QUINCY COLLEGE   QC

Finding a Common Language in Information Technology
Quincy College and QCAP IT Fundamentals Program Students Celebrated

Press Release Overview
- February 6, 2019 Event Details
- List of Spring 2020 IT Fundamentals+ Graduates
- QCAP and Quincy College Partnership

Suggested Caption: The Quincy College and Quincy Community Action Programs, Inc. IT Fundamentals+ Graduating Class of 2020 was celebrated at a February 6, 2020 event.

L to R: Kristen Schlapp, Chief Operating Officer, Quincy Community Action Programs, Inc. , Toan Nyguen, Baktyiar Tukesh, Aye Nyunt Ma, QCAP ESOL Instructor Sam Bernstein, Khanh-Chuong Va, Len Nyugen, Quincy College Professor Tayo Banjo, Jane Li, James Favaud, Natalia Samedova,Robert Cannata Program Director of Adult Education & Workforce Development Quincy Community Action Programs, Inc., Kate Lopci, Associate VP of Workforce Development and Community Engagement, Quincy College, Quincy College Professor Mark Linnane.

Quincy, MA (2/12/2020): On February 6th, eight Quincy College graduated IT Fundamentals+ 6 Credit students from Quincy College had a lot to celebrate: completing their Information Technology education in 20 weeks, many with job prospects and continued education on the horizon. All graduates recently passed industry standard certification exam: CompTIA IT Fundamentals+ certification.

Students enrolled in the free, IT Fundamentals+ program attend customized ESOL courses for IT, in addition to Quincy College classes in Operating Systems (CSI 217, 3 credits) and Principles of Customer Service (BUS 202, 3 credits). In addition, students receive test preparation assistance in order to pass CompTIA Exam. Furthermore, job readiness and job placement components are embedded into the program curriculum, too.

Graduates of the program will be placed into jobs within the South Shore and Greater Boston area, as Computer User Support Specialists. In addition to 6 transferable college credits, the program covers books, and all college fees.

Quincy College President Daniel Asquino was inspired by the IT Fundamentals+ graduates' success stories, their hard work and determination to pursue a better life for themselves and their families, and awarded program graduates a scholarship for a free, three-credit class within the Computer Science Program at Quincy College.

The eight students who completed the program are the second cohort of students to graduate from the IT Fundamentals+ program offered through a collaboration between Quincy College and Quincy Community Action Programs, Inc (QCAP). They are:

Toan Nguyen - Randolph
Len Nguyen - Randolph
Baktyiar Tukesh - Braintree
Natalia Samedova - Quincy
James Favaud - Whitman
Aye Nyunt Ma - Quincy
Khanh Chuong-van - Braintree
Jane Li - Braintree

In attendance at the February 6, 2020 Graduation Ceremony held at Quincy College's Quincy Campus were representatives from QCAP and Quincy College. Quincy College President Daniel Asquino along with Kristen Schlapp, Chief Operating Officer of QCAP and Kate Lopci Associate VP of Workforce Development and Community Engagement delivered greetings to the graduates and their families along with Robert Cannata, Program Director of Adult Education & Workforce Development of QCAP.

Faculty Sam Bernstein, QCAP ESOL Instructor, and Mark Linnane, Quincy College Professor, provided program reflections. Addressing a room full of his students, their families, and representatives from Quincy College and Quincy Community Action Programs, Inc. (QCAP), Sam Bernstein, QCAP ESOL Instructor, reflected on the program graduates, their growth, and the value of the program:

"Interoperability. Synchronicity. These are the terms our students mastered. Students in this program speak 8 different languages. These IT terms would be hard to define by native English speakers. You never once said "It's too difficult." You always moved forward. It has a lot to do with persistence. Persistence is our super power in this program. You are not finished. We are not finished. Quincy College and QCAP are here to help you succeed. Congratulations on earning your certificates today. "

Suggested Caption: **James Favaud, Class of 2020 IT Fundamentals+ Graduate speaks to his fellow students at a February 6, 2020 event**

James Favaud, Aye Nyunt Ma, and Baktyiar Tukesh shared diverse student reflections as students and professionals to fellow classmates to conclude the ceremony. "Classmates, we have to continue. Technology is growing fast and we have to grow with it. Keep growing your knowledge. Education is a gift, a key to opening doors to success. From now, we start to have success. Today is the day; we did it," James Favaud, who intends to continue his education in Computer Science Networking Certificate program at Quincy College.

"Collaboration between Quincy College and Quincy Community Action Programs is an excellent partnership that created a streamlined pathway for non-traditional students to pursue higher education, at no cost. The IT Fundamentals+ program is designed based on a customized English as Second Language course combined with a Business and Networking focus, a total of 6 college credit courses. Students can transfer credits earned and further their education into a Credit Certificate Program or an Associate Degree program, at Quincy College. We are grateful to the Adult and Community Learning Service Department (ACLS) at Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), for funding this program and to QCAP for their partnership, "Kate Lopci, Associate Vice President of Workforce Development and Community Engagement.

"This program provides a unique opportunity for Adult English Language Learners to continue their English education, get practical job training through Quincy College credit courses, earn an industry-recognized credential and find a family-sustaining job in the growing field of IT. The IT Fundamentals+ program has shown that with hard work, dedication, and a positive outlook, students can achieve their goals of taking college classes and working in IT. Through this partnership with QCAP and Quincy College and the generous funding through the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, we are able to support the future leaders in the field of Information Technology. We look forward to supporting even more students through this career pipeline in April," Kristen Schlapp, Chief Operating Officer at QCAP.

The next IT Fundamentals Program will start on March 30, 2020 and will run Monday through Thursday, 10am - 2:30pm. All classes are being held at Quincy College, Quincy campus located next to T-station Quincy Center, Red Line.

To be eligible for the free program students must:
-Speak and write English at a High-Intermediate to Advanced Level (SPL 5-6)
-Have a HS Diploma or equivalency
-Be interested in working as a Computer User Support Specialist or other job in the IT field.
-Be eligible to work in the U.S.
-Be able to attend the training program for 20 weeks Monday -Thursday 10:00am - 2:30pm.

To learn more about Quincy College's noncredit programs and for more details on the Spring 2020 new class of IT Fundamentals+ program, visit: https://quincycollege.edu/program/it-fundamentals/ or contact registration@qcap.org for more information about information sessions and registration.

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ABOUT QUINCY COLLEGE

Founded in 1958, Quincy College is a two-year, municipally affiliated community college serving approximately 4,000 students at campuses located in Quincy and Plymouth, Massachusetts. Quincy College is an open access institution that encourages academic achievement and excellence, diversity, economic opportunity, community involvement, and lifelong learning. The College facilitates valuable learning relationships that inspire students to realize their educational and professional futures. The college offers 36 associate degree programs and 25 certificate programs in a variety of disciplines, including those within Professional Programs, Liberal Arts, and Natural & Health Sciences. The college is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and is licensed by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education to grant the degrees of Associate in Arts and Associate in Science. The college draws a diversity of students from the greater Boston area as well as 121 countries around the world. For additional information, visit www.quincycollege.edu

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