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Spend an evening exploring a variety of STEAM careers with your student

More than 2,500 Macomb County students, sixth through twelfth grades, will be attending Macomb's annual Auto STEAM Days Dec. 5-6 to explore the crossroads where Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics and Manufacturing (STEAM) meet. Parents and guardians, however, have the opportunity to share the experience with their students at a special evening event on Macomb's South Campus.

The Explore Careers in Manufacturing Auto STEAM Evening will be held on Thursday, Dec. 6, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Students are invited to bring their families so they can explore the exciting possibilities in STEAM-related fields together. Participants will learn about job skills that are in high demand, explore apprenticeship opportunities and meet local employers who will discuss what they are looking for in job candidates. Free pizza and hot dogs will be available while supplies last. Participants will also have the chance to win a drone.

Register [here](#) for the Explore Careers in Manufacturing Auto STEAM Evening.

Meet the community's next leaders

One of the first five to graduate with a Community Leadership Certificate from Macomb in May, Natalee Alkes credits what she learned in the program and her experience interning with Muslim Family Services in Hamtramck for giving her a better understanding of the community in which she lives.

"I decided to pursue the leadership certificate so I could see things in a different perspective," says Alkes. "It was an eye-opening process."

Launched last year at Macomb, the Community Leadership Certificate program is offered in collaboration with the Community Learning Partnership of Southeast Michigan. Through site visits, classroom presentations, conversations with community leaders and a community leadership practicum with a human services organization, it provides students with the skills, insight and knowledge necessary to become an effective community leader.

"There was a lot of diversity where I interned and a lot of people from all different kinds of backgrounds," says Alkes. "I think it helped me understand different cultures better than I did before."

Designed to complement a variety of degree programs, the certificate program includes core courses in political science and sociology and elective courses in psychology, sociology and business management. Alkes, who earned an Associate of Arts Degree in General Studies from Macomb, is leaning toward a business career. She is now pursuing a second degree from Macomb in Global Supply Chain Management and believes what she gained from the program is benefitting her both personally and professionally.

"I made new friends that I now call family, says Alkes. "I would definitely recommend this program."



These five students were the first to graduate from Macomb's Community Leadership Certificate program, front row, from left to right: Natalee Alkes, Christina Young, Alaziah Caddell and Angelica Kummer. Back row: Robert Anderson.

Vet tech program earns reaccreditation from American Animal Hospital Association

Students in Macomb's Veterinary Technician Program are learning in one of only six community college teaching facilities in the United States and Canada accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA).

The program's latest three-year accreditation followed a rigorous review of approximately 900 quality standards, including patient care and pain management, staff training and advanced diagnostic services.

"The AAHA accreditation recognizes Macomb's program as among the very best in North America," said Lori Renda-Francis, veterinary technician faculty and program director. "This is a reflection of our faculty, staff, alumni and local veterinary community's commitment to ensuring the excellence of Macomb's program, distinguishing our graduates in the job market and preparing them for career success."

A veterinary technician is often the first in line to examine an animal and discuss their medical needs with its owner. Working under the direction of a licensed veterinarian, technicians also provide nursing care and emergency first aid, monitor and record progress, and provide information on animal care and nutrition to pet owners.

Graduates of Macomb's associate degree program, which is also accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association, have consistently exceeded the average on the Veterinary Technician National Examination, with an average pass rate of 94 percent.

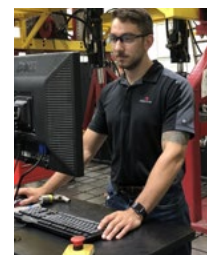
But the real test for accreditation is how well the animals are taken care of.

"At AAHA-accredited practices like Macomb," said Renda-Francis, "pet owners can expect to receive the highest quality of care from well-trained, professional veterinary teams."

College co-op assignment leads to full-time job for Macomb student

James Radjewski graduated from Lakeview High School three years ago and is already managing computer networks and maintaining servers for a Fortune 500 company after Macomb's Career Services placed him there on a cooperative education (co-op) assignment.

"I have enjoyed my time at Macomb and the opportunities it has given me to expand my knowledge in my fields and take classes that work around my schedule," says Radjewski. "Career Services, especially, has helped me build my resume and make myself presentable in a competitive field."



Radjewski is shown here on the job at Meritor, Inc., a global supplier of drivetrains, brake systems and other components for commercial vehicles. He has been there one year and works full time with duties that include configuring, calibrating and diagnosing electrical control systems. He is also taking evening and online classes at Macomb as he progresses towards dual associate degrees in Informational Technology and Electrical Engineering.

"My experience at Meritor has been amazing. It has really showed me what it is like to be self-motivated and how to manage my career professionally and effectively," says Radjewski. "It has provided me a great opportunity to grow with the company and explore every avenue of my education."