



NFOS SCHOOL NEWS

FALL 2018

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF OPTICIANRY SCHOOLS

Special points of interest:

- *President's Message*
- *NY City Tech New Academic Building*
- *Ogeechee Tech holds vision screening*
- *College of Southern Nevada participates in health fair*

Inside this issue:

Goodwin College Vision Care Program holds fund raiser

Middlesex CC Community Service Project

SUNY Erie Community College hosts CLSA clinical sessions

A Word from our President

Our fall meeting at Vision Expo West was well attended with 22 NFOS faculty present at the meeting. It was great to see many old and new faces for the first time at the meeting. Once again, the NFOS faculty played a significant role in education to attendees at the convention. NFOS faculty presented both basic and advanced review courses for the ABO and NCLE. In addition, the NFOS also had a booth at the OptiCon Hub and we received inquiries from other optical programs interested in joining our organization. I will keep everyone updated regarding new membership as it becomes available. At Vision Expo East this year, the NFOS will add more courses taught by NFOS faculty. These courses will include: What are all these adjustment tools? Magnify Your Profits, Compression Mounting Adjustments, Repairs and Assembly and Ocular Dissection: Anatomy of the Eye. Also, this will be the first time that the NFOS will be holding the NFOS College Bowl in New York City. More details about the event will follow shortly. Schools may want to start thinking about their college bowl contestant

On Wednesday, September 26 we had our meeting after lunch at the Sands Convention Center. All schools were sent an agenda and minutes from our last meeting. I would also like to mention that for any faculty that are not receiving NFOS emails, they should contact me at information@nfos.org so that they can be included in our NFOS master email list. I would also like to congratulate our new program directors, Dr. Aarlan Aceto, Middlesex Community College, CT, Ms. Leah Exline, J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College, VA and Charles Harrison, Essex County College, NJ. I know that our NFOS family will be more than happy to assist with any materials that each program director may need.

As many of you are aware, the NFOS launched a new website in June. At our meeting, I went over the directions for navigating through our new website. Each program director received their school's Password and Username. Under our Login, an optical resource section was added so that member schools can add material for use by other NFOS schools. These areas include, Ophthalmic Dispensing, Ophthalmic Fabrication, Optics, Anatomy and Physiology, Contact Lenses, Business and a miscellaneous section. Schools are free to add, review sheets, sample exams, PowerPoint presentations and any other materials that colleagues may deem useful in their curriculum. I hope everyone will add to this resource center so that we can all share material from each school. This will be particularly useful for new faculty and new program directors. If you need instructions on the website, contact me or your program director.

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF OPTICIANRY SCHOOLS

A Word from our President (continued)

At the Leadership Conference last February in Charleston, SC, Jim Morris, Executive Director from the ABO-NCLE visited our meeting. The ABO-NCLE will be donating \$110,000 a year to the NFOS so that we can continue with our initiatives helping state societies start new schools around the country and participate in future Vision Expo East and West programs by providing ABO and NCLE Basic and Advanced Review courses. In addition, as mentioned above the NFOS will start providing more courses for eyecare professionals at both Vision Expo East and West.

One of the initiatives that I have been discussing with our executive board is to have a professional development meeting in June, 2019 to help new program directors and new faculty adjust to academia. I will be sending out a short survey to our NFOS members to see if there is interest in this project. Faculty will have to fly in at their own expense but the NFOS would pay for hotel and meals from Friday to Sunday. More details to follow in a few weeks.

Presently, students and potential test takers for the ABO can now purchase the Ophthalmic Essentials book directly from the NFOS. The book and order form are on our website Home page. In addition, we also added to each member school their city and state information so that visitors can navigate the website much easier when looking for a school in their area.

For those of you who are interested in purchasing NFOS shirts, you can now go to the following website at: http://www.daylightsales.com/product_info.php/cPath/172/products_id/2501/osCsid/gtrfc82c52cvdmkrb6k418fgs2 Just cut and paste the above address into your web browser.

As a reminder, our next meeting will be at the Leadership Conference that will be held in Memphis, TN. The dates are from Thursday, February 14 – 16, 2019. Our meeting will probably take place on Thursday morning from 7:30 AM – 12:30 PM. I will send out more details prior to winter break. Faculty will arrive on Wednesday evening and the NFOS will pay for three nights. Program Directors or their designees will be paid.

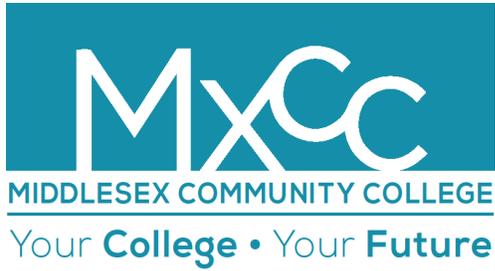
As for the NFOS College Bowl, I would appreciate it if you could send me questions in the following areas: Ophthalmic Dispensing, Optical Fabrication, Anatomy, Contact Lenses and Optics. Please send in a word document to me at information@nfos.org. Also, we will need tie breaker questions and the bonus question that will have to include some calculations. Remember, this is an opportunity where we get to showcase our brightest students on the national stage. Your help in developing questions will only make this event more successful.

If the scheduling works out, I would like to have those faculty attending Vision Expo East, visit the City Tech so that you can see our new facilities.

In closing, this is an exciting time for the NFOS. In the future, I am extending an invitation to all to participate and hopefully attend our future meetings. I hope everyone enjoys the rest of their school semester and the upcoming holiday season. If anyone has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at rrus-so9117@aol.com or information@nfos.org.

Best,

Bob



News from Middlesex
Community College
Program Director
Dr. Aarlan Aceto

On 10/6 and 10/7, a group of students and faculty from the Ophthalmic Design and Dispensing Program from Middlesex Community College participated in a volunteer service project in conjunction with Artists for World Peace. The program, called Native Eyes, provides free eye care services, including eyeglasses, to Native American communities. Over 190 members of the Eastern Pequot Tribal Nation attended the event.

The event was graciously hosted at Total Vision in Uncasville by Dr. Regina Strand.

Middlesex volunteers included students Samantha Belanger, Jo Paul Brancato, Annick Cochard, Anne Gibbs, Minerva Maldonado, Amanda Pezzello, Brooke Smith and Dominique Veilleux, as well as Professor Emeritus Ray Dennis, LO (Professor Emeritus) and Dr Aarlan Aceto, OD (Program Coordinator). Ray Dennis continues his involvement in volunteer efforts, including the Native Eyes program, and has planned, coordinated and attended missions recently in both here in the United States (Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota) and abroad, (including Tanzania and many others).





This photo includes representatives (Ray Dennis, professor emeritus first row far left) and 4 of our students in the the back row (Dominique Veilleux far right, Sam Belanger 2nd from the right, Jo Paul Broncato 3rd from the right and Annick Cochard, 5th from the left). The event was organized by Wendy Black-Nasta (back row 5th from the right) and was held at the office of Dr. Regina Strand OD (6th from the left, back row)



Annick, Sam and Dominique



DYKAS APPOINTED TO STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR OPTICIANS BY GOVERNOR MALLOY

October 26, 2018 — Carol M. Dykas, a licensed optician and full-time lecturer of ophthalmic design and dispensing at Middlesex Community College (MxCC), has been selected by Governor Dannel Malloy to serve on the Connecticut Board of Examiners for Opticians in the state's Department of Public Health. She was appointed on October 12, 2018. The primary purpose of the board is to protect the public from unsafe practices and assist in the administration of state licensing exams for opticians.



“As a lecturer, I have taught a generation of eyecare professionals, but my knowledge of students trying to become opticians goes deeper than that. I am very aware of the academic, family, and financial pressures that students must deal with on their path to becoming eyecare professionals,” said Dykas, a Middletown resident. “I also understand that the public must have access to highly trained and properly tested professionals when purchasing and wearing eyeglasses and contact lenses. The Board of Examiners must earn the trust of the public through astute judgment and personal integrity. As a member of the board, I hope to bring these characteristics to this important position.”

Dykas graduated with an associate degree from MxCC in 1996 and has worked in the optical profession ever since. She has also been teaching part-time at MxCC since 1998 and became a full-time lecturer in the Spring 2018 semester. Dykas earned a bachelor of science in general studies from Charter Oak State College in 1998 and a master of science in higher education administration from Bay Path University in 2015.

“Dykas holds certifications from the American Board of Opticianry and the National Contact Lens Examiners. She also received Advanced Contact Lens Training from Connecticut Eyecare Center and is certified in Vision Rehabilitation for Adults. In her work, she specializes in low vision for the Lions Low Vision Center of Eastern Connecticut. Active in the community, Dykas is a founding member and vice president of Close the Gap, a nonprofit company whose mission is to guide kids with few resources to college success.

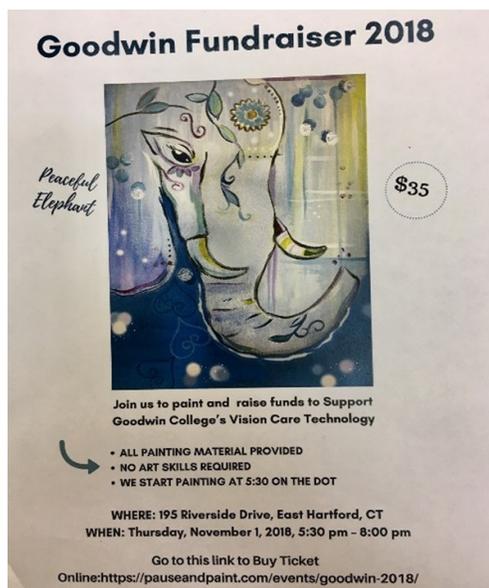
Since 1966, Middlesex Community College has provided high-quality, affordable, and accessible education to a diverse population, enhancing the strengths of individuals through degree, certificate, and lifelong learning programs that lead to university transfer, employment, and an enriched awareness of our shared responsibilities as global citizens. A part of the Connecticut State Colleges and Universities system, MxCC offers more than 60 degree or certificate programs at the main 38-acre campus in Middletown, MxCC@Platt in Meriden, and online.



Maryann Santos, Program Director
shares exciting details of fundraising
at Goodwin College

Paint Night 2017

Each fall Goodwin College's Vision Care Technology (VCT) program has a paint night event raising funds to send students to conferences such as Vision Expo and the OAA Leadership conference. This year we painted a lighthouse. The lighthouse has significance as the college is located in New England, and there is an optical connection! 3M™ Press-On™ Prisms, also known as Fresnel Prisms have the amazing ability to correct up to 40.00 diopters of prism with no added weight or thickness. Press-on prism is based upon lighthouse optics! Goodwin College's mascot is the navigators! It all connects: light, prism, navigating our students to opportunities in education and leadership.



Paint Night 2018

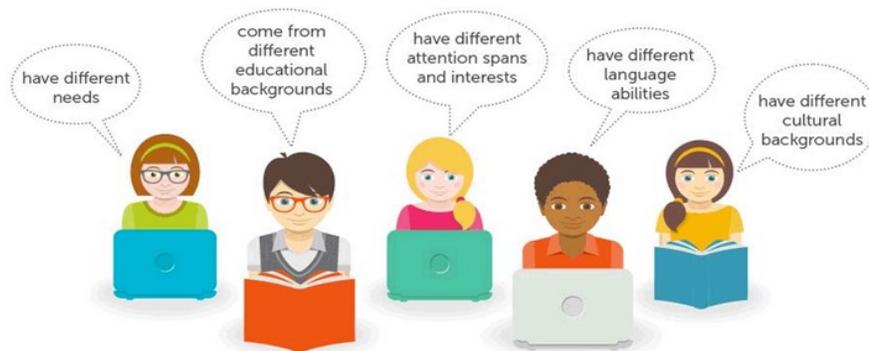
Last week, we painted a peaceful elephant. This year we had a great turnout of over 30 painters and raised \$500! We had graduates and their families, current students, staff, and faculty of the college. Monies raised will send students to the OAA Leadership conference held in Memphis, Tennessee, February 2019 and Vision Expo East in NYC, March 2019.



Last spring semester Goodwin College and the Center for Teaching Excellence announced that the College was awarded a Davis Educational Foundation Grant. The purpose of this grant is to provide faculty an opportunity to participate in the job-embedded professional development regarding Universal Design for Learning (UDL). Universal design for learning is a framework to improve and optimize teaching and learning for all people based on scientific insights into how humans learn – it focuses on the why (affective networks), what (recognition networks), and how (strategic networks). VCT's full-time faculty member, Rebecca Soto partook in the 7 month long workshop which allowed attendees to revise one course to incorporate key features of UDL. Implementing UDL in VCT has been rewarding for both the learner and the instructor.

WHY UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING?

Classrooms are filled with students who:



**News from Barbara Basti, LDO Optical
Manager, Miami Dade College Vision
Care Technology/Opticianry Program**



Photos from the Professional Opticians of Florida meeting November 2-4, 2018 with NFOS booth representing Miami Dade Community College, Broward Community College and Hillsboro Community College



Photo above: Bryan Barahona, Miscladis Zaldivar, Liliana Mejia-Rodriguez, Eunice Beabrun, and Magnum Bien-Aime



Photo on left: Bryan Barahona, Miscladis Zaldivar, Schmekka Cofer, Eunice Beabrun, Stephania Sterling, and Nixon Jean-Baptiste

Additional photos from the Professional Opticians of Florida meeting November 2-4, 2018 with NFOS booth representing Miami Dade Community College, Broward Community College and Hillsboro Community College



Liliana Mejia Rodriguez and Schmeka Cofer



Leandro Petalio and Schmeka Cofer



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THE CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

300 JAY STREET, BROOKLYN, NY 11201-1909

VISION CARE TECHNOLOGY
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Email: rrusso@citytech.cuny.edu

Vision Care Technology Moves Into State of the Art New Academic Building

After four and a half years, The Department of Vision Care Technology finally moved into its new academic building this fall. It was a major move considering that the department had to move over fifty years of documents, equipment, machinery, faculty offices etc. To say that it was a major challenge is an understatement! We hope that at Vision Expo East, we can arrange for those faculty attending to visit the facilities. Please see the pictures below. Our department is on the 8th floor.



New Academic Building



Front of Academic Building



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New Vision Care Clinic





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Vision Care Technology Fabrication Laboratory



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Faculty Office (Professor Russo)

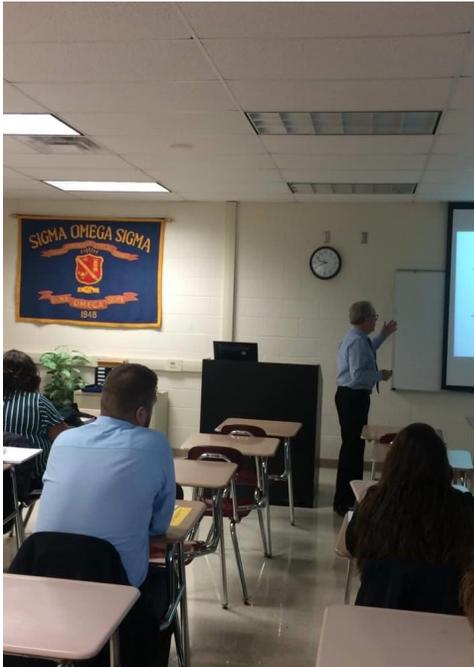


A View from the top floor (Photo on the right shows the Freedom Tower)

Contact Lens Society of America held their 63rd Annual Education Meeting On October 12-13, 2019 at the Buffalo Marriott Niagara with clinical session at SUNY Erie Community College, North Campus. Assistant Professor Janet Acara shares photos from clinical Sessions at the college.



Additional Photos from CLSA Annual Education Meeting clinical sessions
at SUNY Erie Community College





On October 31st 2018 students of the Optician Program at the College of Southern Nevada participated in CSN's IPE, committee's annual health fair. IPE stands for Interprofessional Education—a teaching strategy. This year the IPE committee decided to create a theme for the health fair and as it was being held on October 31st, the committee decided to use the title “Medieval Medicine Health Show”

Students of the program were given two assignments that would relate to the health fair. In their manufacturing class students had to (1) Research the type of eyewear manufactured in the middle ages (1200CE -1400CE). (2) Select a photo or illustration of their favorite pair. (3) Using the photo/illustration create their own frame pattern and then make a template for creating the frame. (4) Trace the template on a piece of oak, pine, walnut or ash, or even metal. (5) Cut the frame out, drill the eye wire openings and decide what embellishments their frame would have. (5) Lenses for their frames were based on the sphere equivalent of their current Rx – students had to calculate the sphere equivalent in order to experience what their vision would have been like in the time period – no cyls in medieval times!



Monocles, Scissors Specs, Lorgnettes and More!



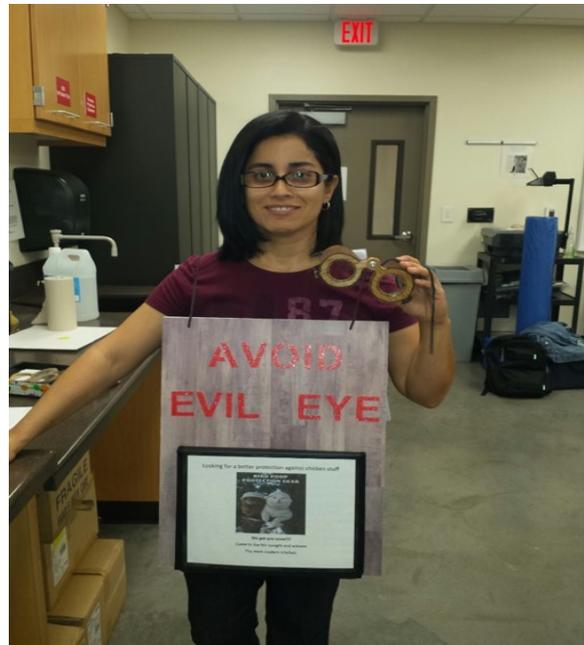
Jolene's Folding Lorgnette



Melodie's Head Mounted Da Vinci inspired glasses and Jessenia's Folding Lorgnette



In their dispensing class students had to create a sandwich board based on the prevention of Evil Eye. As Evil Eye was a big concept in the medieval time period any individual who had a noticeable ocular issue was accused of casting the Evil Eye. Therefore, it was important to prevent/treat ocular abnormalities in order to prevent being accused of casting the Evil Eye. Students were allowed to select a topic from a list provided by the course instructor. They then had to research their topic and create a power point on their topic. The power point was attached to a sandwich board the student made. The student then had to walk around the health fair with their sandwich board and eyeglasses and educate the health fare participates on the ocular condition the student had researched. They also had to tell people how the eyeglasses they made would help treat or prevent the ocular issue their power point was based on. Topics included strabismus, dangers of allergic conjunctivitis from swimming in contaminated water or poorly treated swimming pools, ocular injuries – lots of arrows flying around in medieval times! – so you need safety glasses don't you know! Pterygiums, Pingueculas, Cataracts and the like – all needing sunglass protection in order to prevent their development. Many other topics where researched.



Aric talking about Allergic Conjunctivitis to a captured crowd and Eva getting ready to go out and sell her Dry Eye glasses.



All in all every student enjoyed learning about how eyeglasses are made, and a variety of optical abnormalities/conditions in a fun way! We also got to practice how to talk to our future patients about important ocular health issues!



Lydia's Wire Specs and Ruby's Lorgnette made from hoop ear rings!



Other programs on our campus also participated. There were Witches from the Nursing department, Tooth pullers from Dentistry, Torture racks from Physical therapy, Nuns and Monks from Radiation Therapy, and more. Every program had students of the program sharing important health information. What a fun way to attend class on Halloween!



RVCC Optical students modeling & selling sunglasses at the college wide picnic with the college mascot



From left: Andres Muneton, Molly Larkin, Bethany Wright, Nicole Pipia, Arelys Cordero



Screening Held



Diabetic and Vision screening was recently provided at Ogeechee Technical College in conjunction with the Statesboro Lion's Club. Blood pressure checks and written information about the different diseases were also provided to the participants. Students from the Practical Nursing, Medical Assisting, and Opticianry programs assisted in the event.



Wiregrass Georgia Technical College Opticianry Students Tour a Local Ophthalmology Practice

Opticianry students at Wiregrass Georgia Technical College in Valdosta, GA toured the offices of South Georgia Eye Partners (SGEP) on October 18th.

Staff members at SGEP gave students informational tours of the optical dispensary, finishing lab, and surgery suite. Students were invited into the operating room to observe cataract surgeries and Dr. Petermann explained the process as he performed each surgery. "Many opticians don't have an opportunity to observe a cataract surgery but the experience can help our students engage with our patients in a very special way by seeing what the patient goes through. It is an additional step in developing a rapport with our patients" said Lisa Griffin, Wiregrass Tech Opticianry program coordinator.

Students watched glasses being edged and assembled in the finishing lab and spent time with the optical staff in the dispensary as they talked about the different products that they fit as well as merchandising those products.

In a post-visit assignment, students shared how much information they gained from this experience. Observations included the friendly and educational personalities of the dispensary team, the high-tech nature of edging lenses, and how efficiently the surgical team performed the phacoemulsification.





Rebecca Morton is the new Opticianry Program Director at Roane State Community College. Former Program Director Mike Goggin is staying on as an instructor under the State's "Post Retirement" program.

Mike sends photos of Roane State Opticianry students preparing to entertain all the local children, on Halloween eve at a "Trunk or Treat" event held at the school! They spent a good deal of time painting pumpkin eyeballs and decorating the trunk with eyeball decorations. All the students brought in candy for the event which was very successful! The next day all the students dressed up in Halloween costumes and brought food to school for a big SOS Halloween party.







The Opti Kids decorated a Christmas tree at school for our "Festival of Trees" event!!
Oh yes - we have an Opti Elf!!



Eyeglasses on the tree...nice touch Mike!



NFOS Meeting At Vision Expo West October 26th, 2018

Randy Smith from the ABO-NCLE discusses with our members details for an upcoming meeting regarding the ABO and NCLE Task Analysis that takes place every five years.



From right to left, Mary Sequiti, Hillsborough Community College, NFOS Treasurer, Laurie Pierce, Hillsborough Community College, Thomas Neff, Hillsborough



From left to right Steven Indelicato, City Tech, Rebecca Morton, Roane State Community College, Lilianna Mejia Rodriguez, Miami Dade College, Rebecca Soto, Goodwin College, John Godert, and Janet Acara, Erie Community College, Roy Ferguson, Vice President, NFOS, Jim Morris, ABO-NCLE, Scott Helkaa, College of Southern Nevada and Randy Smith, ABO-NCLE, Also present were Dr. Aarlan Aceto, Middlesex Community College, Robert Goldman, Ben Franklyn Institute of Technology and Joseph Sollecito, City Tech



NFOS At Vision Expo West, Exhibit Hall

October 27-29, 2018

NFOS at the ABO-NCLE Hub during Exhibit Hall Event



The NFOS godfathers – from left to right, Scott Helkaa, College of Southern Nevada, Bill Underwood, Hillsborough Community College, Dr. Aarlan Aceto, Middlesex Community College, John Godert, Erie Community College, Joseph Sollecito, City Tech, NFOS Treasurer and Bob Russo, President NFOS



NFOS Faculty and Friends enjoy time together during
2018 Vision Expo West in Las Vegas



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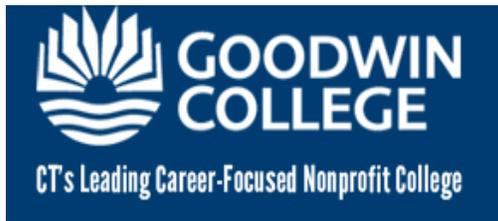
NATIONAL CONTACT
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Your support enables the NFOS to continue our mission of promoting
formal opticianry education for the entire profession.*

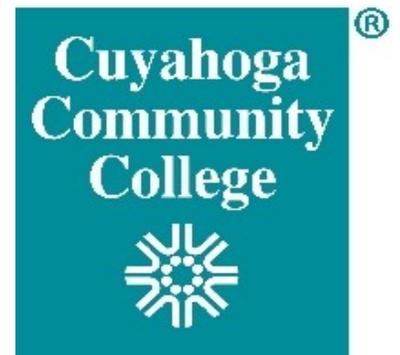
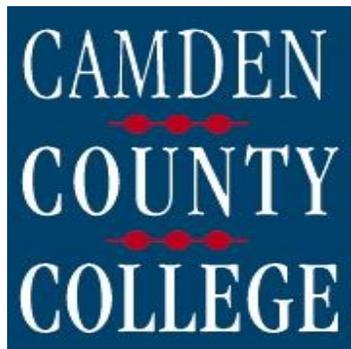


We Teach the Why!

NFOS Schools



NFOS Schools



Message from Commission on Opticianry Accreditation

Reminder to program directors to review COA Essentials with regard to any recommendations for potential updates or changes. Please reply to Debra White, Director of Accreditation with potential areas to be updated by February 15, 2019 director@coaccreditation.com

Happy Thanksgiving to all of our NFOS
Families and Friends



“just a slight correction for presbyopia”