AND OFF WE GO ON WINTER BREAK...GOODBYE FALL 2012!

What a semester we had! I want to commend all of our EOF students for your time, effort and program participation this past Fall 2012 semester both to our new incoming class and all our returning students. I am truly pleased to have seen such dedication from all of you, seeing you in the office studying every day, tutoring each other, doing your homework and meeting with your EOF counselors. Also, your level of involvement in all of our workshops offered and community service in and out of CCM this Fall, was some of the best I’ve seen. Staying in contact and participating is the key to your success at CCM as an EOF student. It speaks VERY highly of your level of commitment. Through the challenges we faced this semester as Super storm Sandy tried putting a damper on our momentum, affecting so many of us, you still stayed the course.

Lots of great new things happened during the Fall. We launched our new EOF Online & Resources course on Blackboard – our 24/7 EOF virtual office. In addition, we began a new EOF Transfer Scholarship Fundraiser to assist one graduating senior who will be transferring to one of NJ’s colleges. Lastly, we saw great initiatives from our EOF Alliance. These included: bake sale fundraisers, our Cops n’ Kids book drive, conference participation, and much more. I can’t wait to see what the Spring will have in store for us!

Let’s wrap up the semester STRONG! Get through those finals, give it that one last push – YOU ARE ALMOST THERE! Use the winter break as a time to relax and rejuvenate, you surely deserve it. For our graduating seniors, congratulations! To all our returning students, we will see you back January 15th. Have a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year 2013!

Sincerely,

Pamela Marcenaro, EOF Director

Happy Holidays to You!
On Thursday, December 6, we celebrated our Annual Kwanzaa Holiday gathering. This is a staple for the EOF Program and one that’s become a very popular and well attended event on campus, as it is open to the entire CCM community. Administrators, faculty and students came together for an afternoon filled of community, family and culture. After the ceremony, everyone enjoyed a holiday luncheon.

This year, we added some new things to our celebration. We featured a beautiful Kwanzaa inspired art piece by one of our Fine Art students’ Somina Mosaku and also raffled a holiday M & M Mars gift box, which was won by one of our new EOF students, Guadalupe Barrios.

Kwanzaa is celebrated from December 26 through January 1; a very unique African American holiday. Kwanzaa means “first fruits of the harvest” in the African language of Kiswahili. It was founded by Dr. Maulana Karenga, professor and chairman of Black Studies at California State University who describes himself as a cultural nationalist. The main purpose of Kwanzaa is to focus on the traditional values of family, community responsibility, commerce, and self-improvement. Kwanzaa is neither political nor religious and it is not a substitution for Christmas, as some may think.

The core basis of Kwanzaa are seven principles - “Nguzo Saba” which stand for each day of observance. During this time we come together to celebrate our families, cultures and communities. We give thanks for friends and to help one another each day of our lives.

The values and core beliefs of Kwanzaa truly transpire through many cultures, as it is widely accepted and observed by more than 15 million people worldwide.

Our EOF celebration began with a little history on Kwanzaa and its symbols, followed by a reading of the Seven Principles all described by our staff and students, each sharing what each symbol is and how it impacts and inspires their lives. Our participating EOF members were:

- **Umoja** (Unity) – Gene Moss, EOF Administrative Assistant
- **Kujichagulia** (Self-Determination) – Marco Garcia, EOF student
- **Ujima** (Collective Work/Responsibility) – Ashaloy Wilson, EOF student
- **Ujamaa** (Cooperative Economics) – Devon Smith, EOF student
- **Nia** (Purpose) – Devon Smith, EOF student
- **Kuumba** (Creativity) Jorge Guerra, EOF student
- **Imani** (Faith) Nicole Barrett, EOF student

Thank you to everyone that attended and all our student volunteers: Devon Smith, Marco Garcia, Joe Hilton, Fernando Barrios, Jorge Guerra, Ashaloy Wilson and Nicole Barrett. We appreciate your help!

We hope you have a wonderful holiday season and we’ll see you next year!
EOF STUDENT ALLIANCE NEWS

Concerned for their community, the Alliance students decided they wanted to do something for those affected by Hurricane Sandy. Another Bake sale was planned the week we got back, just for this cause. Amidst concerns there wouldn’t be as much involvement, the students of EOF proved differently! Amazingly, the bakers

On Nov. 15, they had even a more successful sale than the previous month!! Seven students participated, but sold $200.48 worth of goodies!! Proceeds will go to the Atlantic City Teachers United Group which is collecting donations for the children in poverty that lost everything in the terrible storm.

EXAM TIPS FROM STUDENTS & PROFESSORS

Exams value your memories and your skills and ability to understand what you are studying. They make you prepare before hand and may cover topics you do not know. They also force you to be specific and focused, as time is limited in most exams.

Final exams are scheduled for the week of December 13th—19th. Please observe the following tips to get yourself ready:

- Start studying early and make sure you have covered all sections outlined on your syllabus.
- Attend academic review sessions scheduled by professors and or the Tutoring Center.
- Organize all your notes in an orderly fashion for fast referencing, and utilize your textbook CD.
- Make a timetable for the period of time you are studying.
- Work together. For example, form a small study group.
- Review all the materials at least once after your main study session.
- Think up a few questions you might be asked on your exam, and try answering them.
- Have an efficient amount of sleep before the exam day.
- Allow yourself time for relaxation and thinking.
- Use strategies like deep breathing to overcome panic.
- Visualize yourself in positive and relaxing situations when starting your exam.
- Keep cool and calculated—don’t worry if you can’t answer the first question, calmly go onto the next. It will come to you later!

“There is a time to take counsel of your fears, and there is a time to never listen to any fear.” — George S. Patton
Twas the night before finals,  
And all through the college,  
The students were praying  
For last minute knowledge.  

Most were quite sleepy,  
But none touched their beds,  
While visions of essays  
Danced in their heads.  

Out in the taverns,  
A few were still drinking,  
And hoping that liquor  
Would loosen their thinking.  

In my own apartment,  
I had been pacing  
And dreading exams  
I soon would be facing.  

My roommate was speechless,  
Her nose in her books,  
And my comments to her  
Drew unfriendly looks.  

I drained all the coffee,  
And brewed a new pot,  
No longer caring  
That my nerves were shot.  

I stared at my notes,  
But my thoughts were muddy;  
My eyes went ablur,  
I just couldn’t study.  

"Some pizza might help,"  
I said with a shiver,  
But each place I called  
Refused to deliver.  

I’d nearly concluded  
That life was too cruel,  
With futures depending  
On grades had in school.  

When all of a sudden,  
Our door opened wide,  
And Patron Saint Put It Off  
Ambled inside.  

Her spirit was careless,  
Her manner was mellow,  
Started to bellow:  
“What kind of student  
Would make such a fuss,  
To toss back at teachers  
What they tossed at us?  

“On Cliff Notes!  On Crib Notes!  
On Last Year’s Exams!  
On Wingit and Slingit,  
And Last Minute Crams!”  

Her message delivered,  
She vanished from sight,  
But we heard laughing  
Outside in the night.  

"Your teachers have pegged you,  
So just do your best.  
Happy Finals to ALL,  
And to ALL, a good test.”  

Good luck on all your  
final exams!!!  

Author Unknown
TO ALL OUR EOF STUDENTS!!!
WISHING YOU A HAPPY AND SAFE
HOLIDAY SEASON! ENJOY YOUR WINTER
BREAK.

THE COLLEGE WILL BE CLOSED FROM
MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2012 THROUGH
TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2013.

REMEMBER IF YOU HAVE NOT
REGISTERED YET FOR THE SPRING
SEMESTER; PLEASE DO SO. IF YOU NEED
ASSISTANCE WE’LL BE HERE STARTING
JANUARY 2, 2013

SPRING SEMESTER STARTS ON
TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2013
**December 2012**

Be sure to turn in all your outside Community Service & Workshop Verification forms to get credited by December 18th.

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*Everyone in EOF wishes you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a very happy and successful New Year!!*