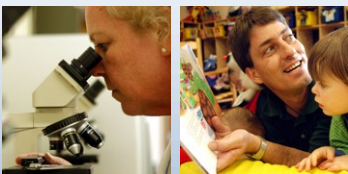


Welcome to the Workforce Excellence Newsletter!

Our focus is to bring you updates and changes taking place through Workforce Development that impact you and the local community. We look forward to hearing your feedback.

“OC is close to home and gave me an opportunity to gain new skills, new friends and ... a great environment for studying.”

Olympic College
Welding Student



Graduate Update: Aaron Whipple Cruises the World

The children's classic, *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* by Dr. Seuss, is a mainstay of classroom libraries. For Olympic College (OC) Early Childhood Education graduate Aaron Whipple, it's become a way of life. Whipple graduated from OC in December 2009, after which he accepted a job as a Youth Programs Staff Member for Holland America Cruise Line. He then boarded a ship and began to travel the world.

Whipple said he enjoys working with children every day at Club HAL, the on-board children's program. Youngsters are divided into three age groups: children, 'tweens and teens. Each group participates in highly-interactive, age-appropriate activities. Whipple said, "My favorite [event] for the children is "Pirate Night." We do face painting, make pirate bandanas, teach pirate lingo, find treasure and read stories. Whipple appeals to the



Aaron Whipple earned his Early Childhood Education degree at Olympic College Dec. 2009.

(Photo courtesy of Dana Hermann Photography)

'tweens with a takeoff of the popular series *Survivor*. He puts on an event called "Brave the Night" where he challenges youth with physical competitions and mental puzzles. For teens, he plans a "Prom Night" — complete with all the glitz.

Whipple became interested in teaching children from working at summer camps and providing swimming lessons. After fulfilling a commitment to the U.S. Air Force, he used his veteran's benefits at OC to pursue his dream of teaching.

Whipple credits Professor Gayle Dilling for inspiring him to continue on his path toward becoming a teacher when he took Early Childhood Curriculum 165, taught by Dilling. "I was a little nervous taking this class because I had no idea how to write lesson plans or even what age range I wanted to teach," Whipple said. "I went into this class with open eyes and it turned out to be one of the best classes I have ever taken."

"Children are drawn to Aaron because he is very charismatic, yet calm," Dilling said. "As Aaron's experience confirms, Early Childhood Education is not limited to work in child care centers; the field is wide open. It is also important for men to provide good role models for children by interacting with them through a variety of jobs."

Now, Whipple has the flexibility to set his work schedule by the week or month by selecting a particular cruise or ship. He controls how long he is gone and where in the world he wants to travel: Europe, Alaska, Hawaii, Tahiti, Bora Bora or French Polynesia.

For Whipple, his hard work and performance have paid off. Holland America has since promoted him to Youth Programs Director. He now supervises youth staff and oversees programs all while having an opportunity to cruise the world.

Acknowledgements for Excellence

OC Students Wrangle Top Prizes at Welding Rodeo

Student welders of OC competed in Bellingham’s Welding Rodeo in the scrap steel sculpture contest, employing this year’s theme “The Human Form.” Rick Lewis, Ean Phillips, David Sutton and Uschi Hladik won the “People’s Choice Award” and “First Place” which earned each welder a monetary award and an oxy-fuel welding and cutting torch set.

OC Students Honored with Bremerton Soroptimist Awards

Soroptimist International is a world-wide volunteer service organization for business and professional women who work to improve the lives of women and girls, in local communities and throughout the world. Two OC students were recently honored by the Bremerton Soroptimist group.

- OC student Dora Harris earned the honor of “Woman of Achievement.” She is working to achieve her Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education and Teaching as a transfer student while still devoting herself to her children as a single mom.

- Audra Hanson, OC Cosmetology student, is beginning a program entitled “Hair Hugs” to provide free salon services to low-income women who are trying to re-enter the workforce. She received the 2010 Professional/Technical Scholarship.



Audra Hanson styled Patty Fliege’s hair.

Partnership Produces Prize Publication

Each year, OC’s Tech Prep program collaborates with Sound Publishing and the West Sound Education Consortium (WSEC), to produce *It’s Your Future*, a special newspaper insert that highlights Career and Technical education programs available to local high school students. Many of these program classes are articulated for Tech Prep dual-credit with OC’s professional-technical classes. *It’s Your Future* earned Sound Publishing the top award for “Best Classified Special Section” in the 2010 Suburban Newspaper Association Advertising and Promotions Contest, which is open to all daily and community newspapers throughout the United States and Canada.



*Deb Grigg,
Sound Publishing*

WSEC is a partnership comprised of Olympic College and nine secondary school districts. Because of the scope of the consortium, the insert is distributed through five local newspapers. Deb Grigg of Sound Publishing said the students and teachers do much of the writing. “The resulting paper is unique,” said Grigg. “Not many papers have this close relationship with schools.”

Stephanie Thompson, WSEC Tech Prep Director, works with Sound Publishing and the schools to gather ideas and materials for the paper. “Among the students attending OC for fall quarter, 932 students have previously received Tech Prep credits while they were in high school,” Thompson said. “That is a remarkable number and truly shows that we are building pathways for students into post-secondary education.”

Running Start Leads to Internship Excellence

Victoria Walker, a Running Start student, set professional goals for herself while still attending high school. She began accruing college credits through the OC Running Start program to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in mathematics. One of her Running Start classes included an internship at the National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS). The partnership was highly successful for all participants. In fact, Walker’s mentors at the NCMS honored her in a ceremony at the OC Career Center for excellence in performance of her internship. For more information on Running Start call (360) 475-7646. For additional information on internships contact (360) 475-7480.



Victoria Walker (center) with advisers (l tor) Jeff Walker, Heidi Hottinger, Doyle Maleche and Dana Ellis of NCMS.

(Photo by Teresa McDermott)

Editor and Staff of The Olympian Earn Accolades

Olympic College students accepted two Best of Show awards for the school newspaper, *The Olympian*, while attending the Associated Collegiate Press/College Media Advisers annual convention in Louisville, Kentucky.

The OC students competed amongst a challenging field of 1,500 students representing 500 colleges and universities. OC was represented by students Clayton Pettay and Christopher Carter, along with *The Olympian* Editor-in-Chief Josh Nothnagle and Managing Editor Kaylee Woods. *The Olympian* faculty adviser, Michael Prince accompanied the students to the convention.



Olympian editor Josh Nothnagle visited the Muhammad Ali Museum in Louisville, Ky. during a trip to the National College Media Convention in October.

(Photo courtesy Michael Prince)

The students produce print and online editions and an audio pod-cast. They won second place in the Audio Pod-cast category and fifth place in Publication Website/Small School division.

Two OC student journalists won first place individual awards during onsite competitions. Pettay won the First Amendment contest while Carter won top honors for photojournalism.

Students can earn course credit through Communication Studies 115 and 215 (newspaper production) for work at the student paper, according to Prince. With assistance from Teresa McDermott, Director for Worker Retraining and Work Integrated Learning at OC, students have the opportunity to earn internship course credit, while they gain valuable professional experience through *The Olympian* or another local newspaper group.

Opportunities to earn course credit and gain professional experience are also available for students interning beyond Kitsap. Sites for recent student journalism internships include Alabama, Mississippi and Washington, D.C.

All interested readers are invited to view *The Olympian* (www.ocolympian.com.)

For information regarding internships, contact the Cooperative Education and Internship program at (360) 475-7480.

Women in Welding Workshop Sparks Interest in New Career Options



Gene Malanowski, product representative for Pacific Welding Supply, shields his face as he assists a student. Pacific Welding shared a state-of-the-art plasma cutter and a MIG welder with the women at the workshop.

Women from Kitsap County explored the non-traditional career of welding September 17th at Olympic College Bremerton. For the “Women in Welding” event, OC welding instructor Kevin Snell partnered with Gene Malanowski of Pacific Welding Supply to host the event for 10 women. By joining forces, they were able to demonstrate a state-of-the-art plasma cutting machine, and then assist the women in cutting a design out of metal.

The women reportedly enjoyed the opportunity to try welding while having the shop all to themselves. Some women tried welding to see if they might like it as a career option that would enable them to earn wages suitable for supporting a family. Each workshop participant brazed a copper rose, tacked on leaves and took a metal flower home as a reminder of their learning experience. For information regarding the Welding program call (360) 475-7312.

Students Judge “Iron Chef” Competition

Many of the military’s best chefs came to OC’s Culinary Arts Kitchen with the intention of taking home a trophy for outstanding cooking during the annual “Iron Chef” competition May 8, 2010. Two OC Culinary Arts students, Elise Elevado and William Campbell served as judges for this lucrative contest.



Jocelyn Ferber of McChord AFB competed for title of “Iron Chef” by using fresh, quality ingredients.

During the contest, each group receives the same proteins, spices and supplies and is challenged to create something delicious and unique within one hour. The culinary artisans employed many different techniques to come up with unusual dishes. Elevado and Campbell savored the privilege of tasting each entrée.

Campbell liked the opportunity to network with so many talented chefs and found it interesting to see how differently each chef worked. He said, “There were methods of creating and displaying cakes and desserts that I had never seen.” He further indicated, “The military chefs were like well-oiled machines. It was amazing to see that many people in the OC kitchen work safely and efficiently.” “It really opened my eyes to see how much honor there is in the profession,” said Elevado. “That is something I never fully realized.”

Both Elevado and Campbell continue to work towards their Associate in Technical Arts (ATA) degree in Culinary Arts. Elevado plans to become a professional chef specializing in baking, while Campbell said he will go into management, overseeing the kitchen at a hospitality organization.

Members of the community may view the annual event at the Bremer Student Center tentatively planned for May 7, 2011, in conjunction with the annual Bremerton’s Armed Forces Day celebration.



Elise Elevado and William Campbell (l to r) learn judging methods from Chef Joe Baugous (center), head of the kitchen at Harbor Place at Cottesmore. Baugous also partners with OC to sponsor interns.

Apprentices Take the Stage for Graduation Celebration

Nearly 190 students of the trades transitioned to journeyman status on October 1st when they walked across the stage at Bremerton Performing Arts Theater. The graduation was well-attended by approximately one thousand friends, family members and co-workers.

Puget Sound Naval Shipyard & Intermediate Maintenance Facility (PSNS & IMF) reported that 96 percent of their apprenticeship graduates achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Olympic College partners in this federal apprenticeship education program.

According to the shipyard, the Apprenticeship Program began in 1901 with just six students. Through the years, more than 8,700 graduates have earned certificates. Today the program has 793 students enrolled. PSNS & IMF works with OC to enroll students in the apprenticeship program. For information regarding apprenticeships go to: <http://www.olympic.edu/Students/AcadDivDept/BusinessAndTechnology/Apprenticeship.htm>.

Workforce Development and Basic Studies

Dean: Amy Hatfield; Associate Dean: Elaine Williams-Bryant
Directors: Jim Friedman, Teresa McDermott, Stephanie Thompson, and Cindy Wyman

Newsletter Editor: Lori Fagan WorkforceNewsletter@olympic.edu

www.olympic.edu/WorkforceDevelopment 360.792.6050 or 1.800.259.6718, Ext. 7555


OLYMPIC COLLEGE

1600 Chester Avenue
Bremerton, WA 98337-1699
www.olympic.edu