

# Horizons

THE COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND MAGAZINE

The Future  
of COM  
It's second  
to none

**PTEC**  
CELEBRATES  
25 YEARS  
How COM  
changed the  
nation

THE FIRST OF  
**100**  
stories  
SEE BACK COVER

COM Alumna  
HELPING NASA  
REACH THE  
STARS

105 Scholarships  
STUDENTS CAN  
APPLY FOR

Learning here  
can get you there<sup>SM</sup>

**COM**  
College of the Mainland.

# COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND



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# ND

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### **Board of Trustees**

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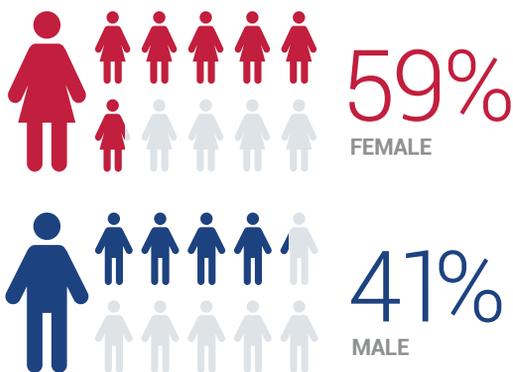
President, Dr. Warren Nichols  
VP for Instruction, Dr. Jerry Fliger  
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College of the Mainland is a learning-centered, comprehensive community college dedicated to student success and the intellectual and economic prosperity of the diverse communities we serve.

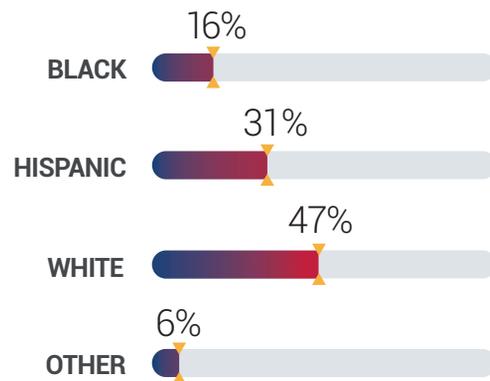
The college district includes Texas City, Dickinson, Hitchcock, La Marque, and Santa Fe. The service area includes League City, Friendswood, Kemah, Bacliff and San Leon.

# QUICK FACTS

## Enrollment by gender



## Enrollment by race/ethnicity



College of the Mainland is a Hispanic Serving Institution

Total enrollment  
Academic Year 2018-2019  
\*Enrollment includes Credit and Continuing Education



Number of degrees and certificates awarded in last 5 years



Percentage of core classes that transfer



Number of professors with PhDs and Masters



Enrollment for Dual Credit and Collegiate High School (CHS)

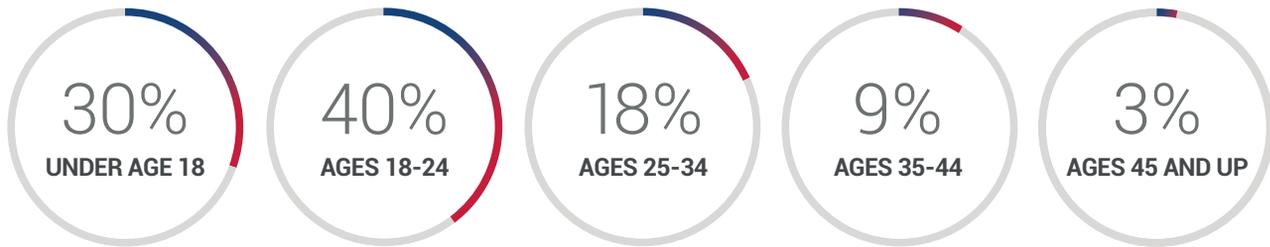
NOTE: This is a subset of the total credit headcount.

Total number of employees: 334 Full-time, 304 Part-time

1,205 Dual Credit, 220 CHS

## Enrollment by age

AVERAGE AGE: 23



## 2019 Awards and Events

- The Pharmacy Technician Guide ranked College of the Mainland (COM) 2019-20's #1 Pharmacy Technician School in Texas and also one of the 20 Best Pharmacy Technician Programs in the nation.
- COM's PTEC program is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Read more in this issue.
- Because of generous donors in our community from 2018-2019:
  - The COM Foundation awarded 278 students \$251,650 in scholarships across different programs.
  - The COM Foundation raised more than \$308,000 from almost 400 donors.
  - The Random Acts of Kindness fund awarded nearly \$3,000 to 9 students experiencing hardships.
  - We had 19 grants with total awards of approximately \$5,000,000 that supported more than 300 students on COM's campus.
- College of the Mainland's cosmetology students participated in their annual Operation Cinderella project in April providing hair styling, makeup and nail services free of charge to high school students attending prom, but unable to afford these services. All services were offered at COM's "The Salon" in the Gulfway Plaza in La Marque.
- Since 1972, COM Theatre has presented over 228 productions including children's

### Affordable price

Tuition and fees for 2 semesters with 15 SCH each semester for In-District (community colleges)/Resident (universities)\*



\*\*Tax District and Service Area and tuition for both Tuition and fees for 2 semesters with 15 SCH each semester In-District - \$1,773 and Out-of-District - \$2,973

theatre, concerts and workshops with attendance of more than a quarter of a million people. The theatre has been recognized as one of America's leading community theatres, setting high production standards and developing one of this country's most innovative theatre training programs. The COM Theatre 2019-2020 season begins September 5th, 2019. Call the Box Office for tickets today at 409-933-8345 or 1-888-258-8859, ext. 8345, or go online at [www.com.edu/theatre](http://www.com.edu/theatre).

\*<http://www.collegeforalltexans.com/apps/collegcosts.cfm>

\*\*<https://www.com.edu/admissions/costs>

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

# OUR FUTURE

**W**elcome to the inaugural edition of Horizons magazine. Within you will find information about College of the Mainland and how we strive to meet our three strategic goals – Student Success, Employee Fulfillment and Exemplary Facilities. Accomplishing these goals means COM will continue to be an economic engine for our region by providing an educated workforce.

College of the Mainland is committed to offering a quality and affordable education that enables students to earn a workforce certificate or associate degree and acquire a well-paying job or complete an academic associate degree and transfer to a four-year institution.

In addition to training for industrial craft and technical careers and academic transfer programs, COM offers several other programs to meet the needs of our region, from Collegiate High School where students simultaneously earn a high school diploma and associate degree, to high school equivalency certificates, to our Lifelong Learning Center for senior citizens, and much more.

The bottom line is College of the Mainland is your community college!

To facilitate students meeting their goals, COM endeavors to provide the environment and professional development necessary to attract and retain high-quality faculty and staff.

Following the approval of a \$162.5 million bond referendum in November, the landscape of the college is changing. Once again, thank you to voters in the COM Taxing District for entrusting us to be good stewards of taxpayer money.



**ABOVE:**  
President, Dr. Warren Nichols



Funds from the bond sales will allow for the construction of two new academic buildings – STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math)/ Allied Health and Industrial Careers – as well as replacement of the Administration Building that suffered irreparable weather damage. The resulting 310,000-square-feet of additional classroom and laboratory space will support the addition of new programs and accommodate enrollment growth.

In late April, the final project under a \$16.2 million maintenance project saw the completion and grand opening of the newly renovated Student Center, including the unveiling of the Bennie Matthews Commons. Mrs. Bennie Matthews served as a trustee for 36 years.

Essential to the ongoing business and growth of the college is the continued support of our Board of Trustees. These dedicated community members ensure the college makes the best choices for our students, employees, taxpayers, and greater community.

In May, we welcomed three new trustees to the Board, Dr. Verna Henson, Dawn King and Dr. Bill McGarvey. I look forward to working with them. I would like to thank outgoing trustees Rachel Delgado, Rosalie Kettler and Bennie Matthews for their years of service and dedication to COM.

This is a very exciting time for College of the Mainland. I invite you all to visit the campus, as this is your community college!



**TOP:**  
Image of new Administration Building

**ABOVE:**  
Recently renovated Student Center

# NAVIGATING THE SEA OF CLASSES

Once upon a time, it took many COM students as much as 5 years to get a 2-year associate degree or certificate. Why? These students, without declaring any major or course of study and absent from much guidance, would move around taking courses they found interesting, but ultimately not accepted as a requirement for a specific degree or certificate. Years would go by and costs would increase.

In an important advance in student services, COM is leading the way for its students to get on track and stay on track for a specific degree or certificate they will be committed to study. It involves a program called Guided Pathways where students will be required to select a course of study and be guided by advisors and faculty to navigate down the pathway to obtaining that degree or certificate. Students will still be allowed to take elective courses, but they will be restricted to electives that are accepted or required by the major or certificate program. This guided pathway will allow students to transfer to a university's path to a bachelor's degree or complete the requirements for a certificate program in less time and requiring less money.

Another important part of Guided Pathways is the extensive work that has been done between the staffs at COM and universities to make sure COM's core classes will all transfer to the universities. Money spent on classes that do not transfer and universities requiring students to retake classes will be a thing of the past.

Keeping students on track with core classes that transfer to universities ultimately means students will finish their degree or certificate goals on time and with less money. That means learning here can get you there more affordably in less time.

For more information visit [www.com.edu/navigate](http://www.com.edu/navigate)



# In the nick of time

## come unsuspecting heroes

It was life or death, but they knew exactly what to do.

Four College of the Mainland nursing students were taking a break from class when they suddenly had to step in and face a real life or death situation. Their quick action and training saved a man's life right in the middle of campus.

On September 19 of last year, Gary Glover, an electrician supervisor for Crescent Electric Co. was doing electrical maintenance on the campus. Glover, who has worked as an electrician for 35 years, was in the process of lifting a manhole cover using a crowbar when the bar contacted a live wire. He was electrocuted and went into cardiac arrest.

Lorrin Ching, a COM electrician who was working alongside Glover, was able to immediately roll Glover away from the energized cover by pulling on his shirt despite putting himself at risk of being electrocuted and began CPR.

The students were in the financial aid office when they looked out the window and saw Glover in distress. The nurses had been in a class, just a short time earlier, learning about sudden cardiac arrest and how to treat abnormal heart rhythms with a defibrillator. They immediately went into action just as they had been trained.

Nursing students Alexis Boettcher, Rachel Cunningham, Shanee Scribner and Andrea Strickland rushed to the grassy area where Glover lay unconscious. They found he did not have a pulse and took over the compressions on Glover's chest.

Strickland called COM police on her cell phone requesting an Automated External Defibrillator, or AED. During training earlier that year, Strickland's nursing teacher insisted her students enter COM's police department emergency number on their cell phone.

COM Police Lt. Jill Hamm arrived a short time later with an AED that is kept in each COM police car. She followed the verbal instructions on the AED and was able to apply the pads to the man's

chest to help get his heart into rhythm. After the AED was used, the nursing students continued with heart compressions until Glover eventually responded. Glover was transported by ambulance to UTMB in Galveston where he spent several days recovering.

"That day was very scary, I thought he was going to die," said Ching who has worked at the college for four years. "The student nurses were great, they helped coach me through the CPR chest compressions. Then took over for me and then hooked him up to the defibrillator."

On Sept. 26, President Warren Nichols awarded the first College of the Mainland Distinguished Service Awards to the four student nurses, the COM electrician and the police officer who saved the life of Glover. The award is given to any student, faculty or staff whose actions and accomplishments reach a level of receiving institutional recognition.



**COM**  
College of the Mainland.

COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND

**25<sup>TH</sup>**

ANNIVERSARY

**PTEC**

1994 - 2019



IT ALL

STARTED

HERE

**PTEC'S 25 YEARS**

It was the beginning of the Fall semester in 1994 when 55 students walked into a classroom at College of the Mainland, launching the first class to work towards an Associate of Applied Science degree in Process Technology (PTEC). That not only began the first PTEC degree at COM, but the first in the nation. However, the COM PTEC story started many years before that first class.

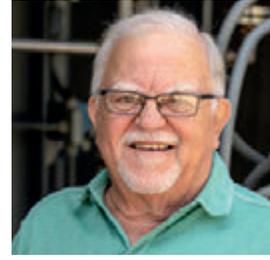
**1987:** Area plants and refineries only required a high school degree or GED, and no plant experience, to be an entry level operator candidate. Monsanto and Union Carbide had their new hires take operator apprenticeship training taught at COM.

**1988:** COM and four other area colleges began offering basic petrochemical operations classes. Area plants began requiring completion of those classes for their applicants, creating long waiting lists for students at area colleges.

**1991:** Representatives from seven area plants met with COM to discuss the need for additional operator training. After two years of meetings and presentations, COM's two-year PTEC program was approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and given "exemplary status" as a model of industry-college-community partnership. That model would be awarded often in the years to come.

**1996:** COM's first class graduated with 100 percent of its graduates being hired immediately by local plants. This success initiated the creation of the Gulf Coast Process Technology Alliance (GPTA) involving colleges and plants across Texas and eventually Louisiana.

LEFT TO RIGHT: COM PTEC Founders Bill Raley, Dennis Link, and Mike Kukuk



## This outstanding award was due to the diversity and quality of its students

**1997:** Texas City won the national award as an All-American City with the COM Process Technology Program being featured in the competition. This outstanding national award was due to the diversity and quality of its students involved in the program, and the program's strong industry-college-community partnership.

**1999:** COM and the GPTA received the Bellwether Award from the National Council for Occupational Education for the Process Technology Program's success in promoting economic and workforce development.

**2000s:** PTEC programs nationwide had grown to more than seven thousand students in twenty-five colleges across ten

states. A grant from the National Science Foundation allowed COM to create the Center for the Advancement of Process Technology (CAPT) that allowed COM to create course objectives, lesson plans and instructor guides to be used by PTEC faculty nationwide. COM initiated an annual Critical Issue and Best Practices conference to support continuous improvement in PTEC education.

**2008:** The famous PTEC forty-hour run on COM's Glycol Separation Unit began with graduating PTEC students getting real time, hands-on, realistic experience prior to graduation. Governor Rick Perry recognized the COM PTEC program for creating a model industry-driven program that supports workforce development. British

Petroleum and COM received the W.O. Lawton National Workforce Board Leadership Award for creating a long-term industry-college-community partnership that supports Process Technology Education.

**2010:** The GPTA becomes the North American Process Technology Alliance (NAPTA) and forty-seven colleges offered PTEC with fifteen thousand students.

**2019:** The PTEC Program is awarded the JET Grant by the Texas Workforce Commission totaling over \$190,000 towards the purchase of additional equipment for hands-on training. COM students were highly ranked in the NAPTA Troubleshooting competition. The competition was funded by the National Science Foundation and later by NAPTA itself. The competition challenges students to troubleshoot problems that might occur at a plant. The PTEC program is nominated for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board 2019 Star Award for 60x30TX.

**The Future:** A new Industrial Careers building is scheduled to be built that will house PTEC and other industrial related programs. The new building will allow the program to continue to grow and provide additional hands-on experiences.

Today, more than fifty-four colleges offer Process Technology with more than twenty thousand students across sixteen states, the Virgin Islands, Singapore and Malaysia and it all began twenty-five years ago with those first fifty-five students at College of the Mainland. It was, and still is a program with a strong partnership of industry, college and community.

 **PTEC COM Alumni:** Join the new Facebook PTEC Alumni page: [www.facebook.com/COMPTECALumni/](http://www.facebook.com/COMPTECALumni/)

RIGHT:  
Zane Stewart



RIGHT:  
Mia Brown



# STRUT YOUR STUFF

## STUDENTS STRUT THEIR BEST STUFF AT THE ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM

The Gulf Coast Intercollegiate Consortium (GCIC) Academic Symposium is an event hosted annually since 2012 and was recently held on April 26, 2019 in the COM Learning Resource Center. This year's theme was "The Evolutionary Ingenuity of Love."

"I wanted to take the student work outside of the campus and share it beyond the classroom," said the symposium's Co-Chair Dalel Serda, a faculty member in Humanities. "The purpose of our symposium is to be inclusive. I wanted it to be open to all of our students regardless of their grade point average." The GCIC Academic Symposium allowed time for special guests. The top four presenters, as well as two honorable mentions, were awarded VISA cards.

The first-place winner Zane Stewart received \$250 for his research paper, "Love and Politics: How Political Party Affiliation Changes and Takes Shape Over Time." "I honestly was really nervous before I presented," said Stewart. "I hadn't had a lot of practice and I even made notecards that had what I was going to say on them, but about a fifth of the way through the presentation I just started speaking and using the PowerPoint. From then on I felt a lot more confident and I think that helped me a lot to do that."

The symposium promotes the creation of original research and creative art projects from undergraduate students. It allows the students to engage in academic discourse with peers and professionals. Presenters are given 15 minutes to display their work with two other presenters in the same room. Afterward, there is an open Q&A.

Second place winner, Mia Brown received \$200 for her research, "Expressions of Love: Gender." I felt that I wasn't smart enough or capable enough to be a part of something like this," said Brown. "But after talking to students who participated in the symposium, I realized it didn't matter how intelligent you thought you were. What mattered was putting yourself in a place where you have to push yourself and being able to put in the work to achieve this goal."

The Gulf Coast Intercollegiate Consortium Academic Symposium's success is based on that same principle of encouraging, recognizing and awarding students who strive to achieve their individual goals.



## THE **NEW** COLLEGE OF THE MAINLAND

### **NEW STEAM BUILDING**

**168,723 SQUARE FEET**

**4 STORIES**

**24 CLASSROOMS**

**28 LABS**

**9 STUDENT AREAS**

#### **ABOVE:**

COM's new STEAM building (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics)



In a few weeks cranes will stretch high into the air as bulldozers roam the campus. Soon College of the Mainland will look nothing like it does today. In fact, so much that you might not even recognize it a few years from now.

Voters within the college's taxing district overwhelmingly approved a \$162.5 million bond referendum last November, paving the way for the construction of three new academic buildings on the Texas City campus. Voters favored COM's bond proposal by almost 67 percent.

The approved bond referendum paved the way for COM to change the landscape of its aging campus with the addition of three new buildings, allow for the addition of new programs and be able to accommodate its currently growing enrollment with true state-of-the-art facilities.

"This is truly a new beginning for College of the Mainland. Our sincere thanks go out to all of those who believe in us and support our mission," COM President Dr. Warren Nichols said. "Approval of this bond referendum allows the college to continue and expand on its commitment to our students by offering new career opportunities and expanding services to this great community."



**ABOVE:**  
View of COM's future campus

Aside from when the college district was first created in December 1966 and a subsequent bond referendum in 1970, voters had twice voted down bond measures sought by the school. This time around, the college mirrored the request under the bond referendum to the needs in the school's Academic Master Plan. The plan was created as a result of student and regional workforce demands. The college serves as an economic engine for the region, which is experiencing growth in the petrochemical, medical and construction sectors.

To answer those needs, a COM Bond Advisory Committee, made up of 40 community members from throughout the taxing district, worked with the college to finalize the bond request.

**Included in the bond package is:**

A new 4-story STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) building with

168,723-square-feet that will contain 24 classrooms, 28 labs and 9 student areas.

The STEAM building will include expanded programs in Allied Health. This will allow the college to increase its popular nursing program and include a cyber security networking lab. New tech programs are being created in chemical, civil, electrical and mechanical engineering, as well as surgical tech, imaging tech, dental and physical therapy.

The Allied Health programs including pharmacy tech, nursing assistant, medical assistant and medical coding currently offered in League City will be moved to the new STEAM Building after its completion.

The Industrial Careers Building will expand the college's Process Technology program (PTEC) and add an instrumentation and electrical program.



## **NEW ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

**63,257 SQUARE FEET**  
(2X SIZE OF THE OLD BUILDING)

**2 STORIES**

**84 OFFICES**

**CENTRAL ATRIUM STUDENT LOUNGE**  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING ROOM**



It will also be home to the Occupational Safety and Health Technology and the Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) programs as well as the Gulf Coast Safety Institute.

A new 2-story Administration building with 63,257-square-feet, more than twice the size of the original building, will house 84 offices, a central atrium student lounge and a meeting room for the Board of Trustees.

The Administration building will consolidate student services such as admissions, financial aid, advising, the testing center and a Veterans Center along with COM's leadership, marketing, and foundation offices.

The total cost for these first two buildings and to expand the central utility plant to handle them is \$80.4 million.

The bond package also calls for additions and renovations to the Fine Arts building, as well as expansion of the college's physical plant and technology upgrades.

On October 22, 2018 the college opened the doors to its new Conference Center with great fanfare greeting more than 350 community members and COM employees in attendance.

The new Conference Center is 5,887-square-feet and when set up auditorium-style seats 540 and about 360 for banquets. There also is a smaller conference for 14 as well as a lobby with seating and a prep kitchen. The center is available for use by the community.

Once everything is completed, the new College of the Mainland will be serving the community with modern facilities that are second to none.

LEFT TO RIGHT:  
Dr. Bernie Smiley and  
Adrian Mejia

TEACHERS AND EMPLOYEES

# BRINGING THE 'A' GAME

## TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to both Dr. Bernie Smiley and Adrian Mejia being awarded Teachers of the Year.

Bernie teaches English striving to make classes interesting and enjoyable for his students. He has a sign in his office that reads, 'For them it's the first time.' "What that sign tells me," says Bernie, "If you treat every class and everything you teach like it's the first time you are teaching it or hear it you will always keep it fresh."

Dr. Smiley loves music and enjoys traveling. He holds a Bachelor of English, University of St. Thomas, Master of Arts, SFA, Master of Curriculum, SFA, and Doctorate of Education, TSU.

Adrian is a first-year teacher in COM's PTEC program who is passionate about what he does and equally strives to create a positive learning environment for his students.

Adrian loves going to the gym and driving his Cadillacs. He holds an Associate of Applied Science in Process Technology (PTEC) from College of the Mainland.

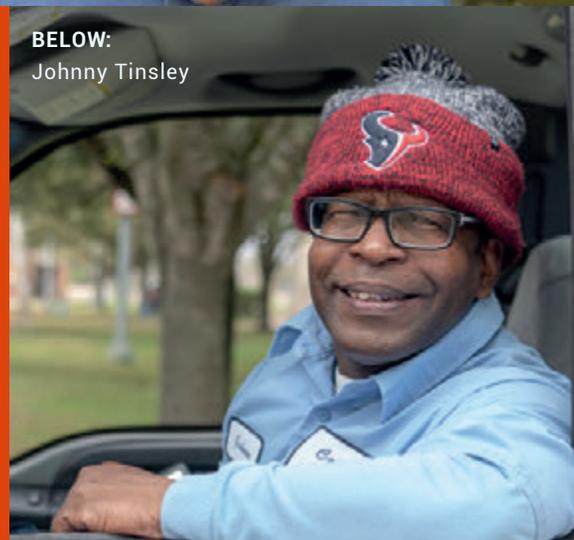
## EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Johnny Tinsley, a maintenance worker at College of the Mainland, was selected as the 2018-2019 Employee of the Year at the college. Chosen by his peers for the honor, Tinsley was recognized during an employee recognition dinner held on April 5, 2019 at the COM Conference Center.

Tinsley's friendly smile stands out in all the maintenance jobs he does throughout the campus. Tinsley, who works as part of the Facilities Department handling garbage pickup and as a custodian, has been employed at COM for 10 years.

For Tinsley, being able to "help out and meet different people from all walks of life" is what he enjoys the most about working at the college.

BELOW:  
Johnny Tinsley



# COM ALUMNA HELPING NASA REACH THE STARS

**W**hen Denise Navarro walked down the aisle to receive her Associate of Science degree in Computer Data Processing from COM she took a major step that led her to a career helping some major government departments and agencies such as NASA. Today, she credits College of the Mainland for not only getting her on track for her successful career but also the careers of her children. Denise Navarro and son, Michael Navarro, were both named as COM distinguished alumni in 2016 and 2018, respectively.

After working in the aerospace industry for years, Navarro established Logical Innovations in 1999. Logical Innovations provides technical, business, creative and administrative services for the federal government, primarily with NASA, including the Johnson Space Center. Her company also works with the Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Interior, Department of Commerce, Department of Transportation and the United States Agency for International Development. The company

is headquartered in Houston with operations in California, Florida, New Mexico and Washington, D.C.

With a successful company, Navarro and her family decided to give back to COM by way of a scholarship. Navarro and her family established two Logical Innovations, Inc. Scholarships at the college, the first in 2012, and the second as an endowed scholarship in 2018.

“Establishing the initial scholarship was a turning point for me, not only as a proud alum, but as a member of my community,” Navarro said. “These scholarships enable me to do my part in helping to set a positive path forward for academically capable young men and women of Galveston County.”

Navarro says she is pleased to be associated with College of the Mainland, especially as the school continues to grow and provide outstanding educational opportunities. Navarro would recommend others to set up their own scholarship too. “Setting up a scholarship at COM can set a student on his/her path for success. You can feel proud that you are a small part of their stories.”

“COM has made improvements over the years to continuously evolve for the betterment of its students, faculty and supporters,” Navarro commented. “I am proud of my COM heritage and want to see others benefit as I have.”



ABOVE: Denise Navarro

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

# DONORS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Lifetime donations to the College of the Mainland Foundation

(Donation levels)

## TEXAS LONE STAR

Level \$5 million and up

- Awaiting gracious donors

## TEXAS LONGHORN

Level \$1 million to 4,999,999

- Texas Mutual Insurance Company

## KING RANCHER

Level \$500,000 to 999,999

- BP America
- Houston Endowment

## SILVER SPUR

Level \$250,000 to 499,999

- College of the Mainland Employees
- Mainland Medical Center Auxiliary
- Shell Oil Company

## COWBOY

Level \$100,000 to 249,999

- Frank and June Godard Webb
- Logical Innovations, Inc.
- Marathon Petroleum Co., LP
- Meadows Foundation, Inc.
- The Brown Foundation
- The Carmage and Martha Ann Walls Foundation
- The McDaniel Charitable Foundation

## MUSTANG

Level \$50,000 to 99,999

- A.J. and Lynn Amato
- Joe and Elizabeth Amato
- Dow Chemical

## MUSTANG (continued)

- ExxonMobil Foundation
- Galveston County AFL-CIO
- Rockwell Fund, Inc.
- Smith Barney
- Texas Book Company
- Valero Refining

## YELLOW ROSE

Level \$25,000 to 49,999

- Amoco Federal Credit Union
- Carolyn and Oscar Robinson
- COM-Unity
- Consulate General of Mexico in Houston
- Del Papa
- Galveston County Daily News
- John P. McGovern Foundation
- Mainland Medical Center
- Marianne Duncanson
- Matthew and Debra Doyle
- Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
- Moody Foundation
- North American Process Technology Alliance (NAPTA)
- Praxair, Inc.
- Randy and Peggy Dietel
- Texas Association of Community Colleges
- The Lubrizol Foundation
- Verizon Foundation
- Ziegler's Foods

## BLUEBONNET

Level \$10,000 to 24,999

- Barbara Austin
- Bartlett Cocke General Contractors, LLC
- Bruce Latimer
- Catherine Moran
- Charles T. and Mary Ellen Doyle
- Coast Foundation, Inc.
- Commercial Metals Company #303
- Darrell and Debra Booth

## BLUEBONNET (continued)

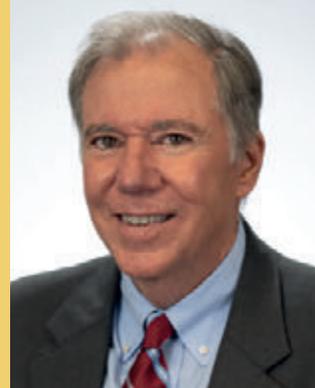
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- Twilight & Marc Freedman Foundation
- Dr. Warren Nichols, Jr. and Mrs. Chris Nichols

# COM Foundation Funding

COM works with federal and state partners on a variety of grant initiatives that help us innovate the many ways we support student success. In 2018-2019, COM received almost \$5 million in state and federal grants.

- **New Scholarships:** COM recently received a grant from the U.S. Department of Education to provide scholarships for students who are still struggling to recover from Hurricane Harvey.
- **Enrichment Programs:** The U.S. Department of Education is working with the college on two projects that are designed to enhance tutoring, advising, and other student support services.
- **New Equipment:** A grant from the Texas Workforce Commission is funding new equipment for our Process Technology program (PTEC).
- **High School Equivalency:** The Texas Workforce Commission is helping us expand the ways we use online learning with adults who want to earn their high school equivalency.
- **Workforce Training:** Earlier this year, COM finished a partnership with San Jacinto College on a U.S. Department of Labor grant that funded vital workforce training programs for hundreds of local unemployed residents.

Moving forward, COM will continue seeking new partnerships that support our students and help make a difference in the life of this community.



## William (Bill) McGarvey, Ph.D.

Dr. Bill McGarvey has been a proud supporter of COM since graduating with an Associate of Arts degree from the College in 1975. As Bill says, "College of the Mainland will always have special place in my heart. When I graduated from high school, I had neither the grades, nor the money, nor the maturity to make it at a four-year university, but thanks to College of the Mainland, I had the opportunity to pursue higher education and this changed the direction of my life."

Bill's experience at COM gave him the confidence that he could succeed as a student. He went on to graduate Magna Cum Laude from the University of Texas, which led to a job at IBM as a computer programmer. At IBM, Bill helped develop code modifications to NASA's mission control systems at Johnson Space Center to support the military's use of the space shuttle. Later, as a program manager, he led the team that won IBM a \$1.2 billion Department of Defense contract. In 1997, Bill was inducted into IBM's Golden Circle, an award reserved for the company's highest performing employees. After leaving IBM, Bill came back to College of the Mainland to volunteer as a member of the COM Foundation Board of Directors. He brought the experiences learned over his twenty-year career at IBM to help the next generation of students be successful in whatever career they choose to pursue.

In May, Dr. McGarvey became one of COM's newest trustees. Bill believes that with COM's strong and visionary leadership and the recent passage of a \$162.5 million bond referendum to fund new construction and renovations, the College of the Mainland is well positioned for a bright and exciting future. Bill is excited to be a part of that. He often refers to COM as one of the crown jewels of our community, and he promises to do his best to ensure our crown jewel shines ever brighter!

Your giving got him here.



# 105 BECAUSE OF YOU scholarships

Community members have created 105 scholarships at COM

Below are just a few examples of the 105 scholarships that are available to COM students. For information on all of COM's scholarship programs, please visit [www.com.edu/scholarships](http://www.com.edu/scholarships).

## June Godard Webb Memorial Scholarship

**Eligible Students:** Fine Arts students majoring in music, theatre, voice and visual arts

The June Godard Webb Memorial Scholarship was established by Frank Webb in memory of his beloved wife, June Godard Webb, who graduated from Texas City High School and studied art at Texas Women's University. June loved to dance and tried out for the Radio City Rockettes in New York City before returning to Galveston County to teach dance and raise a family.

## Angelo J. and Amelia Amato Memorial Scholarship

**Eligible Students:** Students who graduated in Galveston County

Angelo and Amelia Amato were lifelong residents of Galveston County. Angelo was a Mariner Sea Captain and a Houston Ship Pilot before opening Amato Linehandlers as a family business. Amelia took care of the home front, raising four children while also working in the school cafeteria. Their children established the scholarship to honor their parents' contributions to the community.

## Ducks Abroad Scholarship

**Eligible Students:** Students who participate in COM's study abroad program

As a college student on a study abroad trip, College of the Mainland professor Doug Alvarez touched the Eiffel Tower in Paris, explored the Coliseum's ruins in Rome and ran with the bulls in Spain. He wants to help other students explore the world too.

## Kathryn Bailey Nursing Scholarship

**Eligible Students:** Nursing students

This scholarship is in honor of Kathryn Bailey, the late mother of U.S. Senator Kay Bailey-Hutchison and one of the original members of the Mainland Medical Center Auxiliary. The auxiliary has provided service to patients and families in the La Marque and Texas City communities since 1958.

Would you consider making a scholarship gift?  
[www.com.edu/give](http://www.com.edu/give)

Apply for a scholarship at COM:  
[www.com.edu/scholarships](http://www.com.edu/scholarships)

# COM Alumni News

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Melvin Dwayne Senegal, Jr

A 2016 College of the Mainland graduate with an Associate of Arts degree. Melvin faced many challenges getting to where he wanted to be but never gave up. He said, "Through my journey I learned that you can't let anybody define you not even a test. If you truly believe in your heart and mind that you can do it you can achieve anything in this world." Melvin was accepted into UTMB's RN to BSN program and is planning to graduate in May 2020 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. He is now working at UTMB Galveston in the Neuro/Neurosurgery unit.



Jessica Navarro

A 2004 College of the Mainland graduate with an Associate of Arts in Education and Special Education, Phi Theta Kappa. Jessica is now the Executive Director of Communications at the University of Houston C. T. Bauer College of Business where she leads an award-winning team of creative professionals dedicated to building brand awareness and reputation for Houston's most comprehensive business school. Her team is responsible for public relations, digital and social media, photography/videography, web development, marketing and advertising, media relations, executive communication and creative strategy.



Autumn Mason White

A 2015 College of the Mainland graduate, Autumn went on to earn her Bachelor of Education at UHCL. She is now at St Mary's Catholic School in League City as a 1st grade teacher for the past 2 years. Autumn celebrated her 1 year wedding anniversary and is currently waiting on her new house to be finished in her hometown of Dickinson. She still enjoys having fun at COM by participating in the Continuing Education program and exercising with COM teacher Pat Trevisani!

*Did you attend COM?*

**Let us know what's happening in your life for a chance to be featured. Email us at: [horizons@com.edu](mailto:horizons@com.edu)**

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**100**  
stories

# Ready to change a future?

These students have a promising future because of donors just like you

**RIGHT:**  
**Pavel Barilko**  
Welding Student

**Recipient:** Lyondell Basell  
Welding Technology  
Scholarship



**BELOW:**  
**Maggie Bledsoe**  
Theatre Student

**Recipient:** June Godard  
Webb Scholarship



**RIGHT:**  
**Jesse Flores**  
Collegiate High  
School Student

**Recipient:** Lee and  
Tesa Skipper Collegiate  
High School / Dual  
Credit Scholarship



**LEFT:**  
**Kalyn Singh**  
Vocational Nursing Student  
**Recipient:** Janice E. Register  
Scholarship



**ABOVE:**  
**Issac Lopez**  
Theatre Student  
**Recipient:** June Godard  
Webb Scholarship

**Giving here gets them there**<sup>SM</sup>

Visit [www.com.edu/give](http://www.com.edu/give) to change a student's future.