

# What's News



### Happy Eightieth Birthday, Queens College!

#7

Today, Wednesday, October 11, marks 80 years to the day that Queens College first opened its doors to the class of 1941. It would have been earlier, but a strike by painters forced the college to delay opening for about a month. An early article about the college in the *New York Times* notes that President Paul Klapper told the students, "We are the pioneers in a new institution. It has no history to look back to, but it can look forward to progress." And

what progress the college has made. To learn more about the achievements of QC students and faculty over the last 80 years, go to <u>qc.cuny.edu/80</u>. And to read Governor Andrew Cuomo's Special Proclamation in celebration of the college's decades of achievements, <u>click here</u>.



### **President Meets with U.S. Secretary of Education DeVos**

In his role as vice chair of the Board of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU), President Félix V. Matos Rodríguez (r.) accompanied HACU's Executive Director Dr. Antonio Flores (l.) to meet with U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos. Among other topics, they discussed the importance of protecting DACA students and workers; providing additional funding and support for Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HIS), such as Queens College; the importance of teacher training for Latino students in the K–12 system; and supporting schools in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria.

During the trip the president also had the chance to drop in on Representative Joseph Crowley '85 (r.) to discuss DACA, key higher education issues, and to thank him for his long-standing support of Queens College.



#### Wow! #4



The Chaney-Goodman-Schwerner Clock Tower is named for the three young men who were murdered in Mississippi during the summer of 1964, including QC student Andrew Goodman. Paul Simon '63 would later write a song about him, "He Was My Brother."

#### Homecoming Canceled in Deference to 80th Anniversary Events

It's possible to have too much of a good thing. With a full schedule of activities surrounding the 80th anniversary of Queens College, the campus is even busier than usual. Due to conflicts with anniversary celebrations, all Homecoming events scheduled for Saturday, October 14, are canceled. All registration fees will be refunded in full. We appreciate your support and hope to see you on campus soon. The Freedom Walk, which was to happen in conjunction with Homecoming, is being postponed to a different day.



#### **Building Futures**

Growing up in a Spanish-speaking home in Queens, Meldryck Parraga had the values of perseverance and hard work instilled in him from a young age. His father, a native of Ecuador, worked as a painter, and his mother, born in the Dominican Republic, was a hairdresser who cleaned houses to earn extra money. But Parraga also had a passion for soccer and worked hard at the sport from the age of 13, playing with clubs in Flushing and competing against leagues throughout the borough. At Bronx Community College, where he earned his associate's degree, Parraga demonstrated his talent on the soccer team and received its Sportsman of the Year

Award. <u>Click here</u> to read more.

### Tech Incubator Offers Two Events

The Tech Incubator @ QC is sponsoring several events in the next few weeks. One is a twosession class entitled Design Thinking Crash Course 201, which takes place on October 13 and



27, 4:30–7:30 pm. Design Thinking is an empathy-driven, human-centered

approach that is used to solve the world's greatest challenges, as well as more simple problems that drive people crazy. The process has been applied at firms such as Google, Apple, Samsung, and Disney. For more details and to get tickets (free for QC students), <u>click here</u>.

On Monday, October 16, from noon to 2 pm, the Incubator, along with the Computer Science Department and Veterans Support Services, will present the Queens College Technology and Finance Career Panel. At this special luncheon event the panel will address such issues as what it takes to get a finance or technology job today and how to keep your skills relevant during a time of specialization. The panel will be moderated by OweYaa, a NYC-based social enterprise that matches employers to veterans and military spouse candidates. The event is open to the public with an RSVP: <u>click here</u>

#### **Raising Awareness of Breast Cancer**

The Student Association invites all members of the QC family to join them for several events to raise awareness of breast cancer and also raise money for research on this disease.



Fundraising events will be held during free hour on Wednesday, October 11 on the Quad and on Monday, October 16, in front of the Dining Hall. There also will be a Breast Cancer Awareness Walk on Sunday, October 15. For more information and to register for an event, <u>click here</u>.

## **Heard Around Campus**



**Harry Feiner** (Drama) notes that his latest Off-Broadway production (he has two running now) of *The Violin* at 59 East 59 is getting some nice notices, including a terrific mention in the *New York Times*: " . . . the elderly Gio (Robert LuPone) spends his evenings sewing in his East Village tailor's shop. (Harry Feiner designed the remarkable, ultrarealistic set, from its scuffed linoleum floor to its begrimed ceiling, with piles of clothes and various sharp objects scattered in between.)" . . . .



Harry Feiner's set for The Violin

**Kimiko Hahn's** latest collection of poetry, *Brain Fever* (W.W. Norton.) is now available in paperback . . . **Michael Singer** '77, the VP of Marketing & Publicity for Jerry Bruckheimer Films and Television, recently wrote to tell us that he was accepted for membership in the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences' Class of 2017. In April Michael published his 27th book about film, *Disney Pirates: The Definitive Anthology Collection* (Disney Editions), "And I couldn't have done any of it without the QC English Department!" . . . **Jason Tougaw** (English) was recently



Kimiko Hahn





**Charles Wang '67**, the co-founder of Computer Associates International, Inc. and co-owner and alternate governor of the New York Islanders, returned to campus on October 4 to meet with students. The event was part of the Professionals on Campus series run by the Office of Institutional Advancement.

# Exhibits

The Fabric of Cultures: Systems in the Making brings together artists, designers, CUNY students and local communities to reflect on the art of making, craftsmanship and technology in today's globalized world. The exhibition calls attention to larger systems at play that influence the state of fashion, craft and aesthetics constantly under development and in flux. It considers the *new Made in Italy* in a transnational context and in conversation with other cultures, traditions and technologies. <u>Read more</u>.





80 Years of Queens College in Faculty Publications, which features publications selected by QC faculty as their best and most important work, is being presented by the Queens College Art Library in honor of the college's 80th anniversary. The exhibit runs through February 2, 2018, in the Barham Rotunda Gallery in Rosenthal Library. Information: suzanna.simor@qc.cuny.edu

# Conferences

## The Redress Movement for the Victims of Japanese Military Sexual Slavery

The forced mobilization of an estimated 80,000 to 200,000 Asian women to Japenese military brothels



during the Asia-Pacific War (1932-1945) was one of the most heinous and brutal war crimes in history. These victims of military sexual slavery have been refered to as "comfort women," a euphemism originally used by Japanese soldiers. The Japanese government has yet to make a sincere apology and compensation to the victims. <u>*Read more.*</u>

The second annual Andrew W. Mellon Conference, **Sustaining Diverse and Inclusive Communities**, will be held on campus November 13–14. The program can be found here <u>http://mellondiversity.qc.cuny.edu/</u>. It features an exciting selection of speakers and activities to advance the diversity goals of the college and university. For more information and to register, <u>click here</u>.

## See It Now

