersey, informing decisions on sending/receiving relationships, restructuring, regionalization and consolidation.
- **Influencing statewide education standards:** Representing regional expertise at the state level as Dr. Barbara Hagerty was selected to serve on the five-year New Jersey Student Learning Standards review workgroup for Computer Science, contributing to statewide policy development during summer 2025.

- **Strengthening cross-sector K–12 collaboration:** Serving as a convening hub by hosting and supporting recurring meetings for 5 regional K–12 networks and 8 New Jersey Department of Education events across the Galloway and Atlantic City campuses, advancing coordination in curriculum, technology, substance abuse prevention, and trauma-informed practices.

STOCKTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Officers Pablo Flores and Paiton Koppenal represented Stockton Police at National Night Out in Pleasantville on Aug. 2, 2024, to engage with residents, distributing swag and promoting positive relations between the department and the community.
- Chief Tracy Stuart, Lt. Giovanni Maione, and Clery Compliance Coordinator Ro Latoracca, participated in a community event, Homeless Outreach and Assistance, on Nov. 20, 2024, in Egg Harbor City. Food and clothing were distributed, and individuals were offered court assistance. The event was co-hosted by Church by the Bay, Egg Harbor City Police Department, New Jersey State Police and Atlantic County Courts.
- Officer Michael Damiano represented Stockton Police at the 13th Annual Holiday with Heroes event on Dec. 7, 2024, in Hamilton Township. Community-based nonprofits paired with local law enforcement and other first responders to invite underprivileged children to select toys at Walmart in Hamilton Township and provide gift cards.
- Officer Pablo Flores represented Stockton Police, along with police officers from around the county, delivering toys to needy families in time for the holidays, as part of the Atlantic County Toys for Kids event on Dec. 15, 2024.
- Officer Jorge Caballero attended Career Day on May 3, 2025, at the Boys and Girls Club in Atlantic City. Youth were offered “VIP” access to professionals representing various career fields to learn and ask questions regarding careers of interest.
- Two members of the Stockton Police Pistol Team, Sergeant Shane Suthard and Officer Pablo Flores, participated in the 1st Annual Gary H. Jones Jr. Memorial Shooting Competition in Egg Harbor Township on Oct. 18, 2024. The officers joined agencies from throughout Atlantic County in tribute to retired Capt. Gary Jones of Galloway Township Police Department for his commitment to firearms proficiency, tactical training, the profession and the law enforcement community.
- Members of the command staff attended the annual Thanksgiving Prayer Breakfast in Smithville on Nov. 26, 2024. The program, hosted by the Atlantic County Prosecutor’s Office, originated as a way of bringing representatives in law enforcement together with community and faith leaders for fellowship, prayer, and to set a grateful tone for the holiday season.
- Officers Joseph Pizzuto, Lucia Dudo and Clery Compliance Coordinator Ro Latoracca greeted members of the Police Unity Tour on May 9, 2025. Stockton sponsored one of the rest stops. The Police Unity Tour raises awareness of officers killed in the line of duty and also raises funds for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial and Museum in Washington, D.C.

- Chief Tracy Stuart conducted a K-9 demonstration at William Paterson University on May 2, 2025. Chief Stuart brought along Freya, an award-winning Golden Retriever certified by the New Jersey State Police, and the United States Police Canine Association in explosives detection. She is also trained to detect more than 20 different explosive compounds through scent recognition and has been utilized in both proactive and reactive operations. Freya is highly driven, social and a beloved member of the Stockton community.

- Chief Stuart and K-9 Freya represented the Stockton Police Department at the National Detector Dog competition at the National K-9 Competition in Tulsa, Oklahoma, from May 30 to June 3, 2025. Chief Stuart and Freya achieved third place overall, showcasing their skills in explosive detection in challenging scenarios like odor recognition tests, parcel, vehicle and room searches. Their success followed their recertification by the United States Police Canine Association in March 2025 and demonstrates their high level of training in detecting explosives.



Community-Driven Impact and Research

(Inclusive engagement based on faculty, student and staff research and expertise to benefit the community, often through community collaboration)

LEVENSON INSTITUTE OF GAMING, HOSPITALITY, AND TOURISM (LIGHT)

- Destination Cannabis: Consumption Lounges, NJ's Next Big Attraction — This fifth annual event was presented in person at High Rollers' Consumption Lounge on March 20, 2025. A panel of experts drawn from the local cannabis industry discussed the impact of cannabis consumption lounges and cannabis-focused events on local tourism. The event attracted more than 30 members of the community and press and provided a public forum for discussing the cannabis industry, its impact and future in Atlantic City.
- Atlantic City Restaurant Week 2024 – Patron Survey
 - LIGHT partnered with the Atlantic City Restaurant Week committee to conduct an annual assessment which measures the regional economic impact of Atlantic City Restaurant Week. The publication is a longstanding collaboration between LIGHT and the event stakeholders.
- Atlantic City Image Project:
 - During the spring 2025 semester, LIGHT partnered with the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs (DCA), Stockton Professor Amit Mukherjee and students in his marketing class to explore opportunities to improve Atlantic City's public image and offer actionable solutions for city stakeholders. A report was presented to the LIGHT Advisory Board and shared with key community partners. The report's findings sparked important conversations among community spokespeople and communications leaders, eventually resulting in a series of community "Strategic Communications" meetings held Sept. 22 and Nov. 10, 2025.
 - Atlantic City Casino Industry – IMPACT report, an annual publication, was completed in spring 2025. In this report, LIGHT partnered with the New Jersey Casino Association to highlight the economic impact of the gaming industry on the region.
- Dr. Jane Bokunewicz, professor of Hospitality and Tourism Management Studies, and faculty director of LIGHT, provided testimony at a joint hearing of the Assembly Tourism, Gaming & the Arts and the Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism, and Historic Preservation committees on Oct. 24, 2024, about "Online Sports Betting and Its Impact on the State."



NJ SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER OF ATLANTIC, CAPE MAY AND CUMBERLAND COUNTIES

- The Small Business Development Center's (NJSBDC) work supports business sustainability and employer readiness during periods of regional growth, including a 4.2% year-over-year increase in employment in the Atlantic City metropolitan area in early 2025. While not the sole driver, the Center's contributions have helped strengthen employer capacity and local economic resilience.
- Through partnerships with the New Jersey Business Action Center (NJBAC) and the New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA), the Center supported micro-businesses with revenues under \$1.5 million in accessing financing programs such as the Main Street Micro Business Loan. Key contributions included lender-ready financial statement development, capital narratives, investor preparation, and compliance and documentation support.
- Other key impact outcomes in FY25 included:
 - 1,100+ one-to-one consulting engagements totaling more than 2,800 advisory hours
 - 101 new businesses launched across seven South Jersey counties
 - \$7.16 million in capital formation supporting startup and expansion activity
 - 68 in-person and virtual training programs with approximately 2,800 participants

THE SARA AND SAM SCHOFFER HOLOCAUST RESOURCE CENTER

High-volume, high-impact programming:

- In FY25, the Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center delivered more than 400 programs, events and activities across Stockton's Galloway and Atlantic City campuses, drawing strong participation from University members and the public.

National-caliber scholarship and survivor testimony:

- Hosted world-renowned lectures and film premieres, including the 2025 New Jersey premiere of Art Spiegelman: Disaster is My Muse.
- Preserved firsthand Holocaust survivor testimonies from Maud Dahme, Fran Malkin, Raymond Polak and Leo S. Ullman, continuing the Center's legacy, established in 1990, of documenting survivor histories.

Deep regional partnerships and educator training:

- Leveraged a dual-campus presence to collaborate with more than eight major regional and statewide partners, producing community lectures, workshops, interfaith programming, and the annual Wally and Lutz Hammerschlag Summer Educator Seminar, which provides sustained professional development for educators.



Educators attending the eighth annual Wally and Lutz Hammerschlag Summer Educator Seminar.



Pleasantville High School's dual-credit class in Holocaust and Genocide Studies touring the Stockton Esports Gaming Lab.

Broad educational reach and experiential learning:

- Engaged middle and high school students, educators and community members through guided tours, permanent exhibitions such as the Ullman Rescuers Room and the Portraits of Resilience gallery, faculty-led study tours, and specialized walking tours. These efforts advance Holocaust education while strengthening regional understanding of rescue, resistance, resilience and righteousness.

- On May 20, 2025, more than 200 people attended a special ceremony in memory of the life and legacy of Gail Hirsch Rosenthal, former executive director of the Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center. She was devoted to teaching the history of Anne Frank, whose diary was written during her time hidden from the Nazis in Amsterdam, becoming one of the most well-known accounts of the Holocaust. A sapling from the chestnut tree that stood outside of the Secret Annex where Anne Frank lived was donated to Stockton by Anne Frank Center USA, one of only 18 locations in the United States where a sapling has been planted. The tree was planted in what will become a new courtyard on the Galloway campus, that University and community members can access as a space for reflection and contemplation. The sapling project began in 2009 as an effort to preserve the original tree in Amsterdam by gathering and germinating chestnuts and donating the saplings to organizations dedicated to Frank's memory.



Toby Rosenthal shovels dirt onto a tree sapling planted May 20. The sapling is a descendant of the tree that stood in front of Anne Frank's hiding place in Amsterdam.

FACULTY AND STAFF ENGAGEMENT

- Atlantic City Campus Operations collaborated with Professor Donnetrice Allison and Africana Studies students on a senior class initiative titled “Honoring Our Elders Project.” Each student interviewed an elder of African descent who was at least 70 years old, with the goal of connecting the elder’s personal story to the historical themes discussed in class. Among those interviewed were local luminaries, Ralph Hunter, Sr., Charles Garrett, Belinda Manning and Valeria Marcus. The project culminated in a community forum held at the Stockton Multicultural Center on Dec. 5, 2024, where students presented their work, and elders were invited to attend. This legacy initiative functioned as a service-learning course project, strengthening intergenerational connections and celebrating the lived experiences of African-descended elders.
- In spring 2025, Dr. Nordia Scott, assistant professor of Psychology, conducted a photovoice project at Stanley Holmes Village. The project, supported by the Stockton Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning, was a collaboration between participating youth in the Stockton Homework Completion Program conducted at Stanley Holmes Village and Scott’s Community Psychology course. The photovoice study explored community-level risk and protective factors of academic resilience through the lens of Atlantic City youth and culminated in two exhibitions featuring the photographs taken by the youth.
- The Pappas Interdisciplinary Center for Hellenic Studies sponsored an exhibition titled “Byzantine Reflections: Ancient and Modern in Church Architecture and Iconography” at the Stockton Art Gallery.
- Dr. Jamael Harrison, director of Student Affairs Assessment and Communication, served as a quantitative reasoning instructor for the nationally recognized Second Chance Alliance Prison Program. The program is designed to aid formerly incarcerated men and women with the tools and skillsets to become fully engaged, contributing citizens.
- Nate Morell, mental health counselor, organized weekly volunteer meditation sessions, Heartfulness Meditation, which were open to the community.
- Becky Licari, assistant supervisor in Student Health Services, participated in the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (DVSA) Crisis Volunteer Advocate training (40 hours) hosted by AVANZAR Atlantic County.
- On April 3, 2025, the Stockton Esports program hosted 15 youth from the Stockton-sponsored Homework Completion Program in Atlantic City. The youth learned about esports, the program at Stockton, available scholarships and financial aid and careers in gaming and game design.
- Jestina Drysdale, assistant director for the Office of Student Conduct, while pursuing her dissertation in the Organizational Leadership doctoral program at Stockton, was involved in a community-based research partnership with Heights Philadelphia, a nonprofit supporting Black, Brown, and first-generation students. Her study examined how Heights Philadelphia has created pathways to college and careers, the support received by the students, and the impact of mentorship and community-based programming on long-term outcomes. This work allowed Drysdale to engage in applied research that centers student voice, equity, with real community experiences.
- At the fifth annual Passaic County Youth Leadership Retreat, Jestina Drysdale, assistant director for the Office of Student Conduct, presented “No Filter: Leading with Authenticity and Confidence,” a workshop designed to help students embrace their identities, recognize their strengths, and understand how authenticity serves as a powerful foundation for leadership. Students engaged deeply, reflecting on the importance of self-awareness and the courage to lead without compromising who they are.
- Dr. Bobbi Hornbeck, assistant professor of Archaeology, secured and led multiple grants supporting cultural preservation and student engagement. Funding from the Cape May County Division of Culture and Heritage supported the “Revolutionary War Exhibit Mural,” and general operating support for the Museum of Cape May County. These initiatives provided high-impact service-learning opportunities through a Stockton University affiliate nonprofit institute. Additional support was obtained through the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, and the New Jersey Historical Commission re-grant programs.

- On Sept. 24, 2024, the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy hosted the 19th annual Constitution Day, which featured internationally recognized voting rights and election law expert Professor Richard L. Hasen. He is the Gary T. Schwartz Endowed Chair in Law, professor of Political Science, and director of the Safeguarding Democracy Project at UCLA School of Law. In Hasen's powerful address, he detailed the numerous benefits that could come from enshrining this right in the Constitution, allowing us to reflect on voting rights and the steps we could take to better secure this fundamental right in our democracy.



- The Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies (MAHG) Bihari Genocide Research Project brought together students, faculty and community partners to document the first oral history archive of Urdu-speaking Biharis affected by the 1971 genocide. MAHG student Aaliyah Tayyebi led the collection of testimonies while working with the Citizens Archive of Pakistan (CAP) and is completing a master's thesis, "Listening to the Subaltern," under the advisement of Dr. Raz Segal, associate professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, with guidance from Dr. Syeda Hadi, assistant professor of Criminal Justice, and Dr. Lidia Zessin-Jurek, postdoctoral fellow, Holocaust and Genocide Studies. The program is formalizing an agreement with CAP to co-host dozens of survivor testimonies, ensuring long-term preservation and public access to this previously

undocumented history. Tayyebi will continue supporting the project for one year after graduating in August 2025 through Optional Practical Training (OPT) to help establish the archive at Stockton. To date, \$30,000 has been raised through connections with Bihari community members in the U.S. and Canada to sustain and expand this work.

- Dr. Steven Shaak, associate professor of Biology, organized and ran "Moth Night at Stockton Farm."
- Dr. Margaret Lewis, professor of Biology, was a guest presenter on paleontology, anatomy and ecology for kindergarten classes at Smithville Elementary School.
- Dr. Melanie Schroer, instructor of Biology, mentored 20 middle school students at Galloway Township Middle School for the Jersey Shore Science Fair, guiding experiment design, analysis and presentation.
- Dr. Lauren Seyler, assistant professor of Biology, mentored five students from Mainland Regional High School on NASA Cubes in Space Program projects.
- Professor of Marine Science Dr. Mark Sullivan and 18 Fisheries Science and Management students participated in the NOAA Fishing Gear Processing Day event at the Stockton Marine Field Station on April 14, 2025. Featured on NOAA Marine Debris Program blog (May 8, 2025), crabbers and scientists collaborated to remove abandoned fishing gear and protect blue crabs along the Mid-Atlantic Coast.
- Dr. Christine Thompson, associate professor of Marine Science; Dr. Anna Pfeiffer-Herbert, associate professor of Marine Science, and five students participated in tabling activities during Ocean Fun Days May 17-18, 2025, at the New Jersey Sea Grant Consortium held at Island Beach State Park and Sandy Hook.
- On June 6, 2025, Steve Evert, director of the Marine Field Station; Dr. Christine Thompson, associate professor of Marine Science; Dr. Mark Sullivan, professor of Marine Science; Stephen Nagiewicz, adjunct instructor of Marine Science; Dr. Anna Pfeiffer-Herbert, associate professor of Marine Science; David Ambrose, lab assistant; Marine Field Station assistants Elizabeth Bickand Nate Robinson, along with nine students co-hosted a World Ocean Day event in partnership with Port Republic School (K-8 students).
- The Marine Science Program was awarded a \$150,000 U.S. Coastal Research Program and NOAA Sea Grant. The grant supported enhancing community resilience through knowledge of co-production on sediment transport and bypassing around natural tidal inlets. Faculty principal investors were Kim McKenna, interim executive director, Coastal Research

Center; Dr. Anna Pfeiffer-Herbert, associate professor of Marine Science; M.S.A. Khan, P. Rowe, and T. Herrington. It was also supported by two undergraduate student research projects.

- Stockton Farm, established in 2012, continued its outreach to the community. Committed to sustainable practices, it harvested and donated almost 2,000 pounds of produce to Galloway schools for families in need.



One of the panels held during the conference centered on social mobility, lifelong impact and reinvestment in the region. (L-R): Stockton President Joe Bertolino, Assemblywoman Jessica Ramirez '98, Diane Juliano '99 and Dave Scholler '06.

- On Feb. 26, 2025, President Joe Bertolino, Dr. Oliver Cooke, associate professor of Economics, and other statewide stakeholders participated in the conference “The Power of Public Colleges and Universities: Preserving and Advancing New Jersey’s Higher Education Landscape.”

The event, hosted by the William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy, brought together higher education leaders, policymakers and community stakeholders to examine the far-reaching impact of public colleges and universities across the State of New Jersey. Throughout the day, panel discussions focused on the economic value of public higher education, social mobility and access, alumni success and long-term outcomes, and legislative solutions and policy strategies.

Speakers underscored the critical role these institutions play not only in educating students but also in driving innovation, supporting local economies, and fostering equitable pathways to success. The conference reinforced the importance of continued investment and collaborative policymaking to preserve and advance New Jersey’s higher education landscape.

- Dr. Cooke also spoke at the fifth annual Jersey Shoreview panel sponsored by the Levenson Institute in October 2024. In June 2024, Ramya Vijaya, professor of Economics, collaborated with the Hughes Center to launch the Immigrant Workers Data Snapshot series, which was updated during spring 2025. This work has given two economics majors the opportunity to engage with hands-on data and research work and gain publication credit. The data snapshot was featured in the Press of Atlantic City and New Jersey Business Magazine.
- Dr. Christina Jackson, Dr. Betsy Erbaugh, associate professor of Sociology; Dr. Sreelekha Prakash, associate professor of Health Science; and Dr. Alysia Mastrangelo, professor of Physical Therapy authored the 2024 evaluation report “New Jersey Birth Equity Funders Alliance (NJBFA): Trust-Based Philanthropy for Equity in Postpartum Support.”
- Dr. Bobbi Hornbeck, assistant professor of Archaeology, co-presented on the topic of Attracting and Retaining Volunteers [Conference Session] at the N.J. History & Historic Preservation Conference held in Burlington County.
- Dr. Guia Calicdan-Apostle, associate professor of Biology, was the principal grant writer for the Philippine Community of South Jersey’s successful \$6,000 grant award from the Camden County Historical Commission to promote social and cultural activities of Filipino Americans in South Jersey.
- Dr. Janice O. Joseph, Distinguished Professor of Criminal Justice, facilitated a presentation “Gangs in Haiti, Central America and the Caribbean,” Aug. 5-7, 2024, at the National Gang Crime Research Center in Chicago.
- Dr. Walead Abdrabouh, then-director of Information Systems & Business Intelligence, served as a panelist at the 2025 NJ & NY Higher Education IT Leadership Summit, and also as a presenter at the Summer Entrepreneurship and Business Academy (SEBA), “Business in the Age of AI”.
- Jovina Bermudez, interim director of Financial Aid, participated in a FAFSA completion event at Atlantic City High School, helping parents and students with hands-on, one-on-one assistance to complete their application for federal student aid.

- Through Stockton University's partnership with National Chiayi University in Taiwan, 10 students from the Schools of Education and Business traveled to Taiwan for a week of learning and teaching during December 2024. Students were accompanied by Stockton's Director of Global Engagement Patricia Sagasti Suppes; Interim Dean for the School of Education Dr. Kimberly Dickerson; and faculty members Dr. Chia-Lin Wu, Dr. Norma Boakes and Dr. Pam Kosick. In addition to students gaining valuable classroom experience, they observed classroom management strategies at two local elementary schools, presented lessons on basic math, physical education and American culture. The program presented an opportunity for reciprocal learning relationships between Stockton's students and the students of NCYU.



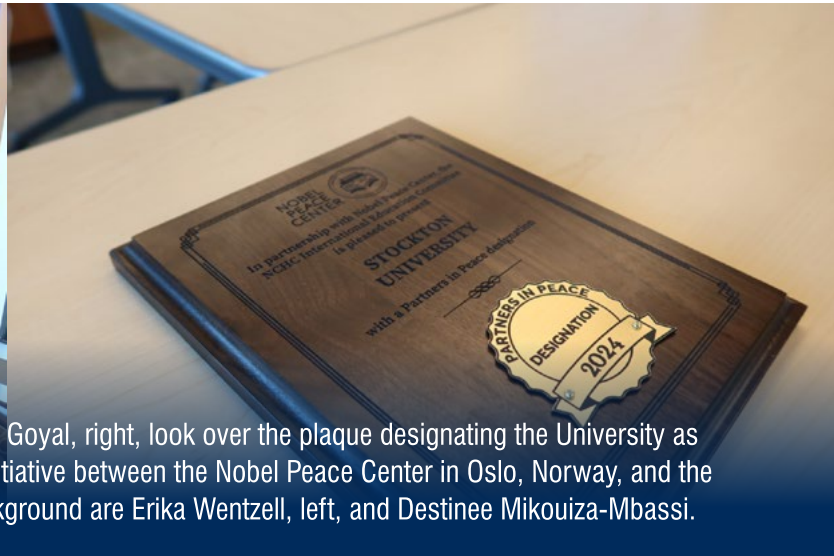
- Dana Grasso, a teaching specialist at the School of Education, led the organization of the first Access to Art Disabilities Workshop held at Stockton with the Atlantic County Special Services School. Forty Special Services students worked with about 50 Stockton students from the University's Disability Studies minor to create clay versions of the school's mascot, the osprey. The program was created by the Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University, with support of \$70,000 in funds from the Atlantic Center for Independent Living (ACIL), a Galloway-based nonprofit that advocates and provides life skills training and services for people with disabilities.
- Dr. Jess Bonnan-White, professor of Criminal Justice, collaborated with Hamilton Township Sgt. Craig Clayton, a 2004 Stockton alum, to develop a quantitative study on the interactions between community members and local law enforcement. Students in Bonnan-White's undergraduate service-learning course met with community members through various town and city hall meetings and collected 450 responses. The results will be utilized to form policy briefs and suggestions for the Hamilton Township Police Department and community. Through the project, both Bonnan-White and Sgt.

Clayton hope to expose Criminal Justice students to real-world implications that are difficult to explore in theory courses, and strengthen the relationships between Stockton, the local community and law enforcement.

- The Speech and Hearing Clinic at Stockton University will provided free therapy to people with Parkinson's Disease through a \$50,000 five-year grant from the Parkinson Voice Project. Parkinson Voice Project chose Stockton and its existing clinic at 10 Jimmie Leeds Road in Galloway as New Jersey's SPEAK OUT! Therapy and Research Center. All New Jerseyans will be able to receive in-person and remote speech treatment at no cost. The center will also provide research and clinical opportunities for Stockton students.
- Stockton's Child Welfare Education Institute (CWEI) held a special event on April 11, 2025, at the Atlantic City campus to celebrate 20 years, as it continues to lead the federal and state-funded Baccalaureate Child Welfare Education Program (BCWEP) and has provided tuition and valuable internship experience within the Division of Child Protection & Permanency (DCP&P) for more than 600 eligible undergraduate Social Work students statewide.



- Stockton’s Honors College was named one of just 16 Partners in Peace institutions worldwide in November 2024. The designation was part of a new initiative between the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo, Norway, and the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC). The Partners in Peace initiative recognizes council institutions for the achievements of their honors students and faculty in creating, implementing and assessing curricular and co-curricular offerings that highlight the work of Alfred Nobel and recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize. Dr. Joshua Duntley, the director of Stockton’s Honors College, said the University was recognized after submitting a new Honors class titled “Partners in Peace” that will explore the history of the Nobel Peace Prize and the work and impact of Nobel Peace Laureates. In the class, Stockton students will use Nobel Peace Prize winners as inspiration for the development of programs and solutions to challenges faced by our University and the local community, he said.



Stockton Honors College students Violet Vogel, left, and Riya Goyal, right, look over the plaque designating the University as part of the inaugural cohort of the Partners in Peace, a new initiative between the Nobel Peace Center in Oslo, Norway, and the National Collegiate Honors Council. Also studying in the background are Erika Wentzell, left, and Destinee Mikouiza-Mbassi.

- Lora Panepinto was one of six Stockton students selected to take part in a first-time series of cruises with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) ship Nancy Foster in July 2024. The students lived and worked with a NOAA crew as it mapped the ocean floor off the coast of South Carolina. Alanna Weeks, Mackenzie Briggs and Seth Sims sailed from July 5 to July 12, 2024, and Dustin Horensky, Hannah Elliott and Panepinto traveled from July 15 to July 21.

Stockton was one of only six schools invited by NOAA to send students. “Stockton is one of a handful of schools in the country that offer undergraduate training in the field of hydrography and marine technology,” said Steve Evert, director of Stockton’s Marine Field Station in Port Republic.

“It is rare that undergraduate and graduate students get an opportunity to sail aboard a NOAA vessel,” said Julia Wallace, a physical scientist with NOAA’s Office of Coast Survey. “These cruises enable groups of students from several academic institutions to experience hydrographic mapping operations, life at sea aboard a NOAA vessel, and network with other marine science students from across the country.”



STOCKTON CENTER FOR SUCCESSFUL AGING

- Stockton Professor Emeritus of Psychology and founding director of the Stockton Center on Successful Aging (SCOSA) Dr. David Burdick received the Mildred M. Seltzer Distinguished Service Honor from the Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE) at the Gerontological Society of America's Annual Scientific Meeting (GSA) Nov. 13-16, 2024, in Seattle, Washington. Burdick and Dr. Christine Ferri, director of SCOSA and associate professor of Psychology, co-authored a presentation, "Building Resilience and Grit in Higher Education's Own Climate Crisis." Speaking to a room of faculty, staff and administrators involved in running centers and programs on aging, Ferri emphasized the importance of a robust center on aging as a hub for community outreach and research: "What we do is in everybody's lives."



of faculty, staff and administrators involved in running centers and programs on aging, Ferri emphasized the importance of a robust center on aging as a hub for community outreach and research: "What we do is in everybody's lives."

At the same conference, Dr. Duo (Helen) Wei, professor of Computer Science and faculty associate in SCOSA, was the lead author of two presentations at GSA. She delivered a talk, "Intergenerational Workshop to Empower Older Adults in Smart Technologies," at the symposium on Intergenerational Service: Extending Age Inclusivity in and Beyond the Classroom. Wei shared her Medical Informatics class's Intergenerational service-learning projects with South Jersey Older Adult Communities.

Dr. Kaite Yang, associate professor of Psychology and coordinator of the Childhood Studies Minor, co-authored a poster presentation with Ferri and Princeton University Professor Emeritus Joan Girgus, "Changes in Depressive Symptoms Across Middle and Older Adulthood in the ORANJ BOWL Longitudinal Study of Aging." Their research examined the well-known gender disparity in depression using advanced longitudinal modeling methods to track changes in symptoms over 13 years.

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

These initiatives and engagement activities demonstrate the impact of undergraduate admissions in fostering connections with prospective students, which contributes to a more engaging, accessible and inclusive admissions process, reinforcing Stockton University's dedication to student success.

Campus-Wide Strategic Enrollment Management Recruitment Events attract a broad audience of prospective students and their families, offering an immersive look into campus life, academics, student life, and resources:

- Spring 2025 Discover Stockton Day/Open House/Recruitment Event – 575 attendees
- 2025 Experience Stockton Day/Admitted Student Day/Yield Event – 746 attendees
- Fall 2024 Discover Stockton Day/Open House/Recruitment Event – 533 attendees
- Pre-Senior Summer Instant Decision Days provided rising high school seniors with early admissions decisions, streamlining the enrollment process and increasing Stockton's commitment to student success.

The Office of Financial Aid

- The Office of Financial Aid conducted presentations and participated in programs for local high schools at Greater Egg Regional, Ocean City and Atlantic City.
- Marielena Dottoli, assistant director of Financial Aid, facilitated several presentations for students and parents at the Ocean City High School College Application Bootcamp.
- Lynda Larkin, program assistant, hosted a financial aid presentation for the Greater Egg Harbor Regional School District.

GOALS GEAR UP Program

The GOALS GEAR UP Program is designed to enhance students' intellectual abilities in Math, Marine Science, English, Public Speaking, and Computer Science, with an emphasis on socio-emotional learning, cultivating self-esteem, and developing leaders who will be prepared to navigate postsecondary education and enter the workforce. The program includes a Saturday Academy during the academic year and a four-day per week Summer Enrichment Program for sixth-11th grades, held at the Atlantic City campus. Eligible students come from public middle and high schools in Atlantic City and Pleasantville. The Saturday Academy and Summer programs included 254 student participants. The in-school workshops served over 1,200 Atlantic City & Pleasantville students.



Additional opportunities GEAR UP students were exposed to:

- Sponsored a student senior to attend the GOALS GEAR UP Conference in San Francisco, California.
- Funded educational and enrichment trips including: Grounds for Sculpture, Adventure Aquarium in Camden, and the Broadway production of "Hamilton."
- Organized two college visits to Stockton University and Rowan University.
- Connected students with Stockton University's Esports Team.
- Hosted a college mixer with representatives from eight institutions, increasing post-secondary awareness for juniors and seniors.
- Four GEAR UP high school seniors completed online IT certification programs.
- Hosted speed jobbing to build career readiness and professional skills.
- Hosted the annual Seniors Dinner at The Cardinal, celebrating graduating seniors and providing professional networking opportunities.
- Implemented residential programming in Kesselman Hall for 11th and 12th graders as part of the Summer Enrichment Program.



THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

Every year, the Stockton University Development Office undertakes many programs and events that develop and strengthen the network of community partners and alumni to the benefit of the university and the community. A sample of the activities included:

- Stockton Foundation partnered with alum, Robert Himmerstein, president and owner of Surfside Casual Furniture Store to host the July 18, 2024, opening reception for the Surfside Casual Furniture Summer 2024 Showhouse. Himmerstein selected Stockton as the 2024 Showhouse beneficiary. "Giving back to my alma mater is very important to me. Naming the Show House 'Pond of Hope Mansion' felt fitting because the proceeds from the Show House are benefiting Stockton University students," he said.



- As part of the National Make-a-Will Month with FreeWill, staff served as a resource for community members seeking free estate planning assistance.

- The Stockton Women's Leadership Council (SWLC) is a Stockton University Foundation initiative comprised of community and alumni mentors, dedicated to the empowerment of women and promoting mentoring, professional development, philanthropy, academic support, and networking among women and the community.



The SWLC held its first-ever Excellence in Mentoring Awards program on March 22, 2025. Recipients included (L-R): Andrea Steinberg, CEO of Jewish Family Services; Tina Byrne '20 of Suasion Communications Group; Michele Myers '90 of Caesar's Entertainment; and Cookie Till '83 of A Meaningful Purpose at Reed's Farm. The women were recognized for championing mentorship in their roles as leaders in their community.

- Stockton Women's Leadership Council hosted the Women's Conference: Building Community and Nurturing Relationships on Oct. 25, 2024, at the Atlantic City campus.
- The Stockton University Foundation Golf Classic was held Sept. 19, 2024, at Renault Winery & Resort. Golfers of all skill levels competed in Men's and Women's Closest to the Pin, Longest Drive and three Hole-in-One Challenges. The event brought together alumni, community members and supporters, all committed to helping students succeed at Stockton. The 2025 event raised over \$95,000. Proceeds from the event contribute to more than \$1 million in scholarships awarded annually, as well as vital student initiatives supported by the Stockton Fund and the Stockton University Foundation.



- The Stockton Foundation Gala returned to the University's Galloway campus for the first time in 20 years on April 26, 2025. There was renewed energy and excitement from the community, as nearly 500 alumni, donors, faculty, staff, parents and friends were in attendance. The event raised more than \$330,000 toward scholarships, helping to provide meaningful financial assistance to students pursuing their academic and professional goals.

- Two Stockton students, Damaris-Anne Spring and Dhikarat Odutayo, received the Arcuri Wharton Pre-Law Fund Award on April 25 during the annual Political Science Faculty Spring Reception. The award is named after former Stockton Political Science professors Alan F. Arcuri and Linda Wharton. The award covers the cost of a prep program for the LSAT exam and mentoring as they apply to and attend law school. The endowed fund has given out a total of 29 awards since 2019.

From left to right, Kris Arcuri, Damaris-Anne Spring of Willingboro, Professor Emerita Linda Wharton and Dhikrat Odutayo of Newark. Spring and Odutayo are the winners of the 2025 Arcuri Wharton Pre-Law Fund Awards.



- More than \$445,000 was donated by more than 1,150 campus and community donors to support Stockton students and programs during the seventh annual Ospreys Give campaign on Oct 4, 2024. The campaign featured a variety of engaging on-campus events — including a kickoff party, games, an alumni and friends event at Fox Den at Linwood Country Club, and other gatherings — all aimed at fostering a spirit of philanthropy and encouraging participation. For the second year in a row, Spencer’s and Spirit Halloween served as the lead sponsor and committed \$250,000 to be unlocked as donor goals were reached throughout the campaign.



- The Stockton University Foundation received a \$100,000 gift on May 19 from the Daniel Anderl Judicial Protection Project to create an endowed scholarship for undergraduate students interested in studying privacy law, cybersecurity and criminal justice. The Daniel Anderl Judicial Protection Project’s mission is to further the safety, security and privacy of members of the judicial community and their families.

CELEBRATING THE ARTS AND CULTURE

- The New Jersey State Council on the Arts awarded over \$500,000 to Stockton to support arts programs. The grants include a record amount of \$145,730 for the University’s Performing Arts Center, \$56,030 for the Noyes Museum of Art at Stockton University and \$300,000 for the co-sponsored “State of the Arts” television program that airs weekly on New Jersey Public Broadcasting Service. The money will be renewed annually for the next three years.



- The Noyes Museum of Art at Stockton University created an art outreach program to support people with disabilities thanks to a new partnership with an Atlantic County nonprofit. The Access to Art program, which hosted more than 100 workshops at 13 different sites in fall 2024, was funded by \$40,000 from the Atlantic Center for Independent Living, Inc. (ACIL), a Galloway-based nonprofit that advocates and provides life skills training and services for people with disabilities. The program was such a success that ACIL provided another \$30,000 to the Noyes last December to continue programming in 2025.

Access to Art and the Noyes Museum partnered with organizations whose primary functions are to support those with disabilities, such as the ARC of Atlantic County, P.I.L.O.T. Services in Atco, and other nonprofits that broadly support youth and families, such as Oceanside Family Success Centers in Atlantic City and the Hammonton Family Success Center. Stockton's Kramer Hall in Hammonton and the Noyes Arts Garage in Atlantic City also hosted events.

- Stockton students were joined by local fifth graders from Dr. Joyanne D. Miller Elementary School in Egg Harbor Township to showcase unique origami creations made by the students throughout the University's Campus Center's Grand Hall on April 16. Professor and chair of the Education program Dr. Norma Boakes teaches "The Art & Math of Origami," where students learn about the ancient art of paper folding and explore its connection to mathematical principles, such as geometry.
- The William J. Hughes Center for Public Policy hosted a program featuring renowned photojournalist and author Christy Bowe on Feb 28, 2025. Through her images, Bowe was able to provide a glimpse inside the White House, focusing on the human side of the nation's past five presidents. Among Bowe's two million images, she shared photos and stories of George W. Bush during 9/11, Barack Obama's frustration with gun laws and his experience meeting families of the children who had been killed during the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, and one of President Joe Biden's last bill signings, as he handed Vice President Kamala Harris a pen.
- Associate Professor of Asian Philosophy Jongbok Yi invited a group of Tibetan monks from the Drepung Gomang Monastery to the Galloway campus to build a sand mandala and meet with students, staff and community members. The week-long program, titled "Healing Through Mandala," began with an opening ceremony on Monday, April 7, 2025, in the Campus Center Grand Hall. The monks' work continued until a closing ceremony on April 11, where they destroyed the sand mandala to symbolize the transitory nature of all phenomena.

- Evan Carr, of Bloomfield, and Laura Randall, of Galloway, seniors in Stockton's Visual Arts program, were selected out of dozens of entries to display their artwork at the Atlantic City International Airport terminal. Their proposals were submitted as part of their course "Design for Community Partners" with Professor of Art Hannah Ueno. The artwork was unveiled at a ceremony at the airport on April 25. "We are honored to partner with these students to bring their visions into our terminal, transforming our airport into not just a place of departure and arrival, but a place of expression and connection," said Stephen Dougherty, executive director for the South Jersey Transportation Authority, which operates and manages the airport. The theme of the murals was "The Future of Aviation."

Affirming Our Commitment to Inclusivity and Diversity

ELEVATING HISPANIC & LATINO VOICES

Panel Discusses Hispanic Community's Challenges at Stockton

In commemoration of Hispanic Heritage Month, UNIDOS, a Stockton organization, hosted “Escaleras (The Climb),” a panel that brought together alumni, students and community members on Sept. 19, 2024, for an engaging conversation about the challenges and triumphs of the Hispanic community and people of color. The panel addressed topics like imposter syndrome, breaking through barriers, and the struggles unique to marginalized groups.

UNIDOS was established in 2018 by Stockton staff to bring together faculty and staff interested in expanding awareness of the cultural and historical contributions of the Hispanic community. The organization advocates for mentoring, recruitment and retention of Stockton employees. Its mission is to promote inclusion among affiliated faculty and staff, fostering a stronger sense of belonging at Stockton and making the University a workplace of choice.



LATINO VISITATION DAY

On Nov. 19, 2024, the Office of Enrollment Management hosted a targeted initiative, Latino Visitation Day, to engage Latino students and their families, highlighting Stockton’s commitment to diversity, inclusion, and culturally relevant support services. The event included 600 students from 10 high schools across New Jersey.

The program featured a passionate keynote speech by Jessica Ramirez '98, a Stockton alumna and assemblywoman for New Jersey’s 32nd legislative district in Jersey City and Hoboken, who shared her journey from an 8-year-old girl experiencing culture shock after moving to the United States from Puerto Rico to a Political Science student who, with support from peers in the EOF program and her mentors, went on to earn a law degree and pass the bar exam in one attempt.

The day also included a campus tour, meetings with Stockton students and student organizations such as Los Latinos Unidos and historically Hispanic/Latino fraternities and sororities, and guidance on available resources, including the offices of Career Education & Development and Financial Aid.



JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Following a parade led by the Boardwalk Community Fellowship Church's drumline around the Stockton University Atlantic City campus, students, faculty, staff and community members gathered to celebrate Black freedom, culture and resilience at the fifth annual Juneteenth commemoration on Thursday, June 19.

Juneteenth, nationally recognized on June 19 but observed in New Jersey as the third Friday of June, honors the day that enslaved people in Texas were liberated from illegal bondage in 1865, two years after the Emancipation Proclamation.

The celebration, a collaboration across Stockton's student organizations and departments, included a soaring rendition of "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing" by Chartertech High School for the Performing Arts student Brielle Scott, a soul food luncheon catered by Henri's Hotts Barbeque and powerful speeches and remarks.

written and produced by Associate Professor of Communication Studies Jeremy Newman, and one in the Art Gallery centered on Indigenous life and culture.



LGBTQ+ FLAG-RAISING

On Oct. 2, 2024, the University hosted its annual flag-raising ceremony which kicked off a month-long celebration of LGBTQ+ History Month, observed nationally throughout October. Community programming was created by student organizations including Pride Alliance, the Queer & Trans People of Color Society, and the Women's Gender & Sexuality Center, highlighting the history and achievements of the LGBTQ+ communities both within and outside of Stockton.

In his remarks, Stockton President Joe Bertolino recalled attending a conference as a higher education professional where he was told that being openly gay would be a "career-ender." However, he said that he is now one of around 300 college presidents who openly identify as LGBTQ+.



HONORING INDIGENOUS CULTURES

Stockton marked its fourth year celebrating Indigenous Peoples' Day on Oct. 14, 2024, a holiday that centers on the history, culture and continued experiences of the Indigenous people who stewarded this land before it became recognized as the United States of America.

The event was the culmination of two years of work by Ryann Casey '01, exhibition coordinator for the Stockton Art Gallery, and her team, who gathered and organized the works of 25 local and international Indigenous artists for the "Indigenous Approaches, Sustainable Futures" exhibition and its related celebrations and programming hosted by the School of Arts & Humanities. Over 1,000 people visited the exhibition.

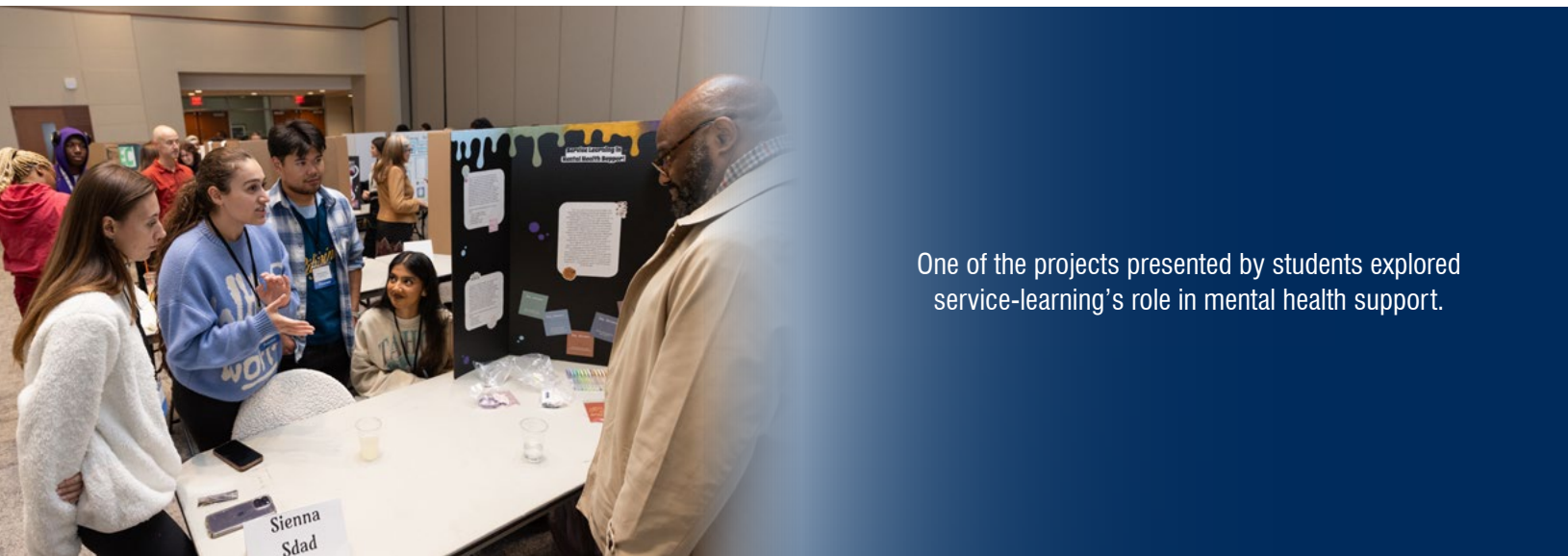
Outside the Multicultural Center, students from the Lenapehoking Reestablishment Project's (LRP) Indigenous Youth Program performed and explained the origins of various pow-wow dances.

Later in the day, two panel discussions were held: one in the Campus Center Theatre following a screening of a documentary



Student Leadership and Engagement

- Health Education and the Wellness Peer Educators participated in a creative project with the state coordinator for the New Jersey Prevention Network and other nonprofits, schools and government agencies to promote the Great American Smokeout (GASO). They attended weekly meetings, assisted in the creation of GASO materials, and developed a social media campaign.
- Stockton Manahawkin's Nursing Club partnered with the Ocean County Board of Health to offer Narcan training. Through this course, students gained an understanding of when, why, and how to administer Narcan to help save a life.
- The Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning conducted a survey of campus clubs and organizations that participated in the Get Involved Fair to learn which groups are collaborating with community organizations. Engagement Leadership Team members in the office surveyed 116 clubs, with 60 organizations reporting community collaborations. Some of their community partners and projects include:
 - The Bengali Student Association partnered with the AC Bengali Association to host Falgun Mela and Phohela Boishakh festivals.
 - MEXSA partnered with El Pueblo Unido of Atlantic City for special programs involving immigration issues.
 - Chabad House partnered with the Chabad Jewish Center to volunteer at senior centers in the area.
 - The Environmental Club collaborated with the Stockton Maple Project and supported the EcoFest event.
 - Circle K International supported many projects benefiting Spring Village in Galloway and the Humane Society of Atlantic County.
- From Nov 18-22, 2024, Stockton celebrated a Week of Engagement with a series of activities including a documentary screening, community murals, and student participation in various service projects. Organized by the Stockton Center for Community Engagement & Service Learning, the week focused on the value of community engagement within Stockton and between the University and the broader community, highlighting best practices, including the high impact of service-learning.



One of the projects presented by students explored service-learning's role in mental health support.

ATHLETICS AND RECREATION

On Jan. 15, 2025, the Stockton women's basketball team, along with Coach Devin Jefferson, visited the Lower Cape May High School girls' basketball team practice to lead a training session. Players worked with the team and followed the session with a question-and-answer session on being a college athlete and the importance of teamwork and perseverance.

Coach Scott Bittner and several players from the men's basketball team visited Galloway Township Middle School to meet with seventh graders and talk about the importance of doing well in school, character development, and becoming a college athlete.

ENGELBERG LEADERSHIP SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Entering its sixth year, the Engelberg Leadership Scholars program covers four students' full tuition, room, board, and other expenses beginning in their sophomore year in exchange for continued exceptional academic ability and a commitment to civic learning.

The AY25 scholars were Dickson Moreno (Literature), Yaisha Rios (Biology), Sage Rosenberg (Anthropology & Sociology), and Channon Wilson (Chemistry). Each student cohort participates in a summer orientation, a common curriculum, professional development activities throughout the academic year, a structured internship based in Atlantic City and a collaborative entrepreneurial capstone project.



Since its inception, the program has graduated 11 students and reviewed three capstone projects on topics such as childhood literacy and maternal health.

GREEK LIFE AND SERVICE

Stockton's 28 recognized Greek organizations supported a wide range of community partners this year, promoting awareness and action through educational, cultural and philanthropic activities.



Community Partners Supported

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| Arc of Atlantic County | Field of Dreams | Prevent Child Abuse America |
| Asbury Methodist Church of Atlantic City | Funny Farm Rescue and Sanctuary | American Red Cross |
| Atlantic City Police Explorers | HERO Campaign | Saint Baldrick's |
| Atlantic County Animal Shelter | Hispanic Association of Atlantic County | Sister Jean's Kitchen |
| Atlantic City Rescue Mission | Humane Society of Ocean City | Starkey Hearing Foundation |
| Atlantic County Utilities Authority | Love Blue Inc. | St. Jude Children's Research Hospital |
| AVANZAR | March of Dimes | Susan G. Komen Foundation |
| Callie's New Ride | National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders | Brotherly Love Foundation |
| Children's Miracle Network | No1hungryinEHC | Veterans Moving Forward (Military Heroes Campaign) |
| Cystic Fibrosis Foundation | Pennsylvania Avenue School | |
| El Pueblo Unido | | |

Sampling of Community Groups Hosting Programs and Events at the Galloway and Atlantic City Campuses

Galloway:

- TORCH Leadership Academy
- Tech Trek AAUW
- Give Something Back, Inc. (Hopeloft)
- J. Harris Academy of Police Training
- Association of Financial Consultants
- American Red Cross Blood Drive
- St. Thomas AME Church
- Boy Scouts Merit Badge Fair
- AtlantiCare Pathways to Leadership Conference
- New Jersey Decoy Collectors Association
- New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police Courses
- Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA)
- NJ DOE Dare to Dream Student Leadership Conference
- Atlantic City Football Club Games
- Institute of Reading Development
- Southern New Jersey Development Council
- First Love Unbroken
- Association of Financial Workshops
- AtlantiCare Residents Graduation
- “Covered by Love” A Gospel Stage Play
- Mt. Zion Church
- New Jersey Chapter of APPA
- Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

Atlantic City

- Savasana by the Sea Yoga Retreat
- PALS Program
- AtlantiCare
- Work First New Jersey Program (Boys & Girls Club)
- Chelsea Economic Development Corporation Community Meetings
- Bureau of Ocean Energy Management Central Atlantic Offshore Wind Open House Meeting
- Catastrophic Illness in Children Relief Fund Family Appreciation Day

- New Jersey Offshore Wind Strategic Plan 2 Fisheries & Environmental Resources Meeting
- New Jersey Offshore Wind Strategic Plan Engagement Meeting
- Time for Turbines Conference
- Shell Offshore Wind Energy Education Workshop
- THIS IS IT NETWORK LIVE Women’s Conference
- ACEA Meet the Candidates Event
- NJEDA Board Meeting
- Atlantic City Cinefest
- Spencer’s and Spirit Halloween Meetings
- Judge Nugent Swearing-In Ceremony
- Chelsea Neighborhood Association Meetings
- Chelsea Economic Development Corporation
- QPS Training
- Atlantic Cape Principals & Supervisors Association Meeting
- 2025 11th Annual NENA Regional Spring Conference
- Seashore Club West Condo Association Owners Meeting
- The Seahaus Hotel Hiring Event
- Violence Prevention Training Program
- Seashore Gardens 5K Run/Walk
- Healing House Life Center Church Meeting
- Atlantic City High School Athletic Hall of Fame Ceremony
- More Drag Fewer Guns Performance
- New Jersey Offshore Wind Research & Monitoring Initiative Annual Meeting
- Seashore Club West Annual Meeting
- La Salle College High School Overnight Camp
- Diabetes Training Camp
- Phi Delta Kappa, Inc. National Sorority, Iota Chapter
- Diabetes Training Camp

Institutional Advancement and External Recognition

Sampling of External Board Participation & Community Engagement by Stockton Faculty and Staff

ADA/DEI Committee Chair, Garden State Film Festival	Atlantic County Public Health Coalition
ADA-Rehabilitation Act Steering Committee on Diversity	AVANZAR
ADA Rehabilitation Act Steering Committee	Awards Committee, Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors
Advisor, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council	Bridge of Faith
Advisory Board, AtlantiCare Healing Arts Program	Board Chair, Esports Innovation Center in partnership with the NJ Economic Development Authority
Advisory Board, Atlantic County Institute of Technology	Board Member and Treasurer, Alstrom Syndrome International
Advisory Board, Cumberland County Technical Education Center	Board Member, American Association of University Administrators (AAUA)
Alliance for a Living Ocean	Board Member, Atlantic City Community Foundation
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated	Board Member, Atlantic County Institute of Technology
American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)	Board Member, Boys and Girls Club of Atlantic City
American Institute of Certified Public Accountants	Board Member, Build Jake's Place
Arts and Humanities Committee on Diversity Committee	Board Member, Camden Charter School Network
Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce - Economic Development Committee	Board Member, Community Food Bank of South Jersey
American Council on Education (ACE)	Board Member, Executive Committee, Garden State Film Festival
American Alliance of Museums	Board Member, Greater Atlantic City Chamber of Commerce (GACC)
American Legion Auxiliary Unit 158	Board Member, Gilda's Club of South Jersey
Anchor Institution Taskforce (ATIF)	Board Member, Hammonton Health Coalition
ARHU Alumni Advisory Board	Board Member and Communications and Marketing Chairperson, Historic Somers Mansion
Assistant Coach, Stockton Tennis Club	Board Member, Ocean Wind Pro-NJ Grantor Trust
Association of African American Museums	Board Member, NJEdge
Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB)	Board Member, NJ & NY Higher Education IT Leadership Summit Advisory Board
Association of Title IX Administrators (ATIXA)	Board Member, Seashore Gardens Foundation
Atlantic City Executive Council (ACEC)	Board Member and Treasurer, Seneca Eagles Band Parents Association
Atlantic City Youth Services	Board Member, Southern New Jersey Development Council (SNJDC)
Atlantic City and Pleasantville School Districts	
Atlantic County Economic Alliance	

Board Member, The Argo Stockton Student Newspaper

Boys and Girls Club

Chair, Board of Directors, TQM Construction Corp. (Philippines)

Chair, NJAC Swimming and Diving

Chair, Peer Reviewer for Infrastructure and Capacity Building Challenge Grants: Building Museums International Conference – Mid-Atlantic Association of Museums

Choose NJ

Choral Adjudicator and Workshop Facilitator, Atlantic County Teen Arts Festival

Co-Chair of DEI Advisory Council, Chamber of Commerce of Southern NJ (CCSNJ)

Co-Chair, Education Programs for the Northeast Greek Leadership Association

Co-Chair, NJ Association of Veterans Program Administrators (NJAVPA) Legislative and Regional Consortium Development committees

Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU)

Commissioner, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Committee Member, Great Day AC Pride

Council of Presidents, AGB

Cumberland County Cultural & Heritage Commission Finance Committee

Dance Advisory Board, Burlington County Institute of Technology

Dance Advisory Board, Gloucester County Institute of Technology Dance

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Eastern Association of College and University Business Officers

EAB Presidents Advisory Council

Executive Board Member and Director of Educational Initiatives, Diopian Institute for Scholarly Advancement (DISA)

Facilitator, Delta Chi Fraternity, Alpha Chi Rho Fraternity, Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, and the North American Interfraternity Conference

Filipino American Atlantic Association

First Vice President, Woman's Civic Club of Hammonton

Gilda's Club of South Jersey

Troop Leader, Girls Scout of America

Hammonton Arts District Advisory Committee

Hammonton Historical Society

Honorary Chair, YMCA of the Pines Comprehensive Campaign

Host, Cheer Clinic for local high school athletes

Jetty Rock Foundation

Jewish Federation of Atlantic & Cape May Counties

KNJAC

LGBTQ Leaders in Higher Education

LGBTQ President Council

Mainland Recreation Association

Make Us Visible NJ

Management Council, NCAA Division III

Middle States Commission on Higher Education Peer Evaluator

NAACP Atlantic City Chapter

National Aerospace Research & Technology Park (NARTP)

New Jersey Association for College Admission Counseling

National Association of College and University Business Officers

National Association of Diversity Officers in Higher Education

National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA)

National Association of College/University Attorneys (NACUA)

National Association of Veteran Program Administrators – Legislative, Sponsor and Membership Committees

National Bar Association – Women Lawyers Division

National Council President for Phi Mu Delta National

National Museum Advocacy Day Committee

National President, Phi Mu Delta Fraternity

NCAA National Rowing Committee

New Jersey Chief Diversity Officers

NJ Democratic State Committee/Democratic National Committee, Asian American and Pacific Islander/Middle Eastern and North African Base Leadership Table

New Jersey Higher Education CFO/VPAF Council

New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants

New Jersey State Bar Association Higher Education Committee

National Association of State Colleges & Universities (NJASCU)

NJ Council of Human Resource Officers

2024 NODA Region VIII & XI Regional Conference Committee

Peer Reviewer, Journal of Sorority and Fraternity Research and Practice

Pennsylvania Bar Association Commission on Women in the Profession

Pennsylvania Bar Association – Civil Litigation Section

Philippine Community of Southern NJ

Policy and Economic Development Committee, Greater AC Chamber of Commerce

President, Ducktown Neighborhood Community Development Corporation

President, Mainland Performing Arts Parents Organization

President, LGBTQ Leaders in Higher Education

Scout Troop 452 located in Mays Landing

Secretary, Atlantic County Democratic Committee

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., Epsilon Zeta Sigma Chapter

Soroptimist International of Hammonton

Southern Ocean County Chamber of Commerce

Southern New Jersey Development Council – Executive Committee for NJ Construction Forecasting

Southampton Parent Teacher Association

Special Olympics

The Links, Inc., Atlantic City Chapter

Treasurer, Alstrom Syndrome International

Treasurer, High-adventure Boy Scouts Troop 26, Germania – Galloway Twp.

Treasurer, International Society for the History of the Map

Treasurer, New Jersey Bursars Association

Treasurer, South Jersey Forward Inc.

Trustee, Greater Hammonton Chamber of Commerce

Vice Chair, Port Republic Planning and Zoning Board of Adjustment

Vice President, Chelsea Economic Development Corporation

Vice President, Ducktown Neighborhood Community Development Corporation

Vice President, Hammonton Pride

Vice President, MainStreet Hammonton



Handel's Messiah Concert featuring community choirs

The Division of Community Engagement

WHAT WE DO

The Division of Community Engagement serves as a central bridge between Stockton University and the surrounding community, cultivating relationships with campus partners, community members and organizations whose expertise enhances learning and engagement. The office supports and provides service and leadership opportunities for students, faculty and staff, fostering academic, personal and professional growth.

As a key point of contact for community organizations, the office creates pathways for meaningful collaboration and partnership. Through its work, it promotes a culture of civility and mutual benefit, advancing community-engaged initiatives that align with Stockton's mission and strategic goals.

WHO WE ARE



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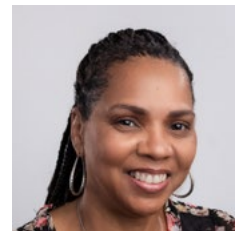


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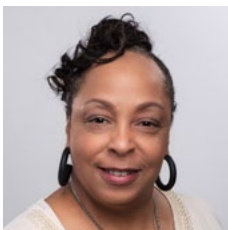


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Coast Day



Community Resource Fair



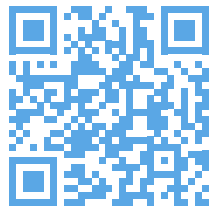
Celebration of Service Event



Wellness Fair



stockton.edu



Scan here to learn more about Stockton's Community Engagement



Summer Entrepreneurship and Business Academy (SEBA) Camp 2025



Eighth Annual Wally & Lutz Hammerschlag Summer Educator Seminar