

Division of Interdisciplinary Studies

at the Center for Worker Education

The City College
of New York

Downtown Campus

City College
D O W N T O W N
S C O P E

FALL
2020

Dear CWE Community,

It's the beginning of the Fall semester like none we have ever known before. As the global pandemic prevails we continue to hear voices raised justly and urgently for racial equity. It can be difficult to focus on work during such a time, but together we are persevering and we continue to execute at a very high level in this most challenging environment. Our Institution is strong and we remain well-positioned for an unprecedented Fall semester. The strength of our faculty, staff and students means that we continue doing what we are meant to do--to provide the best education to our students.

It is important for us to keep in mind that, during such times groups traditionally marginalized by society often suffer the most devastating consequences. It is essential that we remain focused on our commitment to equity and inclusion.

I am excited to launch our newsletter: Scope. Its goal is to inform about our CWE Community. In this first issue we are highlighting our amazing students. Last semester two of our students received the prestigious Mellon Mays Fellow: Myra Rosa and Ana Abreu. We also underline the work of our outstanding faculty. Two excellent articles: Professor Joan Robinson's research on "What the pregnancy test is testing", and Professor Martin Woessner's "The Pedagogy of Rage: Teaching Working Students During a Pandemic".

I want you to stay healthy and keep doing what you are doing. Take time with friends and family and remember we are here to support one another as we continue to navigate these trying times. I know how hard all of you have been working; what you've all done continues to amaze me and makes me very proud to be a part of this team.

Sincerely,

Juan Carlos Mercado, PhD

Dean | Division of Interdisciplinary Studies at the Center for Worker Education



POWERFUL LEARNING EXPERIENCES

CWE provides an excellent college education to working adults from New York City and surrounding regions. CWE offers City College degrees: BA in Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences; BS in Early Childhood Education; BA/MA in the Study of the Americas, and a number of certificate programs. The courses and educational programs are specifically designed for students whose access to higher education has been limited or interrupted due to financial limitations, work responsibilities and family obligations.



Sandra Serrano

CWE's Sandra Serrano earns \$10k Women's Forum Fellowship.

The awards are given to high-potential women, age 35 and over, whose education and lives have been disrupted by extreme adversity. They recognize extraordinary and often heroic efforts in overcoming adversity in restructuring lives for success.

[Read the story](#)



Dear Students,

We invite you to apply for the 2020-2021 CWE Awards and Scholarships. In addition to the practical financial benefit, an award or scholarship strengthens your résumé considerably for potential employers and graduate school.

Information on 2021 applications coming soon.



Kuan Newton

- CWE's Valedictorian Class of 2020.
- Dean's Award for Academic Excellence

Graduate from CWE's BA Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences.

"I just have my own story. My choices, my decisions that brought me here. That's the honest truth; and CWE has taught me one thing, it is OKAY to speak my truth..."

[Read the story](#)



Kereen Brown



Rossmery Almonte Tejada

Kereen Brown

CWE's Salutatorian Class of 2020 | CCNY Great Grads 2020 | Dean's Award for Academic Excellence Graduate from CWE's BS in Early Childhood Education. Co-concentration in Social Welfare.

Like a champion prizefighter who's overcome the toughest of challengers to triumph, Kereen Brown can revel in her BS degree in Early Childhood Education from the Center for Worker Education with immense pride. In her senior year, the Women's Forum of New York recognized the singlemother of three for her perseverance by presenting her with a \$10,000 Fellowship. "CWE is a special place...Classmates become like family and the Faculty are extremely supportive and drive to succeed," says Kereen Brown. [Read the story](#)

Rossmery Almonte Tejada

CCNY Great Grads 2020 | Graduate from CWE's BA: Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences

"Making the decision to return to school at 52 was not an easy task," says Rossmery Almonte Tejada. "I felt doubt, I was afraid that my classmates would make fun of me because I was not as young as they are... CWE is a special place...Classmates become like family and the Faculty are extremely supportive and drive to succeed." [Read the story](#)

MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWS



Myra Rosa

Junior at CWE BA: Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences | 2020 Mellon Mays Fellow

Myra is currently employed at a women's homeless shelter and that exposure strengthened her desire to help people in underserved communities. In August and December of 2018 and January of 2019, Myra worked with the non-profit organizations All Hands and Hearts and NECHMA. Myra hopes to become a professor of anthropology and mental health advocate.

Ana Abreu

Junior at CWE BA: Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences | 2020 Mellon Mays Fellow

Ana Abreu was recently accepted to the MA in the Study of the Americas. And 2020 Mellon Mays Fellow. Through this fellowship, she hopes to develop her academic potential, further crystalize her skills and characteristics of working independently, commitment, confidence, peer mentoring, and dedication to intellectual discussion. In the long term, she envisions herself as an academic, researcher, and future educator, teach at the university level and publish work on critical social issues.





**Professor Joan Robinson
Research on: What the
pregnancy test is testing.**

“Putting the diagnosis aside, what does the presence of these tests do to social life? This paper examines one such test, the home pregnancy test, and specifically, its use in contemporary intimate life of people who do not want to be pregnant. Pregnancy tests test for pregnancy. But what else is the pregnancy test putting to the test?”

[Read article](#)



CWE's Podcast!

Rights Talk hosted by Professor Danielle Zach.

City College Downtown Podcast is devoted to engaging contemporary challenges around the world across the human rights spectrum of civil and political rights; economic, social, and cultural rights; and solidarity rights, including to a safe and healthy environment.

[Listen here](#)



**Professor Martin Woessner
— The Pedagogy of Rage:
Teaching Working Students
During a Pandemic**

“The pandemic upended my pedagogy. I found myself looking at everything through the lens of Covid-19. Each week, I scrambled to make the past into a tool that might pick the lock of the locked-down present. I failed, but I took heart in the idea that it could be done. After all, Brecht did it.”

[Read article](#)

UPCOMING

EVENTS

**OCT 10
TAPFNY**

The Americas Poetry Festival of New York 2020 (poetryny.com) is the seventh multilingual poetry festival and writers' conference organized by poets and professors Carlos Aguasaco, Yrene Santos and Carlos Velásquez. This year the festival will take place on October 10, 11 and 12. TAPFNY is currently sponsored by the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies of The City College of New York, Artepoetica Press, Escribana Books and Terraza 7 Live Music. The venues are: Center For Worker Education CCNY, Walt Whitman Birthplace State Historic Site and Interpretive Center, Consulate of Argentina in New York, and Instituto Cervantes NY. [Find out more](#)

**OCT 15
Human Rights Impact of COVID 19**

CWE will be hosting “The Human Rights Impact of COVID 19” with Lou Charbonneau (Human Rights Watch); Rajan Menon (CCNY, Political Science); and Linda Villarosa (CCNY and New York Times Magazine). [Find out more](#)

**TBD
Screening of “The Silence of Others.”**

Screening of “The Silence of Others,” commentary with Stephanie Golob (Baruch College and CUNY Graduate Center) and Fernando Trevesi (International Center for Transitional Justice).


TBD
Elections and American Democracy

“Elections and American Democracy” in collaboration with the President’s Office and the Colin Powell School.

Rights Talk
City College Downtown Podcast

Please do not miss the Podcast on Human Rights hosted by Professor Danielle Zach. [Listen here](#)

Stay tuned for more events to come!

Support the Division of Interdisciplinary Studies (CWE). Donate here. 

With your continued support, we are able to work to ensure that the students, faculty and staff who are part of our campus community are able to work together to share the lives of generations to come. Your generosity provides so many opportunities.



CONNECT >>

CWE is on Social Media.



City College Downtown, a multicultural community for learning.

Please share 'SCOPE' with your friends and share items or events with us that might be suitable for us to feature in 'Scope' [here](#) (please include photos)

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