

alumni at macomb

Fall 2007

President Lorenzo to retire in September 2008

After leading the college through many of its significant milestones, over the course of more than half its history and during the academic careers of the majority of its alumni, to whom he has conferred nearly 94,000 certificates and degrees, Albert Lorenzo announced this fall that he intends to retire as president of Macomb at the end of his current contract in September 2008.

Lorenzo, currently the longest-serving community college president in Michigan, joined the college in 1966 as an assistant professor of business after working as a staff accountant at McManus, McGraw and Company, a certified public accounting firm in Detroit. Before assuming the presidency in 1979, he also served as the college's business manager, controller and vice president for business. Lorenzo, who has also taught accounting at the University of Detroit and Wayne County Community College, and educational administration at the University of Michigan, holds a master's degree in business administration and a doctor of philosophy degree. He has also received honorary doctorates from Walsh College and Franklin University.

The Detroit News, Detroit Free Press, Crain's Detroit Business and The Macomb Daily were among the media responding to the announcement of Lorenzo's retirement plans with articles highlighting what will be his 29-year run as Macomb's fourth president.

"He had a vision of the community college being a partner in economic development,"

said Donald Morandini, deputy director of the Macomb County Office of Planning and Economic Development, in *The Detroit News* article that ran Sept. 5, the day after Lorenzo's intent to retire was announced. "What he has done was revolutionary at the time."

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Dr. Albert Lorenzo, currently the longest-serving community college president in Michigan, has announced his plans to retire from Macomb in September 2008.

Macomb retains top degree ranking

Your alma mater continues to distinguish itself among the nation's two-year colleges, retaining its 2004–2005 rank of 18th among them for associate degrees awarded, according to *Community College Week's* top 100 producers list that appeared in its June 18 issue.

During the 2005–2006 academic year, Macomb awarded 2,109 associate degrees, one less than the previous academic year and more than any other Michigan community college. Three other Michigan colleges joined Macomb on the top 100 producers list: Oakland Community College, 33rd with 1,824 degrees, Grand Rapids Community College, 69th with 1,401, and Lansing Community College, 80th with 1,314.

Macomb also placed 28th in the awarding of engineering-related technology degrees and 38th among the nation's 1,202 two-year colleges in the awarding of business, management and marketing degrees.

Community College Week based its determinations on an analysis of data compiled by the U.S. Department of Education. ◀

Raking leaves with pleasure



A DNR grant helped fund the planting of 160 new trees on Macomb College's campuses in the wake of losing 200 trees to the emerald ash borer.

It's difficult to believe that an insect barely a half-inch long could cause the destruction as that of the emerald ash borer. Emerald ash trees on the college's campuses were among

the more than 20 million trees in Michigan that were killed since the insect's discovery in 2002. A \$20,000 grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR),

however, has eased the aesthetic and environmental void that was left by the removal of more than 200 of the college's trees.

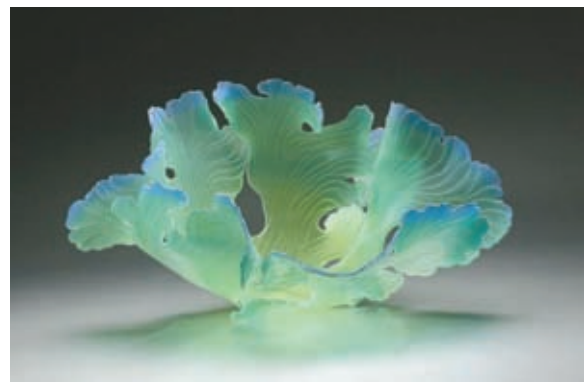
Macomb College was the only college and one of only two Macomb County locales

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Supporting their own

It's a testament to the loyalty and dedication of those who work at the college or serve on its governing board that they have been the impetus behind many of the private scholarships awarded to Macomb students each year and the privately funded programs that support learning in its many forms.

"I wanted to leave something to the college that would continue to contribute after I've passed away," explained Andrew Lonyo, who taught business at Macomb during the 1970s and 1980s and



The Andrew Lonyo Fund for Enrichment Program is one of several funds that are supported by Macomb faculty and staff, and their families. The Lonyo fund has helped the Macomb Art Gallery expand the scope of its exhibits, which will include one in April (Michigan Glass Month) featuring the work of Janet Kelman, of which "Floating Green Seafan," pictured above, is part.

established a private fund supporting enrichment programs after he retired. "And, I wanted it to be something that the college could offer to the entire community."

A similar sentiment can be found behind all of the funds listed to the right. As a member of Macomb's alumni, you may recognize a name or, perhaps, you were a beneficiary of one of the listed scholarships or other funds established by or in honor of Macomb faculty, staff, members of their families or former college board members.

Celebrating two months of history

Each year, Macomb hosts a variety of speakers and performers in celebration of Black History Month in February and Women's History Month in March, often extending the programming into April. Beginning with an urban poet and playwright and ending with a former Supreme, this year is no different.

Tuesday, Feb. 5: **Detroit playwright, novelist and poet Bill Harris**, a professor of English at Wayne State University, will read from his work in the kickoff reception for the college's Black History Month activities, 11 a.m. to noon, South Campus Library. Light refreshments will be provided.

Tuesday, Feb. 12: "**The Spirit of African American Artists**," a slide and lecture presentation by Jane Strand of the Detroit Institute of Arts Speakers Bureau, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., South Campus Library.

Wednesday, Feb. 20: a performance of African-influenced dance by the **Marygrove College Dance Department**, noon to 1 p.m., Macomb Center for the Performing Arts.

Tuesday, March 4: **Diversity in the Global Workplace**, a presentation by Victoria Jones, HR director and dean, College of Leadership, General Motors University, 12:30 to 2 p.m., C-101, Center Campus.

Wednesday, April 30: "**Celebrate Life, Love and Beginning Anew**," a performance of inspirational songs by Barbara Martin, coordinator for programs and community outreach at the Detroit Public Library (and the fourth Supreme before leaving the group in 1962) 12:30 to 2 p.m., in the Black Box (Stage II) of the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts.

There is no charge to attend any of these presentations/performances, and all are open to the public. For more information, call 586.445.7378. These events are co-sponsored by Macomb Community College's African American History and Culture Committee, Student Activities, The Forum Committee, Macomb Multicultural International Initiatives, and South and Center Campus libraries. ◀

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Judge Michael and Carole Schwartz Endowed
Scholarship
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Yes! I would like to support the Macomb Foundation.

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GM project earns college state award

Impressing judges with its global reach, the Macomb Workforce Development Institute (WDI) has received an award from the Michigan Association of Continuing Education and Training (MACET) for a project that uses a train-the-trainer approach to help General Motors Corp. ensure uniform engineering standards at its facilities across the world.

MACET members represent the continuing education/workforce development departments of Michigan's 28 community colleges as well as some of the state's K-12 districts. At the organization's summer conference held in Detroit, Macomb's WDI received MACET's Special Project Award 2006-2007 for the training program it developed and is conducting for GM Controls, Conveyors, Robotics and Welding (CCRW) division. "Students" included 10 engineers from GM's CCRW facility in Sao Caetano Do Sul, Brazil, who spent more than a month at Macomb last summer. GM also arranged for WDI technical trainers to bring the global curriculum to its employees and key suppliers at facilities in Korea, India, South Africa, Spain and Germany, which included translation of the WDI-prepared training materials into the appropriate languages.

Since the program was launched in 2005, more than 2,200 engineers across the world have been trained and/or certified. A design guide has also been produced by WDI in conjunction with development of the training program, which assures uniform course delivery and assessment not only of the GM CCRW training but of other large WDI projects as well.

"Part of the criteria was outreach as well as repeatability and sustainability," noted Leslie Anne Wood, director of workforce development for Montcalm Community College M-TECSM, and the MACET past president responsible for coordinating the Special Project Award judging. "We had four colleges (submit entries) this year, but (Macomb's) reached out the farthest. It was far above the other projects that we received."

In addition to designing workplace training programs that meet the specific needs of an employer as it did for GM, Macomb's WDI also offers open enrollment courses in a variety of fields including CNC and Mastercam, fluid power, robotics, manufacturing

technology and quality control. Located in Macomb's Michigan Technical Education Center (M-TECSM), a state-of-the-art facility that is part of a statewide network of training centers, WDI is also host to the Kaizen College @ Macomb, Lean Processes and the MIOSHA Training Institute.

"The award truly recognizes what we all do so well here at WDI," said Victoria Corriveau, WDI director. "We work with employers to gain understanding of what they need, we quickly develop appropriate programs, courses and services for those employers and deliver them in highly creative but effective ways to achieve the results that the employer needed." ◀



Macomb's Workforce Development Institute, which houses the college's M-TECSM, has been recognized by a state organization for a global training project undertaken with GM.

Kresge grant helps keep Macomb Center mission on course

The glow of celebrating its 25th year got a bit brighter as the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts received word that it will receive a \$150,000 grant—to be distributed in \$50,000 increments over the next three years—from The Kresge Foundation.

"Arts and cultural organizations enrich the fabric of daily life, nurture individual development, strengthen communities and contribute to the regional economy," said Rip Rapson, The Kresge Foundation's president and CEO, in announcing the new multi-year

grant program in support of nonprofit arts and cultural organizations in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb counties.

The Kresge Foundation operational funding program is designed to help cultural and arts organizations strengthen their long-term sustainability and plan strategically. This grant eases the financial burden of day-to-day operations, allowing the Macomb Center to continue focusing on providing quality programs while keeping tickets affordable and to

continue providing enrichment workshops in the arts for all ages.

The Macomb Center draws more than 200,000 visitors annually with 40 professional shows, six summer workshops, opportunities for local performers, comprehensive show choir programs for K-12 and college students and various volunteer opportunities. It is the only organization in Macomb County designated as an Anchor Organization by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. ◀

President Lorenzo

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Under Lorenzo's leadership, a number of important additions were made to help fulfill the college's mission of education, enrichment and economic development including the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, the University Center, the Sports & Expo Center, the Macomb Cultural Center, the Workforce Development Institute (home to the college's M-TECSM) and the Public Service Institute on the college's East Campus. During his tenure as president, Lorenzo has been called upon by Michigan's last three governors to serve on a variety of public policy boards and commissions including the State of Michigan Higher Education Facilities Commission, Governor's Workforce Commission, Governor's Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth, Governor's Council of Economic Advisors, and the Governor's Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth in Macomb County.

Nancy Falcone Sullivan, board chair, will lead a search committee that will work with a consultant from the Association of Community College Trustees to find Macomb's next president with the goal of continuing Lorenzo's progressive legacy.

"For nearly 30 years, Dr. Lorenzo has successfully shepherded the development of Macomb Community College into an indispensable community resource through a keen understanding of the transformative power of education, as well as a deep connection with the community," said Falcone Sullivan. "The board of trustees is committed to protecting and enhancing this legacy with a presidential search process that identifies the right leader to keep moving Macomb forward."

And, until the next president is found, Lorenzo intends to keep the college moving in that direction as well.

"I'm dedicated to maintaining the momentum at the college while the board of trustees leads the process for selecting the next president," said Lorenzo. "By completing the search for my successor while I am still at the college, both the board and I hope to keep things moving forward and allow for a smooth transition for Macomb's next leader." ◀

Alumni make it work up north

Alumni Gene and Joan Peyerk aren't the first Michiganders to return from vacation with dreams of trading in their suburban lifestyles for a farm in the country and a view of a lake. What sets them apart is the fact that they aren't dreaming.

"There is a lot less traffic, a lot less stress and a lot less keeping up with the Jones," relates Gene Peyerk, who earned four associate degrees from Macomb over the past 20 years and now lives with wife Joan and their two children in Cedar, Mich., on the Leelanau Peninsula. "And it really slows down in the winter. If you don't have snowshoes, a snowmobile or cross country skis, you better have a shovel."

In nice weather, the Peyerks start their day with coffee in the backyard of their 50-year-old farmhouse, overlooking Lake Leelanau. Then they roust their children Geno, 13, and Kaylin, 9, to help them feed the two dogs, one cat and 22 chickens that also reside on their 12-acre farm, on which they have also planted 800 grapevines and 80 fruit trees. Then, they head off to their respective jobs. Joan (Tobin), who earned an associate degree from Macomb, a bachelor's degree from Wayne State University and a certificate in radiation technology from Beaumont Hospitals is a mammography technician at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City. Gene, a former manufacturing manager, now cooks in a small kitchen adjacent to an organic food and wine shop that sells his soups, sandwiches, breads, pies and famous cinnamon rolls in a glass case out front.

Making it their own

"It's Francois' recipe," admits Peyerks, of the cinnamon rolls that helped earn him and the market a story this summer in the *Glen Arbor Sun*. Francois is Chef Francois Fallopa, one of the faculty of the Macomb Culinary Institute, in which Peyerks earned his fourth and final associate degree in 2004. "I added dried cherries to the recipe, and they have been a big hit."

The journey that led Peyerk from a manufacturing floor in Macomb County to a small kitchen in Cedar was preceded by a couple of daydreams spaced several years apart.

"We vacationed here during our honeymoon," offers Peyerk. "We thought, wouldn't it be great to get a bed and breakfast going?" But, it wasn't until Peyerk underwent two



Gene and Joan Peyerk have created a unique life for themselves and their two children on a 12-acre farm just outside of Cedar on Michigan's Leelanau Peninsula. Here they prepare to enjoy one of their favorite pastimes—boating on Lake Leelanau.

aortic valve replacements in his mid 30s that he realized that his heart just wasn't into what he was doing.

"I started taking just a few culinary classes at Macomb and really enjoyed them so much, I ended up earning a degree," relates Peyerk, whose three previous degrees were in manufacturing technology, general studies and

industrial supervision. "And, it was the best degree I've gotten."

Dreaming from scratch

After moving to Cedar in 2005, Peyerk worked in the kitchens of a few of the area's more notable restaurants. The problem was that most lay off their kitchen staff in October. Seasonal might be preferable for produce, but

not for employment, and so Peyerk decided to approach the owner of Cedar City Market about using the small kitchen in back to provide the store with a menu of what the chef calls "scratch cooking." That was in April. By summer, Peyerk's fresh baked goods, soups and sandwiches were in demand in the shop, and he started taking his sweeter wares to local farmers' markets as well.

"Up here, organic is real big, and so is seasonal," notes Peyerk, whose pie specialty, in an ode to nearby Traverse City, is Balaton cherry. "It's a cross between sweet and tart," he explains. "It gives the pie an almost brandy wine flavor."

Speaking of wine, Peyerk and his wife hope to see their first vintage in about four to five years. The microclimate that is distinctive to the Leelanau Peninsula, he notes, has made it one of Michigan's premier wine regions. Currently, 15 wineries call it home, and the Peyerks hope to make it 16 one day, along with opening that bed and breakfast. But, in early autumn in northwestern Michigan, daydreams must make way for some practical matters.

"I just ordered 11 cords of wood for our wood burner," relates Peyerk. "This isn't completely paradise; there are still some challenges here and there." ◀

Enjoy holiday festivities at the Macomb Center

When the calendar flips to December, you can almost feel an increase in excitement that can only mean one thing: the holidays are approaching. And the holidays mean the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts is the place to be with its selection of festive concerts and plays. Since holiday calendars fill quickly, now is a good time to book your seats for the following events:

Dec. 2, 3 p.m., **Warren Symphony Christmas Concert**, \$20 adult, \$18 senior citizen, \$5 college students. Free to high school age and younger. The Detroit Lutheran Singers join the Warren Symphony. Bach's "Magnificent" and a variety of Christmas music will be performed.

Dec. 8, 2 and 7 p.m., **A Christmas Carol**, \$40 gold circle, \$35 house, \$30 students and senior citizen, \$15 ages 12 and under. The



Ebenezer Scrooge is just one of the characters who will bring the Christmas spirit to the Macomb Center's stage this holiday season.

Nebraska Theatre Caravan brings this holiday classic to life.

Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m., **Holiday Brass**, \$25 gold circle, \$20 house, \$15 student and senior citizen. The brass players from Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings take center stage for their annual seasonal spectacular.

Dec. 15, 2 and 8 p.m., **Osmond Family Christmas starring the Osmond Brothers**, \$55 pit, \$45 gold circle, \$40 house, \$35 student and senior citizen. The Osmond brothers, Wayne, Merrill, and Jay celebrate their 50th year in the entertainment industry as they bring their love of the holidays to Macomb.

Dec. 16, 3 p.m., **Christmas Mantovani Orchestra & Chorus**, \$45 gold circle, \$40 house, \$35 student and senior citizen. Mantovani is synonymous with taste, style and elegance in music with selections ranging from Tchaikovsky and Strauss, to the festive, "Santa's Sleigh Ride."

Dec. 21, 2 and 7 p.m. and Dec. 22, 2 and 7 p.m., **The Nutcracker**, \$15 adult, \$12 student and senior citizen. This holiday treasure will be performed in its entirety by the Macomb Ballet Company and the Junior Macomb Ballet Company. ◀

Raking leaves

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village of Armada being the other) to receive a DNR grant to reestablish its treed landscape following the destruction wrought by the emerald ash borer. The college used the matching grant to hire professional contractors to remove diseased trees on its 410 acres, identify tree species appropriate for replacement, plant the trees and water and maintain the trees during their first crucial year in the ground, with the later duties awarded to Marine City Nursery.

“Tree cover is an integral component of the ecosystem,” said Richard Bober, director of facilities management, who wrote the grant request and oversaw the project just before retiring last summer. “By making the commitment to maintain and restore the tree canopy cover, the college is raising public awareness and broadening the understanding of the en-

vironmental impact of trees on community well-being.”

The species of trees that were planted in June were chosen because they are known to be hearty, quick-growing or both. Blaze and sugar maples, hybrid elms, locust and conifer were among the 160 trees selected.

“We wanted to recreate and maintain a healthy urban landscape after 31 trees were disposed of in 2005, and another 185 trees at South and Center campuses and on the grounds of M-TEC were determined to be infected,” said Bober. “As it became evident that we were losing some very mature trees, the college recognized that we needed a comprehensive strategy for restoring a healthy, vibrant landscape, and that’s when we became aware of the (DNR’s) grant program.” ◀

Michigan’s take on the Civil War

You’ve heard of Gettysburg, Antietam and Bull Run, no doubt, and of Grant and Lee and Custer. Its battles and its generals are legendary, but in the history of the United States Civil War, 1861 to 1865, what is sometimes overlooked are the significant contributions and sacrifices made by Michigan and its citizens.

Michigan’s Fight for Freedom: The Civil War Era is the next series of exhibits and events



scheduled for the Macomb Cultural Center. Included will be the stories of some of the 90,000 Michigan men who made up the cavalry, infantry, engineering and sharpshooter regiments that participated in the Civil War’s battles. One of Michigan’s most famous Civil War heroes was General George Custer, who spent much of his youth in Monroe and was the commander of the Michigan Brigade, which he dubbed the “Wolverines.”

The ongoing events and exhibits that comprise *Michigan’s Fight for Freedom: The Civil War Era* will be at the Macomb Cultural Center February–May 2008. Alumni who live in Macomb County should receive a brochure with a detailed schedule sometime in January. For more information, call 586.445.7348 or visit www.macomb.culturalcenter.com. ◀

Revisit your college days

Do you miss the campus vitality and sense of belonging that you experienced as a college student? Are you looking for a worthwhile organization that could benefit from a donation of your time? At Macomb, there are a variety of opportunities that can help you reconnect with the college while serving the community as a highly valued volunteer.

The Macomb Center for the Performing Arts has relied for years on volunteers to help people find their seats or pass out programs at its shows and concerts. The Macomb Cultural Center is, likewise, utilizing volunteers to conduct tours and serve as hosts for special programs. Both centers are located on Center Campus in Clinton Township. While committing to as few or as many hours as your schedule allows, you will be rewarded with an insider’s perspective of an upcoming series or event and a sense that you are, again, involved with Macomb from the inside out.

For information on the volunteer opportunities at both the Macomb Cultural Center and the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, contact Gerri Pavone, operations coordinator-group sales & volunteers, at 586.226.4759 or pavoneg@macomb.edu. ◀

Alumni notes

Patricia Parsons, 1974, went on to earn bachelor and master of science degrees in nursing after graduating from Macomb with a nursing degree. She was recently named Special Deliveries Nurse of the Year 2007 at the Good Samaritan Medical Center in West Palm Beach, Fla.



Sandra Evans, 1984, earned an associate degree in nursing from St. Clair County Community College and a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Oakland University. A certified case manager, she is employed as a nurse clinician at Beaumont Hospital and is pursuing a master of science degree in nursing, clinical nurse specialist, at Oakland University.

My Nguyeau, 1993, earned an engineering degree from Wayne State University before moving to California in 2005 and is now pursuing a nursing degree at De Anza College in Cupertino, Calif.

Arlene Malloch, no date given, studied graphic and commercial art and interior design at Wayne State University and the Center for Creative Studies before moving to Florida and opening her own interior design studio in Delray Beach in 1984. In 2005, she opened The Atlantic School of Drapery and Home Design, Inc., a not-for-profit school that teaches drapery and upholstery techniques.

“I enjoyed my years at Macomb and treasure the memories. It was that experience that led me to open (my own) school.”

—Arlene Malloch

Jere Richard Ralph, no date given, earned a degree in philosophy from Grand Valley State University and now resides in Grand Rapids. ◀

News about alumni

Send us a note, and let us know what you’ve been doing since you graduated from Macomb. Please include the year you graduated (or last year attended), advanced degrees earned, job history since leaving Macomb and any other items of professional or personal interest.

E-mail to: alumni@macomb.edu

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Responses will be printed in an upcoming issue of *at Macomb*.

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Cultural center honored for historic series



World War II veteran Edward Morisette shares a memory with his granddaughter Audrey Nardone during the opening ceremony of the *A Legacy of Service and Courage: The World War II Generation*, a series of programs and exhibits that drew more than 10,000 to the Macomb Cultural Center and recently earned three prestigious awards.

Drawing attention to the important contribution it is making to the vitality of the community, the Macomb Cultural Center and its *Legacy of Service and Courage: The World War II Generation* series has earned three prestigious awards from two of Michigan's leading cultural organizations.

The *Legacy of Service* series provided the community with an opportunity to explore what is considered a defining moment in history for the nation and the world. Focusing on the local as well as the global, the series celebrated the strength and courage of both U.S. military personnel and those who kept the home fires burning. The series ran from February through May, with both the opening and closing programs featuring separate videos capturing some of the distinguishing characteristics of the World War II generation.

The opening video presented an overview of the local impact of WW II with personal recollections of Neal Shine, former publisher and editor of the *Detroit Free Press*, who grew up in Detroit during the 1940s. Shine died shortly after the video was completed. The closing video (and ceremony) was planned for Armed Forces Day and served as a tribute to WW II

veterans, with the video also contributing to the local body of materials on WW II.

The *Legacy of Service* series earned the cultural center a 2007 Institutional Achievement Award from the Michigan Museums Association. The award, part of the association's annual Quest for Excellence Awards, recognizes institutional activities and projects that support the mission of member institutions while contributing to the overall field of museum management. Criteria included consideration of how the project benefited the public, what it helped an institution accomplish relative to the resources used and how unique or innovative it was.

The series also earned the college a State History Award for Special Programs/Events from the Historical Society of Michigan and the videos, which were produced by Mort Crim Communications, Inc., earned it a Media Award from the society as well. State History Awards recognize outstanding contributions to the appreciation and understanding of state or local history through collection, preservation and promotion.

"These awards confirm that the Macomb Cultural Center is already serving the com-

munity in a unique and indispensable way," said Linda Wells, Macomb's vice president for Student and Community Relations, who accepted the awards on behalf of the college. "By contributing a rich array of multifaceted

programming to that which already existed, the cultural center is helping Macomb County take its place among Michigan's most interesting places to live and work." ◀

Glisten, sparkle and shine

The popularity of community ice shows will keep some students from the Macomb Culinary Institute busy this winter. Look for the college's frozen artistry at area ice shows, including Grosse Pointe Farms, Plymouth, Frankenmuth, Mt. Clemens and Richmond. Here Macomb culinary students and faculty David Stadler, Chef Jeff Wolf, Anthony Salvatore, Jonathan Heinzman and Andrew Koerber admire the gargoyle sculpture that earned Macomb a first-place, gold medal at last year's Plymouth Ice Spectacular. ◀

Dates for the shows are as follows:

- Grosse Pointe Farms: Jan. 12
- Plymouth: Jan. 18–20
- Frankenmuth: Jan. 25–27
- Mt. Clemens: Feb. 1–3
- Richmond: Feb. 8–10



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