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Let There Be Light: Lighting up the Night

Look inside for
PVCC club
information

Lindsey Woodyard, Staff Writer

Let There Be Light is an annual, light-themed, interactive exhibit hosted on the grounds of PVCC's V. Earl Dickinson building. Celebrating the winter solstice, Let There Be Light aimed to comfort and inspire in the midst of the longest night of the year.

Upon entering the Dickinson building, guests were welcomed with complimentary maps of the grounds, flashlights and refreshments. Outside, lighted trails led the way amongst the exhibits as guests gleamed with light themselves. Families, students and community members enjoyed works of art in every direction from the Dickinson building.

Mark Nizer's "The Lake and Monolith" was projected behind the Dickinson building onto the trees by the lake and onto a cube wall with

accompanying music. Nizer said the work was created using video mapping software over three weeks. He said, "It is all about collaboration and making something new." The scene evoked a sense of human connectedness to each other and nature, with the message "We are all connected" appearing during the show.

James Yates curated the event, and Beryl Solla says this event makes PVCC a part of the community's holiday celebration.

Let There Be Light shines an inspirational light onto the New Year and sends a message of hope and brilliance to PVCC's returning students. Jeffrey Justice, an engineering student and work-study participant at PVCC, says, "The event brings about the greatest sense of community at PVCC. Mark Nizer's showcase inspired me to continue pursuing my dream to connect humans and nature through engineering."



Photography courtesy of PVCC Facebook Page

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DATES TO REMEMBER

— Open Auditions for *The Tempest* —

Jan. 17, 6-8 p.m.; Jan. 19, 7-9 p.m.; Jan. 20, 6-8 p.m.
Dickinson Building

—Fourth Fridays Improv *—

Jan. 22, 6-8 p.m., Maxwell Theatre, Dickinson Building

—Last day to drop a course with a refund—

Jan. 28

—Theatre of the Oppressed Workshop *—

Feb. 6, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Dickinson Building

—*One Mic Stand* *—

Feb. 11, 7 p.m., Maxwell Theatre, Dickinson Building

—*Gallery Exhibit Opening Reception* *—

Feb. 12, 5 - 7 p.m., Dickinson Building

—*Free Movie Friday: Brooklyn* *—

Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Auditorium

—*History of Gospel* ^—

Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Auditorium

—PVCC Music Faculty Recital *—

Feb. 21, 3 p.m., Dickinson Building

—“The Presidential Primaries: What’s Next?” *—

Feb. 22, 11:50 a.m., North Mall Meeting Room, Main Building

—Spring Break—

Feb 29-Mar 4

—*Richmond Ballet* ^—

March 2, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Auditorium

—Positive Action Conference *—

March 25 to March 26

Register online Feb. 1

*Free Event ^Student Vouchers Available

From the Editor

Antonia Florence, Editor

PVCC is about learning and achieving goals. It is about classes, homework and tests, but it can be so much more. We make new friends and build a network of support that can last a lifetime. One of the logical places to meet these new friends is in a club. Clubs are also a good way to explore the possibility of expanding your interests.

What if playing your favorite board game was part of your academic day; would you play? It could be, if you join the Board Game Club.

Do you like playing in dirt but live in an apartment? Maybe dirt sounds like fun, but you are not sure what to do with it. Perhaps recycling efforts or harmful pesticide usage is a concern of yours. The Horticulture and Environmental Club might be your cup of tea.

If your academic focus cannot be broken, what about the school’s Chapter of Mu Alpha Theta (MAΘ), the mathematics honor society?

There are many options to choose from; just go to “Student Activities” on the school’s website or read the rest of this issue of *The Forum*. Throughout each semester, the school hosts a myriad of activities, many of which are sponsored by clubs or other school organizations. They are here *for us*.

Would you like to attend concerts, ballets and other shows held at PVCC but feel you cannot afford them? Pick up your free student voucher from the receptionist desk at the cafeteria entrance to the main building. It covers admission for you and a guest into many performances.

Always remember, whatever you do, wherever you go, you are in control of your own destiny.



Student Government Association News

On behalf of your Student Government Association at PVCC, I would like to welcome back all our returning students and welcome our new students.

Fall semester proved to be a success for the members of SGA and its executive board, but now the bar is getting pushed higher as the SGA is prepared to accomplish new heights to improve your experience here at PVCC. Last semester, the Events departments held free events for all students like Casino Night and Welcome back social while partnering with different clubs and departments at PVCC. The Student Voice Department had a table set every other week at different PVCC buildings for students to voice opinions and ideas while implementing the student voice process to be set into place before each semester allowing SGA members to come into SDV Classes and inform student about SGA and review projects that will come out from those SDV courses! The PR department always keeps everyone posted on everything that SGA is doing from TV advertisements to flyers and pamphlets. Senators attended the College senate representing the students and a large amount of our committee members served on numerous committees to also provide student needs and opinions.

This semester, new committee positions have been created for anyone to serve on to further student voice deeper into the college structure and administration. A first time Talent Show will be held at PVCC this semester, and as always we will continue our returning events such as Spring Fling and Ping Pong Tournament!

For more information check us out on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/PVCCstudentgov. Remember, don't hesitate to email any of our board members including myself about any questions at all!

Now a couple of dates every student should be marking on their calendars for the semester:

SPRING CLUB DAY– Jan. 20: Join any of the wide variety of clubs including SGA!

TALENT SHOW – April 8: Auditions will be prior to this date and more information will be announced through mass email!

Spring Fling – April 20: Dunk tank, FREE FOOD, music and tons more!

As always good luck to each of you to the new semester and we are blessed to serve a great student body; we love and are very excited to have you back on campus. We cannot wait to experience another semester with you here at PVCC.

Student Government Association
“Let Your Voice Be Heard”
sga@pvcc.edu

Camron Perry
SGA President
cfp@email.vccs.edu



SGA President Camron Perry
Photography courtesy of SGA

First Quadrant—Working With Mathematics

Nia Mukasa, Staff Writer

Whether students need math tutorials, a place to complete online course assignments or just a quiet place to study, First Quadrant math lab is equipped to accommodate their needs. The math lab is in the 200 wing of PVCC’s Main Building and is open to all students. “About 400 students visit the Math Quadrant per week,” said Byadunia Buluma, a Desk Staff member in the First Quadrant as part of PVCC’s SLA program.

Though most students make an appointment when they need to see a tutor, help is always available for any student that comes in. “Some students come just to study, but end up getting stuck and asking a tutor for help,” Buluma said. Emily, a tutor in the First Quadrant math lab, says that she helps students with their online homework whenever they ask. Students taking online math courses will find that there is adequate space and computer availability for completing their assignments.

Emily said that the tutors work with students for as long as necessary depending on their needs. “You can pre-schedule appointments and that gets you 30 minutes of dedicated time,” said Emily, but walk-ins usually get five minutes.

Emily admitted that there are times when it’s difficult to help a student understand how to solve a problem, but she had an optimistic perspective. “A lot of people just get frustrated and give up. But you can just keep trying,” Emily said. One setback that Emily noticed is that many of the students that come for tutorial have been struggling with their course material long before they sought help. She says that she wants to be able to reach students before the subject gets too hard for them. Emily says “teachers encouraging students to come here earlier” can help to meet that goal.

Some of the students who visit First Quadrant feel they get enough time with their tutors, but adequate time does not always result in understanding the material. Diane Payne, a student taking a math course online, said sometimes she understands but “sometimes they don’t explain it the way the teacher explains it; I get

confused.” Payne also said she doesn’t think the tutors know enough about the on-line math programs. “I don’t think they understand the Hawks system,” Payne said, adding that the tutors do help her to get the right answer but not the way the online system wants it to be done. Despite these challenges, Payne does not think the math lab needs any improvements: “I think it’s good,” she said.



Byadunia Buluma, Front Desk
Photography by Arif Michael Vega

FITNESS CENTER OPEN-USE HOURS - SPRING 2016

Monday & Wednesday 9:50 to 11 a.m. | 11:50 a.m. to 4 p.m. | 7 to 9 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday 9 to 11 a.m. | 12:15 to 4 p.m. | 7 to 9 p.m.

Friday 9:50 to 11 a.m. | 11:50 to 4 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. to noon

Piedmont Profile: Steve McNerney

Elise Hansen, Staff Writer

Steve McNerney admits he has “a heart for the marginalized” that drives much of his life’s work. While he is quick to add that he considers himself far from perfect in his pursuit of the common good, many of his roles personally and professionally demonstrate a desire to provide support and opportunity for others.

McNerney came to PVCC in 1978, he was an instructor of physical education at the time; today, he serves as an Assistant Professor of Physical Education, Coordinator of Student Activities and Faculty Advisor to the Student Government Association (SGA). He also manages the PVCC fitness center. Each of his roles are united by the overarching goal of “expanding offerings for students,” he said.

The increase in student population over the years has come with an increase in the number of clubs and extra-curricular opportunities for students. As Coordinator of Student Activities, he supports club faculty advisors and helps students who seek to create new clubs.

“When students come to me with an idea for a club they want to create, I do my utmost to say yes,” he said. That way, students who might otherwise “have trouble finding a place” at PVCC can begin to find community, he explained.

McNerney also serves as faculty advisor to the SGA. “SGA continues to amaze me,” he said. “Each year, the leadership seems to outdo the previous year. Which is really amazing, because from the very beginning it was excellent. How do you improve on that much excellence?”

He also oversees the PVCC fitness center. “Gyms have a strong social component,” he explained. “We have the greatest small gym in the universe.” PVCC’s fitness center receives faithful financial support from the school and is “so appreciated by the students who use it,” he said. That “sense of ownership means the gym is respected and well taken care of.”

McNerney received a bachelor’s degree in history and later a masters in education from the



Steve McNerney
Photo courtesy of PVCC website

University of Virginia focusing on physical education.

Today, his PE classes allow students to pursue their love of a sport or to branch out and try something new. “On the first day of class, I have the students name their level of enthusiasm from one to ten,” he said. “I get most excited about students who say zero or one, because it’s my goal to change their minds.”

Outside of PVCC, McNerney spends a great deal of time reading. “I read all the time—I probably read too much,” he joked. Some of his reading relates to his job as an instructor, but other current reads, such as *Saving Capitalism: For the Many, Not the Few* by Robert B. Reich and *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People* by Nadia Bolz-Weber.

McNerney is also Chairman of the Board of The Haven, a multi-purpose community space in Charlottesville that offers a variety of services for the homeless. He acts in an advisory capacity to the executive director of The Harlem Wellness Center in New York, which provides “social, economic and generational reconciliation” in the context of a lifestyle wellness space, according to its website.

Asked why he has chosen to remain at PVCC for nearly 38 years, McNerney replied, “a conflation of Charlottesville, friends, and PVCC students and colleagues has made it easy to remain here.”

Club information

Adult Student Life Club



Gina Edwards
Photography by
Kellyn Torres

Melanie Couzzo,
Staff Writer

Looking for a peer group that really understands the challenges in your life? Being an adult student returning to school can bring a unique set of challenges and

opportunities. The Adult Student Life club is dedicated to supporting adult students and engaging them in the wider student body. It is also a support group, helping adult students juggle the many facets of life, including work, family, and school. ASL has held seminars about time management, financial planning, and other real-life concerns students face. For more information, contact Gina Edwards at gle235@email.vccs.edu.

All Living Creatures

Kaitlyn Duvalois, Staff Writer

Here at PVCC we have a wide array of clubs. If you are an animal lover, then All Living Creatures is for you. Its goal is to educate people about different animals. Staff advisor: Frances Rees, frees@pvcc.edu.

Anime Club

Arif Michael Vega, Staff Writer



Photography by Kellyn Torres

The Anime Club welcomes anyone interested in animation and comics, with a focus on Japanese tradition and style. The group focuses on new animations, while leaving room for the classics. Club president Kayla Paschall says the group votes on what to watch. Contact Kayla Paschall at kdp2460@email.vccs.edu.

Art Club

Claudia Cruz, Staff Writer

The Art Club is a fun club for all students who are interested in crafts and art education. The club sponsors a variety of art-related events like the Seventh Annual Chocolate Chow Down, Art Attack, Arts Day at PVCC, art workshops and the monthly free film series. For more information contact the club President Julia Grammer, grammerjm@gmail.com, or Faculty Advisor Beryl Solla, bsolla@pvcc.edu.

Black Student Alliance

Claudia Cruz, Staff Writer



Photography by Kellyn Torres

The BSA is a social and educational club for all students who are interested in being more involved with African American culture. They have a community that meets every Wednesday at noon in the main building. Feel free to drop in for their meeting hours. BSA brings students together to become better academic students and to focus on their next step for colleges. For more information please contact the Faculty Advisor,

Justin Wert, jwert@pvcc.edu or the student contact Clarence Johnson, cjohnson0628@email.vccs.edu.

Board Game Club

Joe Fowler, Staff Writer



The Board Game Club at PVCC meets every Tuesday afternoon from 3 to 6 on the third floor of the Dickinson Building. Members play a wide variety of games ranging from card games to more involved games such

as war games and beyond. Contact faculty advisor, Bruce Glassco, at bglassco@pvcc.edu for more information.

Brony Club

Melanie Couzzo, Staff Writer

Are you a self-proclaimed Brony? Do you love the show *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic*? Looking for a peer group that values honesty, generosity, compassion, optimism, devotion and leadership? Then Brony club is for you! With weekly activities focusing on one of the core values highlighted by the show, members focus on watching the show and on fan-created content. They also participate regularly in fundraisers and service projects, providing a judgment-free environment while making a positive impact on the larger PVCC community. For more information, attend a meeting, Mondays 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. or contact Morgan Eppard (co-president), at mle2431@email.vccs.edu.



Business Club

Katya Beisel, Staff Writer



Photography by Kellyn Torres

The Business club has three goals: leadership development, entrepreneurship, and personal finance. They frequently invite business professionals and entrepreneurs to speak at PVCC so that students can learn from the experiences of seasoned professionals. The Business club also strives to foster a more educated, professional community, with an emphasis on professional etiquette and deportment. Contact Business club Founder and President Scott Cast at sac2689@email.vccs.edu for more information.

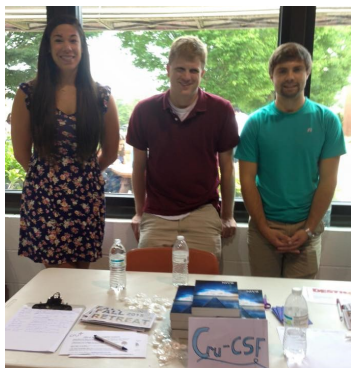
Chess Club

Melanie Couzzo, Staff Writer

Interested in chess strategy, or looking to learn? Are you looking for a new place to put your chess skills to the test? Try Chess club, a fun and safe learning environment for first-time learners and experienced veterans alike. The club meets weekly on Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m. - 12:50 p.m. in the Main Building, room M158. For more information, contact Hunter Hough (co-president) at hbh215@email.vccs.edu or Abel Pors (co-president) at ataep22252@email.vccs.edu.

Cru Christian Fellowship (Cru)

Nia Mukasa, Staff Writer



CRU at PVCC is the club formally known as Christian Student Fellowship. CRU at PVCC provides an opportunity for students who share a common interest in the Bible to engage in Bible

studies and discussions and pray together. The club meets every Wednesday during College Hour and all students are welcome to join. For more information you may contact either the club's president, Marcus Fraticelli, at mef2233@gmail.vccs.edu, or the club's staff advisor, Andre Luck, at aluck@pvcc.edu.

Creative Writing Club

Kelly Wilmer, Staff Writer

Creative Writing Club allows your imagination to roam freely through the stroke of a pen, surrounded by those who share an interest in writing. Every year, the club produces the school's literary magazine *The Fall Line*, the three-minute horror story contest and has a special event with fun activities on The National Day on Writing. "I would say that anyone can come to our meetings. We meet every other Monday at 3 p.m. in the Writing Center Lab.

We do some writing, talk about writing, and encourage writing among ourselves. It is a place where people can learn about creative writing—low stakes and friendly," said Jennifer Koster,



Annette Cashett,
club co-president

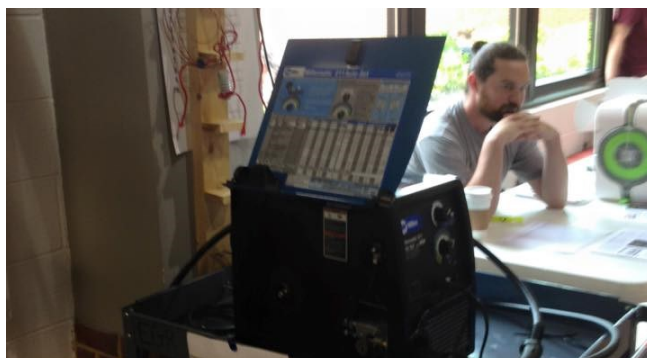
the staff advisor. For more information contact Presidents Annette Cashett at alc2711@email.vccs.edu and Russell Wright at rlw2897@email.vccs.edu or Jennifer Koster at jkoster@pvcc.edu.

Dance Club

Kelly Wilmer, Staff Writer

Do you love to dance? Then get up and moving with dance club. Whether you have experience or not, all levels of dancers are welcome. Dance club offers a wide range of opportunities for dancing each semester. They even offer free dance classes. For more information on this club contact Staff Advisor Michelle H. Cooper at mcooper@pvcc.edu or student contact Kai Filippucci at kcf283@email.vccs.edu.

Engineering and Technology Club



The PVCC Engineering and Technology club is designed to gather PVCC engineering students for social and career-oriented purposes. Student contact: Mark Potter, mpotter5001@email.vccs.edu. Staff advisor: Hunter Moore, hmoore@pvcc.edu.

Film Making Club

The mission of the Film Making club is to bring together students who are interested in film and filmmaking in order to encourage and provide support and guidance for student filmmaking interests and activities. Faculty advisor: Kay

Bethea, kbethea@pvcc.edu.

The Film Series

Joe Fowler, Staff Writer

The film series is part of the art club at PVCC. The film series meets twice a semester, usually weeks two and ten. The meetings typically follow a studio art class on a day such as Wednesday when most students are on campus. Look for information posted around campus for upcoming meetings. According to Beryl Solla, films for next semester include *Spotlight*, *Brooklyn* and *Carol*, all of which fall into the independent genre. Club President Julia Grammer says, "For the art club film series we try to choose compelling films that appeal to critics and audiences alike; that cover topics of interest to artists and have meaningful social content and interesting visual elements." Contact Faculty Advisor Beryl Solla by email at bsolla@pvcc.edu.

The Forum

Joe Fowler, Staff Writer

The Forum, PVCC's newspaper, provides a voice for the student body. The Forum offers students the opportunity to report their news and voice their opinions while also learning the fundamentals of the journalistic experience. Faculty advisor Tamara Whyte said, "We welcome any level of commitment or skill." The Forum meets once a month at varied times depending on student scheduling.



The first club meeting is Jan. 26 at 3:30 p.m. in M174 on main campus.

Staff Advisor: Tamara Whyte, twhyte@pvcc.edu
Student Contact(s): Club President
Antonia Florence, aflorance0004@email.vccs.edu

Web site: www.piedmontforum.com/
Facebook: www.facebook.com/PVCCForum
Twitter: @PVCCForum
Instagram: PVCCForum

French Culture Club

Nia Mukasa, Staff Writer

The French Culture club emphasizes the language and culture of France by providing an atmosphere and activities in which students can experience both. No prior knowledge of the language is required for students to join, but the club does encourage students to join whose first language is French. For information about the French Culture club, contact the club president, Evangeline Poten, at elop23091@email.vccs.edu or the staff advisor, Kris Swanson, at kswanson@pvcc.edu.

Gender Equality Club

Our mission is to promote gender equality by educating the PVCC community about gender inequality and



Photography by Kellyn Torres

providing a forum to discuss issues related to gender. Gender equality does not imply that all people experience and express gender identity in the same way, but that all people should have equal rights and be treated with the same respect. For more information and details about this club please contact Connie Jorgensen, cjorgensen@pvcc.edu.

German Club

Jackie Layton, Staff Writer



Photography by Kellyn Torres

The German club promotes knowledge of and interest in German language, history and culture in a relaxed setting. Members engage in various activities such as watching German movies, practicing their German speaking skills, playing German board games, and organizing parties periodically, such as Oktoberfest and Karneval/Fasching. Contact staff advisor Patricia Jassmann, pjassman@pvcc.edu for more details.

Graphics Club

Melanie Couzzo, Staff Writer

Do you enjoy graphics, and are you interested in learning about how design impacts daily life? Are you interested in generating high-impact designs, or learning about how others do the same? The Graphics club is geared towards graphic design students but open to all. The club hosts a regular "Graphics Hour" where they host speakers, watch films, work on projects, and discuss all areas of design. This past October, the club hosted a "Comics Jam", where students ate pancakes and came and left as they pleased for a 24 hour long period of comic creation. For more information on the Graphics club, contact Aubrey Tomlin at atomlin8755@email.vccs.edu.

Horticulture & Environmental Club

Jackie Layton, Staff Writer

Started in 2007, PVCC's Horticulture & Environmental club was formed to provide students and community members with an organic garden to learn about environmentally-sound horticulture and sustainable practices. Each year, produce from the garden is donated to local food banks in central Virginia. Club member and natural science major Fletcher Gore said, "I like how our garden is making a difference and how it was created for us." One of the club's 2015 goals is to have all eight garden beds filled with vegetable plants. Information is available on the Horticulture & Environment club page, Facebook page and blog. Contact co-advisors David Lerman (dlerman@pvcc.edu) or Jennifer Scott (jscott@pvcc.edu) for further information.



Photography by Kellyn Torres

International Club

Claudia Cruz, Staff Writer

The International club is a social club for any student who wants to be involved with cultures. The club likes to welcome students from many different countries to help them be part of the school's international community. The international club likes to host many events, from potlucks, picnics, bowling excursions, trips and more. Meetings are held every two weeks on Wednesdays. Student contact: Edwing Alicandu, eja2215@email.vccs.edu. Faculty advisors: Mahmood Moghimzadeh, mmoghimzadeh@pvcc.edu and Jorge Gjarales-Diaz, jgrajalesdiaz@pvcc.edu

Investment Club

Claudia Cruz, Staff Writer



The Investment Club is one of the oldest clubs on PVCC's campus. Its mission is to help students improve their knowledge of the economy and market of our country. They hold meetings every other week on Wednesdays. They like to take trips throughout the year. For more information please contact the president of the club Nate Thomas, nt25252@email.vccs.edu

Japanese Club

Nia Mukasa, Staff Writer

The goal of the Japanese club is to share knowledge and experience of the Japanese culture and language with PVCC students and the surrounding community. Japanese card games and cuisine are two of the many ways Staff Advisor Noriko Donahue seeks to accomplish this goal. Annual karaoke nights and a cup of tea in a Japanese garden give students the opportunity to experience the customs native to Japan and enrich their understanding of its culture.



For more information about the Japanese club, contact the club's President, Rachel Mlcoch at rmm28857@email.vccs.edu or the Staff Advisor, Noriko Donahue at ndonahue@pvcc.edu.

Latter-Day Saints

Nia Mukasa, Staff Writer

The goal of the Latter-Day Saints (LDS) Club is to spread an understanding of the scriptures of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The club endeavors to share the peace that is experienced during the study of scriptures. All students are invited to join the LSD club which meets every Tuesday. For more information, contact the Staff Advisor, Andrew Renshaw, at renshaw@pvcc.edu.

LGBTQA Club

Katya Beisel, Staff Writer

The LGBTQA group seeks to raise awareness of the issues faced by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning people and their allies. Outreach and inclusion are top priorities for the LGBTQA club, which seeks to foster a community of acceptance and tolerance regardless of sexual orientation or gender. Events sponsored by the LGBTQA club include the Ask-a-Queer booth, which centers on opening dialogue between queer students and their curious straight or cisgender peers, and answering sensitive questions without fear of judgement or offending. Contact Eddie Edwards at eme2730@email.vccs.edu for more information.

LIFE (Life Is For Everyone) Club

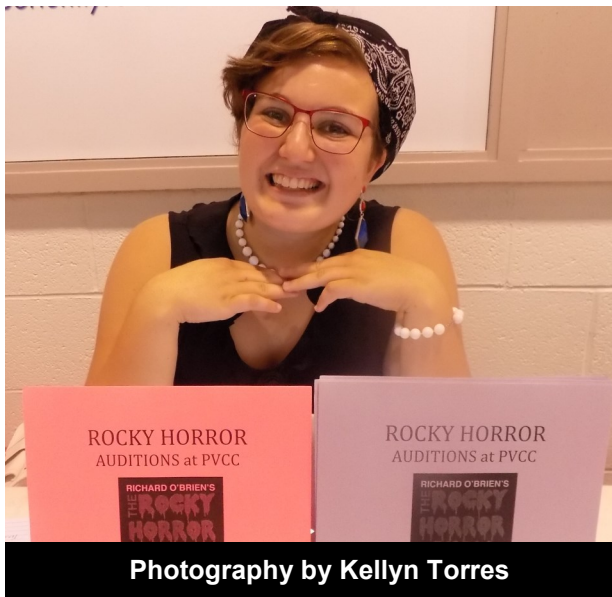
Joe Fowler, Staff Writer

The LIFE (Life Is For Everyone) club promotes life with a pro-life stance on abortion. The goal of the LIFE club, according to its profile on PVCC's website, "is to learn and educate about fetal development and abortion realities, and to promote discussion of its medical, economic, and

social effects. We also seek to educate women about alternatives to abortion.” To find out meeting times for LIFE, check out their website or contact faculty advisors Nicole Winkler, nwinkler@pvcc.edu and Kemper Steele, ksteele@pvcc.edu.
Web site: <https://sites.google.com/site/lifeclubpvcc/>

Masquers Club (Theatre)

Melanie Couzzo, Staff Writer



Interested in drama? Love the spotlight? Maybe you're more of a behind-the-scenes person with an interest in lights, costume or sound? There is room for all kinds at the Masquers club; all that is required is a love of theater! Started by Kay Bethea decades ago, their goal is to support both the Department's official productions and student-run productions. In addition to regular weekly meetings, beginning in January, they will host a monthly improvisation series called the Fourth Friday Improv., which in past years has been held the last Friday of each month from 6-8 p.m. The event is open to all students, staff and the general public free of charge. Want to try acting for the first time, or just flex your muscles between performances? This is the place for you! For more information, please contact Brad Stoller, bstoller@pvcc.edu.

Mu Alpha Theta

Claudia Cruz, Staff Writer

Mu Alpha Theta is a math honor society; qualifying students are voting members for projects, constitutional amendments, and get to wear honor tassels at graduation. Math club is open to all who are



interested in math topics or just want to have fun with math. Part of the national mission of this honor society is to share the fun of math with everyone possible. The club has guest speakers and a big project in the spring. In its first year, it held Starry Night in conjunction with the Charlottesville Astronomical Society. Last year, it held a "Super Pi Day" event for area fourth and fifth grade students. For more information contact Diane Valade dvalade@pvcc.edu, the chapter contact at MAT@pvcc.edu, or President Fintan Horan fhoran0001@email.vccs.edu.

Music Club

Kelly Wilmer, Staff Writer

Music club is a place where people who share a love for music gather together to play music with one another in jam sessions at The Maxwell Theater (Black Box) in the Dickinson or just to discuss their appreciation of music. "I would recommend the Music club to anyone that loves music. It's a great way to meet new friends that share an interest in music - the best art form, in my humble opinion," said Michael Baize. The club meets every Monday at noon at The Black Box Theater. For more information contact staff advisor Kay Bethea at kbethea@pvcc.edu or student contacts Mike Baize at mbaize6274@email.vccs.edu and Jacob Brumback at jrb264345@email.vccs.edu.

Native American Student Union

Nia Mukasa, Staff Writer

The Native American Student Union (NASU) aims to highlight Native American culture and the issues Native Americans face. The club is a mix of students who are native and non-native. NASU offers students a chance to mingle with those who share their interests in Native American Culture and desire to educate the public on the subject. The club also provides information on local events pertaining to indigenous culture.

Outdoor Club

Arif Michael Vega, Staff Writer

Natural areas are the focus of the Outdoor club. Target events include hiking, camping and other exploratory activities. Student contact for the outdoor club is Andrew Little, arl2381@email.vccs.edu.

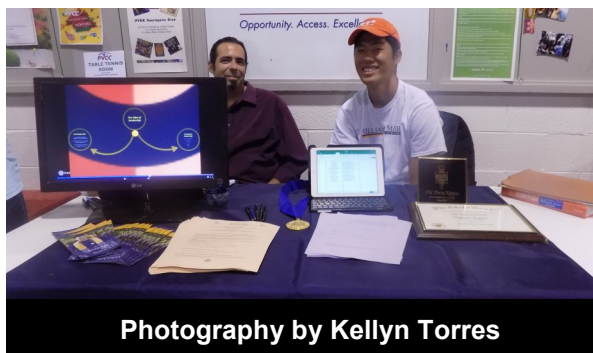
People Empowering People (PEP) Club

Melanie Couzzo, Staff Writer

People Empowering People is dedicated to helping people overcome the challenges that people with disabilities encounter. Looking for a helping hand, or want to help others? This is the place to be! Help raise awareness and tear down boundaries to build a more fair and inclusive world. For more information, contact Susan Hannifan at shannifan@pvc.edu.

Phi Theta Kappa (PTK)

Claudia Cruz, Staff Writer

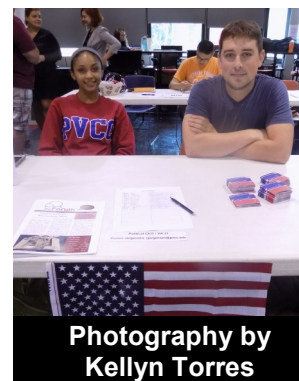


Phi Theta Kappa is the national honor society for two-year colleges, and PVCC's chapter is active in our community. This club organizes fundraisers, attends a regional conference in the fall and creates college-wide projects. An application to join PTK can be found on its webpage, along with the requirements for membership. However, all meetings are open to non-member students and provisional memberships are available for curious, undecided students and those who do not meet eligibility requirements. For more information contact Patrick Fritz, pfritz@email.vccs.edu.

Political Club

Joe Fowler, Staff Writer

The Political club at PVCC is place for students to discuss the political climate on all levels, be it school policy or international politics. The Political club is currently working with the VA 21 club to bring a chapter of the statewide organization, Virginia 21, to PVCC. Meeting times for the political club vary based on student availability. For more information, email Staff Advisor Connie Jorgensen at cjorgensen@pvcc.edu.



Pottery Club

Nia Mukasa, Staff Writer

The Pottery club offers a creative outlet for students enrolled in the ceramics courses and those who love art. In this club, students have the opportunity to hone their skills with pottery clay and make them manifest in works of art. This artisan club nurtures the skills already gained and develops those yet to be mastered. The Pottery club meets in the Dickinson building. For more information on the Pottery club, contact Tom Clarkson at tclarkson@pvcc.edu.

Radiography Club

Kelly Wilmer, Staff Writer



Radiography Club is a club for radiography students and a requirement for the radiography program. “It’s a club designed to help radiography students raise funds to send its senior students to a conference. This conference lets students about to graduate meet other students from across the country, network in the radiography community, go to lectures, and take a mock board exam,” said Megan Ford, the club’s vice president. Ford described how closely bonded club members are: “As radiography students, each student class has all of their courses together during the two year program. So, the club actually meets just after class for a few minutes each week or, if you think about it, all the time since we basically become a family and do everything together for two years.” For more information on this club and the radiography program itself contact staff advisors Nicole Winkler at nwinkler@pvcc.edu and Adria Clarke at aclarke@pvcc.edu. For more information on the club contact President Chuck Kovacik at clk2974@email.vccs.edu or Vice President Megan Ford at mford7271@email.vccs.edu.

Science Club

Melanie Couzzo, Staff Writer

Are you interested in how science has a real-world impact on our daily lives? How about the creative aspects of science, and how it can improve the world? Science club is the place for you! Be on the lookout for their Semester Kickoff meeting, where the club decides on meeting days and plans events as well as holds elections. Though their focus is most tailored to students focusing on sciences, all are welcome. Their meetings are held in the Keats Science Building. For more information, contact Anne Allison at aallison@pvcc.edu.

Soccer Club

Claudia Cruz, Staff Writer

The soccer club invites members to be part of this great sport. You don’t need to be experienced with the sport; if you are interested in trying it for the first time they will make you feel welcomed. They have many members that play soccer tournaments throughout the semester. All students are invited to come and cheer for the school’s soccer team. Edwing Alicandu, captain of the Soccer club, said, “indoor season is coming up and everyone is welcomed to participate or cheer at the bleachers.” Dates and locations will be posted in the spring semester in all the campus. Alicandu also hopes “we might have a chance to see the PVCC Bears play against other community college teams.” For more information, contact the captain Edwing Alicandu, eja2215@email.vccs.edu, or Faculty Advisor Steve McNerney at smcnerney@pvcc.edu.

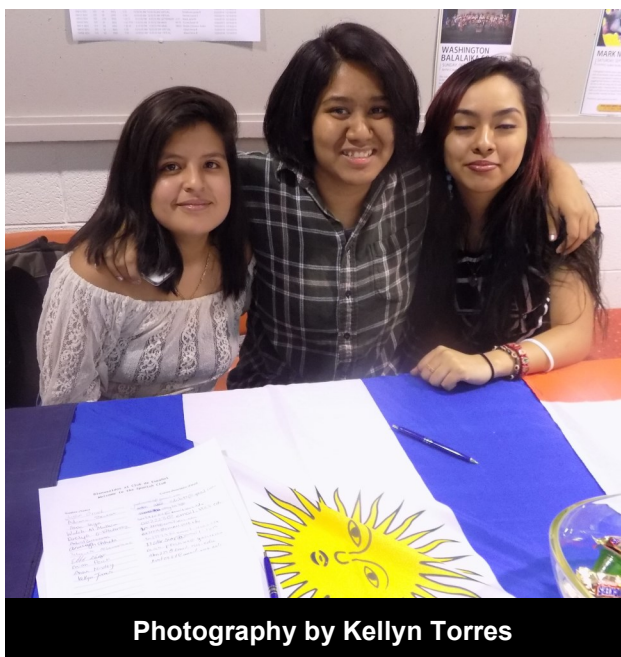
Sonography Club

Kelly Wilmer, Staff Writer

This club helps prepare students for a career in Sonography focusing on the use of ultrasound equipment. Sonography club is for students enrolled in the sonography program at PVCC and for students interested in the program. Staff advisor Lisa Burrington describes a typical

Sonography club meeting: “Students may determine how they will raise funds and plan for that. In the past students have arranged tutoring meetings and have arranged to have guest speakers. It depends on the club officers, as the students decide what they will do.” If this club sounds like something you might be interested in, contact the club’s president, Jennifer Davis. Staff advisor Lisa Burrington can be reached at lburrington@pvcc.edu.

Spanish Club (¡El Club de Español!) Claudia Cruz, Staff Writer



Spanish club is a great opportunity for students to get involved with languages and South/ Central American cultures. This Club also helps students taking Spanish practice their speaking skills. The Spanish Club seeks to promote the Spanish culture and language throughout the college. The club meets weekly; students of all levels are welcome to attend, or native speakers. During its meetings, the club has Spanish presentations and engage in arts and crafts using the typical piñata paper—“Papel Picado.” The club also organizes field trips to the Casa Bolivar at the University of Virginia and to the downtown salsa classes on Wednesdays. For more information contact the

club president Alexander Urpi (axu2db@virginia.edu) or the club advisor Jorge Grajales-Diaz, jgrajalesdiaz@pvcc.edu.

Student Government Association (SGA) Melanie Couzzo, Staff Writer



Want to get involved in making the school a better place? Have ideas, but not sure how to implement them? The Student Government Association works to represent the interests of the student body to the staff, administration and governing bodies of the school. Working together with the staff and administrative bodies, the SGA promotes open communication with the end goal of representing the rights and concerns of students to the school administration. Hosting many events throughout the year, the club brings students and faculty together to talk about issues in an open and inclusive space. It also promotes the founding of other clubs. There are many different levels of involvement. Each club within the PVCC community nominates a representative to speak for the club in SGA meetings, while other SGA members serve as senators, college-wide committee representatives, or at-large representatives.

To learn more about SGA, attend one of their two monthly meetings, held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 8 a.m. in the North Mall Meeting Room.

Student Veterans of America

Nia Mukasa, Staff Writer

The Student Veterans of America (SVA) club offers a circle of peers who can relate to each other in a unique way. Students who have served our country in the military branches have experienced things that others are not often able to relate to. It can mean a lot to veterans to have a network of support that helps them transition into student life. The mission of the SVA club is “To provide military veterans with the resources, support, and advocacy needed to succeed in higher education and following graduation.” With activities like bowling, hiking, snow tubing and water tubing down the James River, these vets have an opportunity to relax and enjoy the country they fought to protect. The SVA club also hosts an annual cook-out. The club meets every first and third Wednesday at noon in the veteran’s trailer on the east side of PVCC’s Main Building. For more information about SVA club, please contact Staff Advisor Jackie Fisher at jfisher@pvcc.edu.

Tennis Club

Kelly Wilmer, Staff Writer

For those who love to play tennis or always had a burning desire to play, here is your chance with tennis club. Tennis club is open to people of all skill levels. The club’s main goal is to promote tennis throughout PVCC. For more information contact student contact Tom Cude at tec2453@email.vccs.edu.

Ultimate Frisbee Club

Joe Fowler, Staff Writer

Led by team captain Calvin Biesecker, the Ultimate Frisbee club meets on Fridays at noon. Though hampered by a slower year than usual, the club has met and played continually for five or six years, according to Staff Advisor John Gulley. The Ultimate Frisbee club is one of the longest- running sports clubs currently on campus, if not the longest. Gulley has much to

say about the club, including reports of heaven shining its light down upon club members, perhaps explaining the club’s lasting appeal. “If you’re interested in joining, look up and join the PVCC Ultimate Facebook site,” said Gulley. The club is co-ed. All are welcome. The Spring semester might start off slow for practices in January and February, but the club will be back for the semester. Contact staff advisor, John Gulley at jgulley@pvcc.edu.



Virginia 21

Joe Fowler, Staff Writer

The VA 21 club works alongside the Political Club to bring a chapter of the statewide advocacy organization Virginia 21 to PVCC. The organization holds a monthly meeting in Richmond. According to its website, “Virginia 21 is a generational advocate that provides non-partisan information and support to young voters and students in three ways; we coordinate action focused on: keeping college affordable; increasing jobs for graduates; engaging young people in politics.” Faculty Advisor Connie Jorgensen encourages students “to look at the Virginia 21 website and to get involved.” She can be contacted via email at cjorgensen@pvcc.edu. Website: <http://www.virginia21.org/>

Volunteer Club

Interested in helping out the local community or making the campus a better place? Join the volunteer club. The club is relaunching this semester, and plans on engaging in various activities on and off campus. Faculty contact: Todd Platts (tplatts@pvcc.edu).

PVCC Club Word Search

I N T A M U S I N N E T U P Z E P G U S
 S B K H V L I F E P V W Z M A V N W I C
 P A A G O I W R I T I N G S B I H G A I
 A V R N M R R B B L T G A S R T N G B E
 N O N T H L T G S R A T A E E A G M L N
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ANIME
 ART
 BSA
 ASL
 BOARD
 BRONY
 BUSINESS
 CREATURES
 CRU
 WRITING
 CREATIVE
 DANCE
 ENGINEERING

FILM
 FORUM
 FRENCH
 GAME
 GENDER
 EQUALITY
 GERMAN
 HORTICULTURE
 ENVIRONMENT
 INTERNATIONAL
 INVESTMENT
 JAPANESE
 LGBTQA

LIFE
 MASQUERS
 MAT
 NATIVE
 PEP
 PTK
 POLITICAL
 POTTERY
 RADIOGRAPHY
 SCIENCE
 SOCCER
 SONOGRAPHY
 SPANISH

SGA
 VETERANS
 TENNIS
 ULTIMATE
 FRISBEE
 VIRGINIA
 VOLUNTEER

Don't miss these upcoming events

Positive Action Conference: A Civic Leadership Experience

You are invited to attend Piedmont Virginia Community College's first Positive Action Conference: A Civic Leadership Experience, an event designed to increase democratic engagement and civic leadership among PVCC students.

The conference will be held on Friday, March 25 and Saturday, March 26, 2016. Some panel topics include: Race & Class, Privacy and Policing, Local Politics, Women in Politics, and Student Involvement. Confirmed speakers include: Senator Creigh Deeds, Delegate David Toscano, Delegate Rob Bell, Charlottesville Vice-Mayor Wes Bellamy, and Sorensen Institute for Political Leadership Executive Director Bob Gibson. Check out the conference website www.pvcc.edu/pac for more panels and speaker information.

Registration opens on the web on February 1. The conference is free, but space is limited.

"The Presidential Primaries: What's Next?"

Virginia's Presidential Primary is Tuesday, March 1. To get ready, please join us on Monday, February 22 at 11:50 in the North Mall Meeting Room to hear Geoffrey Skelley's presentation "The Presidential Primaries: What's Next?"

Geoffrey Skelley is media relations coordinator for the University of Virginia Center for Politics and associate editor of Sabato's *Crystal Ball*, the Center's nonpartisan newsletter on American campaigns and elections. As a political analyst, Geoffrey has been quoted or cited in numerous print and online publications, such as the *New York Times*, *Politico*, *Newsweek*, and *Huffington Post*, among others, and does frequent radio and television interviews with local, national, and international media organizations. He also speaks to organizations around Charlottesville and Virginia on a regular basis. Geoffrey has been with the Center since 2011.

Riddles

Brennan Tanner, Staff Writer

All together we form words used to shape nations
with our influence.
First give me a sound of a chill, or a seed that is
prickly with spines,
Next you must find the tip of a leaf, or the primary
part of a limb,
The third is the center of ancient, the start of idols
of old, terrible and grim,
the ultimate piece is the start of nothing, nobody,
never, and nines.

First comes two of a kind, meant to always be
together,
Be they cups, jewels, or shoes shoes of fine
leather.
The next can be found in the birth of an island in
the middle of the Seine,
And the last is in the founding of Notre Dame and
Nice, places to have seen.

Interesting Facts: PVCC Edition

Antonia Florence, Editor

- PVCC is one of 23 community colleges in Virginia that comprise the Virginia Community College System (VCCS).
- PVCC was established in 1972.
- Since 1972, an estimated 213,000 students have taken credit and noncredit classes at PVCC.
- PVCC has awarded over 12,000 associate degrees and certificates since 1972.
- Each year, more than 500 students transfer from PVCC to a four-year college or university. To date, more than 2,400 students have transferred to the University of Virginia.
- More than 1,400 of our nursing students have become registered nurses with most working all or part of their career in our service region.

Source: www.pvcc.edu



Classifieds

Make sure you vote for Fall 2016's One Book Project!

Check out these titles for the upcoming One Book Project

Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan

Now I See You: A Memoir by Nicole C. Kear

The Circle by Dave Eggers



Know of any Community Events, Announcements, or Advertisements you'd like to list?

Contribute and Submit to



Contact us at theforum@pvcc.edu
for more information or visit our website :
www.piedmontforum.com



Check us out on social media

@PVCCForum

The Forum is a voice for all students. Accordingly, materials published in The Forum, including any opinions expressed, should not be interpreted as the position of the VCCS, Piedmont Virginia Community College, or any stakeholder thereof. The paper welcomes letters to the editor, guest columns, questions, photography or any other ideas or submissions one may have for the upcoming publications. Please contact pvccforum2014@gmail.com with any questions.

Contact Us

PVCC The Forum

501 College Dr.
Charlottesville, VA 22902
theforum@pvcc.edu
www.piedmontforum.com

The Forum offers classified space to the PVCC community free of charge. Please send announcements along with full name, email, and phone number to: theforum@pvcc.edu

The Forum Staff

(Listed alphabetically)

Managing Editor

Elise Hansen

Assistant Editor

Antonia Florence

Staff Writers/Copyeditors

Morgan Barr

Cynthia Beasley

Annette Cashatt

Riley Clark

Melanie Couzzo

Claudia Cruz

Kaitlyn Duvalois

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Joe Fowler

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