



St. Philip's College President Dr. Adena Williams Loston hosted familiar faces for a *Latinas in Mass Media* panel discussion. Shown here are, from left, Jessie Degollado (KSAT), Mayde Gomez (KABB), Loston, Melissa Vela-Williamson (MVW Communications) and Amanda Hernandez (New4SA). SPC Dean for Academic Success Edith Orozco, not pictured, served as moderator.

SPC Celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with Latinas in Mass Media

St. Philip's College celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with a focus on Latinas in mass media through the lens of four powerful voices: Jessie Degollado, Amanda Hernandez, Melissa Vela-Wiliamson and Mayde Gomez.

Jessie Degollado is a familiar face on television. She grew up in Laredo and earned a degree in journalism from Baylor University in Waco. She was an anchor/reporter at KRGV in the Rio Grande Valley. She has been with KSAT since 1984. In 2007, Jessie was inducted into the San Antonio Women's Hall of Fame.

Amanda Henderson is an Emmy-nominated reporter who joined News 4 in 2020.

A proud graduate from the University of Missouri, Amanda has interned at stations in San Antonio and Springfield, Illinois. She covered several topics, including Presidential

and Vice-Presidential visits, a mass shooting at a hospital and an hours-long standoff after a man shot a Sheriff's Deputy.

Amanda, the daughter of military parents, has lived all over the country. Now, back in Texas, her favorite activities are anything outdoors and visiting national parks.

Melissa Vela-Williamson is an internationally-recognized and accredited public relations strategist and certified diversity professional. She uses PR for social good through her firm MVW Communications. Melissa is a national columnist for the Public Relations Society of America, host of the Smart Talk Series podcast and founder of the PR Pro Gear online merchandise shop that elevates communication industry professions. Her book, *Smart Talk: Public Relations Essentials All Pros Should Know* was published in

October.

Mayde Gomez joined the KABB Fox 29 weekday morning news team in 2020. The San Antonio native is a graduate of the University of Texas at Arlington, where she earned a degree in broadcast journalism with a minor in criminal justice. She is a member of the National Association of Hispanic Journalists.

Mayde first worked as a general assignment reporter at Telemundo 60 in San Antonio, then began her broadcasting career at Telemundo 39 in Dallas. She worked as a multi-media journalist for KSAT 12 San Antonio's SA Live.

She moved on to ABC 7 in Los Angeles, then Sacramento, and covered an array of stories including the sentencing trial for convicted serial killer Joseph DeAngelo, also known as the "Golden State Killer." Today, she is part of the Fox 29 team.

alamo.edu/spc/latinas-mass-media

President's Message



Happy 2023!

This year is a special one in the history of St. Philip's College. We are kicking off our 125th anniversary on March 1. We will celebrate

with events throughout the year, so go to alamo.edu/spc/125th-anniversary for more information.

St. Philip's began in 1898 as a church school where a small group of African American girls learned marketable skills – cooking, sewing and caring for the sick. At the time, there were limited opportunities for blacks to advance in the workforce and fewer opportunities for the children and grandchildren of emancipated slaves to build skills.

At the turn of the last century, exclusionary practices in education prohibited students of color, especially women, from obtaining the training necessary for careers that opened doors to the middle class. Consequently, schools, founded especially to educate ethnic, religious and gender-based affiliate groups grew to meet the needs of minoritized populations and support local economies.

St. Philip's began as a private school under the leadership of Bishop James Steptoe Johnston, who also founded Texas Military Institute. Within a few years, the bishop hired Artemisia Bowden to lead the school, which grew from a day school to a community college.

Today, St. Philip's College has the unique distinction of being dually-designated as one of our nation's Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs). And, we're about to reach our 125th milestone. That's a story worth a big celebration!

Adena Williams Loston, Ph.D.
President

LEE High School Team Takes Top Culinary Prize



LEE High School took home the top prize and scholarships to study culinary arts at SPC.

Legacy of Educational Excellence (LEE) High School student chefs, Caragan Hestilow and Aliana Campos, under the leadership of culinary arts teacher, Marnique Jourdan-Davis, won the annual Best Salsa Competition on Oct. 5.

The event, held in the new Tourism, Hospitality and Culinary Arts building, included 11 competitive teams. Pairs were judged on originality, creativity, presentation, taste, and texture. The public was invited to cast People's Choice votes.

FIRST PLACE: Legacy of Educational Excellence (LEE) High School -- Caragan Hestilow and Aliana Campos (Marnique Jourdan-Davis, teacher). Each earned a St. Philip's College scholarship to pursue a culinary arts degree.

SECOND PLACE: East Central High School -- Faith Jasso and Isabella Cruzatte (Courtney Mize, teacher)

THIRD PLACE: Poteet High School -- Roy Durand and Francesca Pena (Laurie Stephens, teacher)

PEOPLE'S CHOICE: Douglas MacArthur High School -- Analiese Alcorta and Mia Valles (John Tamez, teacher)

PEOPLE'S CHOICE: Sandra Day O'Connor High School (Helotes) -- Gilbert Ortiz and Grace Trapane (Jennifer Parks, teacher)

OTHER TEAMS FOLLOW:

Lytle High School – Robert Wagner and Hudson Mask (Johnny Stewart, teacher)

LaVernia High School – Jonathan Schroeder and Paige Galvan (Julie LeStourgeon, teacher)

Byron P. Steele High School (Cibolo) -- John Harris and Ali Reta (Jennifer Kowalik, teacher)

Theodore Roosevelt High School – Vianney Escobedo and Isela Fuentes (Karen Coleman, teacher)

Madison High School – Dylan Manning and Edgar Sanchez (Amanda Way, teacher)

Southside High School -- Alexis Ramos and Mercedes Zamarripa (Angel Machado, teacher)

alamo.edu/spc/lee-hs-salsa

Visit the President's Photo Gallery online

alamo.edu/spc/photo-gallery

St. Philip's College Cuts Ribbon on New SWC Building



Dr. Loston cut the ribbon on the new Welding and Auto Collision Center at Southwest Campus. Also cutting the ribbon are, from left, Rosaland Anderson, President's Advisory Board; Alamo Colleges District Board Trustees Joe Alderete, Jr., Gloria Ray and Roberto Zárate; ACD Chancellor Dr. Mike Flores; and ACD Board Trustees Dr. Lorraine Polido, Dr. Gene Sprague and Leslie Sachanowicz.



St. Philip's College celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Southwest Campus on Sept. 15. The Welding and Auto Collision Center, located at Quintana Road and Harmon Ave., is a 62,000-square-foot new facility.

The \$20 million project is part of the Capital Improvement Bond approved by Bexar County voters in 2017. Construction started in July 2020 on the 1.5-story building that includes three computer labs; two large instructional labs for welding and auto body; two paint booths; a double bay prep area; 120 welding stations; and 32 auto body welding stations.

Students started classes in the building at the start of the Fall 2022 semester. Currently, 170 students are pursuing certificates and degrees in welding and 110 are pursuing certificates and degrees in our auto collision and refinishing program.

"Education is the economic engine that fuels our future," said SPC President Dr. Adena Williams Loston. "This center immediately elevates the learning experiences of our students and supports regional welding and auto collision interests.

SPC also educates welding professionals. SPC Southwest Campus is the only South Texas training facility for Car-O-Liner, a frame repair company. HEB and Union Pacific Railroad are continuing education partners and the college is an American Welding Society (AWS) testing site.



Living In My Skin Portrait Collection has a Permanent Home



Dr. Loston was moderator for a panel discussion featuring portrait subjects, from left, Brandon Logan and Seymour Battle, along with artist Lionel Sosa.

“Living in My Skin” includes 33 oil-on-linen portraits by Lionel Sosa of Black men, ages 10 to 90. Each portrait is displayed with a QR Code that links to an interview of the subject and illuminates race relations in America after the death of George Floyd. It shines a light on what it’s like to be a Black man or boy in San Antonio to bring about a better understanding of each other as a community.

The collection toured San Antonio in 2021 and 2022 and a documentary ran in two parts on KLRN. These items are now part of SPC’s extensive holdings of art and historical artifacts that showcase the college’s 124-year impact in San Antonio.

To learn more about Living in My Skin, visit alamo.edu/spc/lims.

alamo.edu/spc/lims-event



St. Philip’s College Office of Veteran Affairs received the 2022 Veteran Education Excellence Recognition Award (VEERA) – Gold Level by the Texas Veterans Commission. David Salgado, Director, Veterans Education Texas Veterans Commission, presented official recognition to Dr. Adena Williams Loston during a Nov. 1 ceremony in the Welcome Center Veterans Affairs suite.

ST. PHILIP'S THEATRE PRESENTS



TROUBLE IN MIND

by Alice Childress
Directed by Vincent Hardy

APRIL 14-23

Fri & Sat: 7:30 pm | Sun Matinee: 2 pm



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St. Philip's College Royal Court



Mr. St. Philip's - Tony Sanders, Ms. St. Philip's - Brittney Carson, 1st Runner-Up - Valentin Alejandro Morin, 1st Runner-Up - Madison Green, 2nd Runner-Up - Marquavius "Marq" Vaughn, 2nd Runner-Up - Elianna Tapia, ECHS King - Devin Wallace, ECHS Queen - Torrynse Armstrong



St. Philip's College and SPC Early College High celebrated Homecoming Week with sports and activities, including a photo of representatives of the Divine 9, historically black fraternities and sororities.

Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence Talks Cyber, STEM Careers at St. Philip's College



Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence Dr. Stacey Dixon visited St. Philip's College in San Antonio on Dec. 12, 2022 to talk to students about careers in cybersecurity and National Intelligence. Shown here in the front row, from left, are Dr. Dixon; SPC President Dr. Adena Williams Loston; Edith Orozco, Dean for Academic Success, Applied Science & Technology - MLK Campus; and Prof. Haydar Sahin. Behind are St. Philip's College students, including SPC Early College High School students.

Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence (PDDNI) Dr. Stacey Dixon visited St. Philip's College on Dec. 12, 2022.

PDDNI Dixon spoke to SPC students, including SPC Early College High School students, about careers in cybersecurity and national intelligence. She encouraged students to pursue STEM careers.

"There are a lot of different professions that contribute to our work in the Intelligence Community, and STEM is one of the fields where we are trying to hire more people with these backgrounds, especially in cybersecurity," said PDDNI Dixon.

SPC, one of our nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), serves predominantly underrepresented populations that are often underrepresented in STEM career fields.

Attendees included students either currently pursuing degrees and certificates in cybersecurity or interested in cyber careers. Student club members from Cyber Tigers and Cyber Cubs attended along with cybersecurity faculty.

After hearing about PDDNI Dixon's journey to her current position, a Q&A session was held, followed by a tour of the Saint Artemisia Bowden Building. Among student attendees were Isaiah Flores, a freshman recently featured in a television interview about cybersecurity, and Sydney Jackson, an alumnus of SPC and SPC ECHS currently studying cybersecurity at the University of Texas at San Antonio, who graduated from high school and college with acceptance letters from 20 universities.

The 25,000-square-foot, two-story, Saint Artemisia Bowden Building opened on Aug. 18, 2022. It houses the Business Information Solutions Department, Corporate and Entrepreneurial Training Center, and the Microsoft Testing Center for Microsoft Office Specialists.

An on-site cyber range gives faculty the flexibility to mimic cyber scenarios in a variety of industries, preparing students for many career pathways. Programming supports the high demand for cybersecurity graduates to fill positions in San Antonio, the nation's second-largest cyber hub, and supports the college's plans to offer a Bachelor of Applied Technology degree in Cybersecurity in the future.

SPC President Dr. Adena Williams Loston, who shared some of her experiences at NASA, where she served as the Director of Education and Special Assistant for Suborbital and Special Orbital Projects Directorate for the Goddard Space Flight Center, Wallops Flight Facility and Chief Education Officer for NASA., led the tour.

"There are high wage, high demand, cybersecurity jobs in San Antonio and across the U.S.," Dr. Loston said. "And, I want St. Philip's College graduates to fill every one of them."



ALAMO COLLEGES DISTRICT St. Philip's College

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Proceeds from CultureFest help fund student scholarships.
alamo.edu/spc/culturefest






St. Philip's College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate degrees and certificates. Contact the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of St. Philip's College.

Upcoming Events

For more information on upcoming events and to receive the latest information on campus announcements follow us on social media.



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DIGITAL EXPERIENCE**

