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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BRISTOL COMMUNITY COLLEGE WILL HOST 3RD ANNUAL ALUMNI PARAGON AWARDS ON THURSDAY, MARCH 22

Join Bristol Community College for the 3rd Annual Alumni Paragon Awards, an event created to honor the efforts of an outstanding and inspiring group of alumni.

The Alumni Paragon Awards Ceremony will be held Thursday, March 22, 2018, with a reception at 5:30 p.m., and dinner and awards beginning at 6 p.m., in the Commonwealth College Center (G-Building), BCC Fall River campus, 777 Elsbree Street.

The Alumni Paragon Award: This is the most distinguished award given to a graduate of Bristol Community College. Recipients of this award demonstrate excellence in their careers, service to the College, and substantial community involvement.

The Outstanding Service Award: The Outstanding Service Award is given to alumni who are making significant achievements and contributions to their profession or community and/or share a commitment to the service of others in their community.

The Distinguished Student Award: This award is given to former BCC student who, through professional achievement or personal dedication, has demonstrated an outstanding commitment and accomplishment to their field or to the community.

Distinguished African American Alumnus: The Distinguished African American Alumnus award is given annually to an individual who has demonstrated achievement in their profession, made significant contributions to their community, and achieved notable service to Bristol Community College. The recipient of this award also demonstrates commitment to improving educational access for disadvantaged or non-traditional

students, notable civic achievement, and has overcome formidable barriers to success in education or in their careers.

Maury Kusnitz Volunteer of the Year: Given annually to an individual who has made an exceptional contribution to the advancement of Bristol Community College.

For more Alumni Paragon Award information, including criteria, please visit [Bristol Alumni Paragon Awards](#).

2018 Bristol Alumni Paragon Inductees

Robert Gauvin '76, Vice President of Finance and Treasurer, Rex-Cut Abrasives

Robert Gauvin is the Vice President of Finance and Treasurer as well as a member of the Board of Directors at Rex-Cut Abrasives, a 100% employee-owned company. Rex-Cut manufactures premium abrasive products for grinding, deburring, and finishing applications in metalworking industries such as aerospace, automotive, food processing, medical, and general fabrication.

Bob started his career as a Cost Accountant and was eventually promoted to Controller at Aluminum Processing Corporation of Fall River, a \$100 Million division of Lightolier, Inc. In the late 1980's he became Corporate Controller at U.S. Ring Binder of New Bedford with divisions in Singapore, Mexico and St Louis. He later returned to Lightolier, Inc., which was acquired by Phillips, an international company focused on the design and manufacture of lighting systems, where he served as Corporate Cost Accounting Manager for all North American Divisions before becoming Corporate Compliance Manager for Sarbanes Oxley.

Bob currently serves his community on the Finance Committee for the Town of Dartmouth; Past Commodore of the Low Tide Yacht Club in New Bedford; and served on the Board of Directors of the Nautical Whalers Parrot Head Club of Southern Massachusetts, a non-profit organization dedicated to serving our community.

Pamela Oliveira '00, Advanced Placement Educator, New Bedford High School

Pam Oliveira earned her degree in liberal arts at BCC in 2000 while working full time and raising a family with her husband, Bruce. It had been 25 years since she entered a classroom. BCC reignited a lifelong passion for learning that catapulted Pam to earn two additional degrees at local universities, culminating with a Master's Degree in Educational Leadership from Bridgewater State University.

Pam is currently an Advanced Placement English Teacher at New Bedford High School and she continues to be recognized for her commitment to youth in the community. In 2015, she was recognized by Mass Insight as *AP Teacher of the Year*. Her work tutoring and mentoring students of the New Bedford High School football team outside the classroom – and on her own time – was instrumental to their continued participation on

the team. She was recognized by the New Bedford High School Gridiron Club as the recipient of the Joseph Dias Achievement Award in 2012 for many years of devoted service to the team.

Pam has been very active in the community with organizations such as Plymouth Bay Girls Scouts, Moby Dick Boy Scouts, Winslow PTO, Bay State Girls Softball, New Bedford Whaler Football, and Dexter Beach Improvement Association.

Allyson Pereira '08, Server, STK Steak Restaurant

Allyson Pereira is a first-generation Portuguese student who graduated in 2008 as the Class Valedictorian. She started in the Baking Program half a year later than her cohort but worked hard to earn her degree and graduate alongside her cohort. She graduated in less than two years and was also a Commonwealth Honors student.

Allyson started the SkillsUSA chapter at BCC. Through this organization, she received silver and gold medals nationally, which earned her a full scholarship at New England Culinary Institute. At NECI, she received the Distinguishing Student Award for Community Service and Highest Honors in the Hospitality Management Bachelor's Degree Program.

Through her internships and networking, Allyson has worked in Hilton Head, NC; Provence, France; and Las Vegas, NV, where she worked for STK, the #1 restaurant at the Cosmopolitan Las Vegas hotel and casino. She now resides in New York City, where she seeks a position in the events or wine industries.

Many of the events that Allyson has coordinated consist of veteran, homeless and cancer fundraisers. Her passion is to promote healthy living through lifestyle and education.

2018 Outstanding Service Inductees

Justin Alexander '11, Fire Chief, Town of Plainville

Keri Anderson '04, Certified Executive Pastry Chef, The Country Club

Patrick Golden '03, Mental Health Clinician, Clinical Services of Rhode Island, and Owner/General Manager, Marina Café & Pub

Lisa Lebreux '87, Director of Consumer & Community Relations, Catholic Memorial Home

Anthony Medeiros '90, Vice President / Commercial Lending Officer, Mechanics Cooperative Bank

Kathleen Plante '79, Associate Professor of Nursing, Bristol Community College

Lisa Raiche, CPA, MST '01, Founder / Principal, Bodhi Business Advisors

Susan Remy '89, Director of Development, Child & Family Services, Inc.

2018 Distinguished Student Award

Ashlee Belliveau, MSN, FNP-C, Nurse Practitioner - Internal Medicine

2018 Distinguished African American Alumnus

Clayton Timas, Assistant Branch Manager, Citizens Bank

2018 Maury Kusnitz Volunteer of the Year

Ann Plichta, Volunteer Tutor - Adult Basic Education, Bristol Community College

The cost is \$25 per person to attend the 2018 Bristol Paragon Alumni Awards. RSVP by March 9, 2018, call 774.357.2007. Please send checks payable to:

Bristol Community College Foundation
777 Elsbree Street, D118
Fall River, MA 02720

About Bristol Community College

Bristol Community College is a leading resource for education and workforce development in Southeastern Massachusetts. BCC has locations in Fall River, Attleboro, New Bedford, and Taunton, along with flexible online offerings that lead to an associate degree, a career-ready certificate, or the ability to seamlessly transfer to baccalaureate colleges throughout the state and country.

The College's Center for Workforce and Community Education provides customized training for businesses and the community including healthcare, workforce and sustainable initiatives, and corporate services.

The BCC Foundation, a non-profit organization utilizing community donations and partnerships, supports the College's mission to meet the lifelong educational needs of the community. For more information, visit <http://www.bristolcc.edu/about>.