THE TIGER

NEWSLETTER



Students Explore STEM Careers at Summer Camp

Coahoma Community College wrapped up its annual Career and Technical Education (CTE) STEM Camp on Friday, June 13, following a week of immersive, hands-on learning experiences for middle and high school students.

Held June 9–13 on the CCC campus, the camp welcomed 7th through 12th graders for an engaging introduction to fields such as aviation, automotive technology, welding, commercial truck driving, and electronics.

Throughout the week, students explored STEM-focused career paths through interactive workshops, live demonstrations, and direct access to professional-grade equipment and instructors. The goal, organizers say, was to spark interest in high-demand technical careers while providing real-world exposure in a supportive learning environment.

The camp concluded with a celebratory closing ceremony, where participants were treated to a meal provided by the lota Omicron Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.



"Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today."

— Malcolm X

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NEWSLETTER





Monthly Newsletter

Welcome to the official Coahoma Community College Monthly Newsletter – your goto source for the latest campus highlights, student achievements, faculty features, and community engagement updates.

This publication serves as a vibrant platform to showcase the impactful programs, academic excellence, and Tiger pride that define the Coahoma experience. As champions of education, leadership, and service, we continue to uphold our mission of transforming lives and building stronger communities throughout the Mississippi Delta and beyond.

Through this newsletter, we aim to keep you informed, connected, and inspired as we celebrate our growth and continue striving toward excellence.

Thank you for being a part of the CCC family. Let's continue roaring forward – together!

With Tiger Pride,
Office of Communications & Marketing
Coahoma Community College

In this newsletter you will find:

Latest events, campus news, resources, and more.

CCC Student Leaders Shine at National Leadership Institute



A team of Coahoma Community College's top student leaders recently returned from an unforgettable experience at the National Association of Student Affairs Professionals (NASAP) Student Leadership Institute, hosted this summer at Claflin University in Orangeburg, South Carolina.

The six-day event brought together student government representatives from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the country for an intensive leadership training program focused on personal growth, teamwork, and professional development.

Attendees:

Ta'Moria Shannon – SGA President
Ja'Mikal Reed – 19th Mister CCC
Zariah Hamidou – 68th Miss CCC
Jamison Hicks – Student Activities Chair
Aaliyah Thompson – Multimedia Specialist
Darron Griffin Jr. – Treasurer

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CETL Podcast Elevates Teaching, Innovation, and Community Voices

Coahoma Community College's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) continues to make waves with its growing podcast series — a resource designed to spark ideas, inspire innovation, and uplift the voices of educators, community leaders, and HBCU partners.

Led by Dr. Ouida McAfee, CETL Director, the podcast is a dynamic platform that explores timely topics in education and social impact. Each episode features insights from Coahoma faculty and staff, along with guests from institutions such as Morehouse College and Howard University, as well as community leaders and proud CCC alumni.

Recent topics have included:
Social justice in institutional culture
Innovative teaching frameworks that boost student success
Student retention and the power of foreign language instruction
The surprising link between hygiene, attendance, and academic performance
Navigating patents in education with expert guidance for faculty innovators

."My goal was to create a podcast that makes high-quality, evidence-based professional development more accessible — not only for our campus but for the broader educational community," said Dr. McAfee.

CCC President Dr. Valmadge Towner praised the initiative, stating, "This podcast reflects our ongoing commitment to share ideas, foster collaboration, and celebrate the excellence happening here at Coahoma and across HBCUs."

Have a guest recommendation or want to be featured? CETL welcomes educators, innovators, and leaders to join the conversation. For more information, contact Dr. Ouida McAfee at omcafee@coahomacc.edu.

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CCC Welcomes Linda Davis Payne as Speaker for 2025 Health Sciences Pinning Ceremony

Coahoma Community College is honored to announce Linda Davis Payne, Family Nurse Practitioner and elder at Ruwach Ministries, as the keynote speaker for the 2025 Health Sciences Pinning Ceremony on Tuesday, July 1 at 6:00 p.m. on campus.

This year's theme, "From Small Beginnings to Greater Works," reflects Payne's inspiring journey from humble roots in Vance, Mississippi, to becoming a highly respected healthcare professional and spiritual leader.

With more than 34 years of nursing experience, Payne's career began in 1991 as a Licensed Practical Nurse. She advanced steadily—earning her RN license in 2002, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in 2016, and becoming a certified Family Nurse Practitioner in 2021. Throughout her career, she has been recognized not just for her medical skill but for the compassion and holistic care she offers to her patients and community.

In addition to her work in healthcare, Payne is an elder and evangelist at Ruwach Ministries in Lambert, where she mentors and encourages others in their faith. Her dual roles in medicine and ministry allow her to serve others both physically and spiritually—a true reflection of service with purpose.



Geoffrey Latham to Lead "Impatient Impressionism" Sponge Painting Workshop



Coahoma Community College's Art Program Coordinator, Geoffrey Latham, will serve as the featured instructor for an upcoming hands-on painting workshop hosted by the Delta Arts Alliance.

Titled "Impatient Impressionism: Impressionist Sponge Painting," the workshop will take place on Sunday, July 13, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Delta Arts Alliance in Cleveland, Mississippi.

The workshop invites participants of all skill levels to explore the expressive techniques of the Impressionist movement—this time, with a creative twist. Rather than traditional brushes, attendees will use custom-cut sponges to replicate the textured strokes made famous by artists such as Monet, Renoir, and Degas.

The session will begin with a brief demonstration by Latham, followed by open studio time for participants to experiment with color, texture, and form as they create their own original artwork. The experience will conclude with an informal gallery walk, where attendees can share and celebrate their work in a relaxed, encouraging environment.

"No art background is required," Latham said. "This workshop is about creative freedom, trying something new, and enjoying the process of making. It's expressive, it's hands-on, and it's designed to be fun."

The cost to attend is \$30 for Delta Arts Alliance members and \$40 for non-members. All materials will be provided. Space is limited, so early registration is recommended.

