

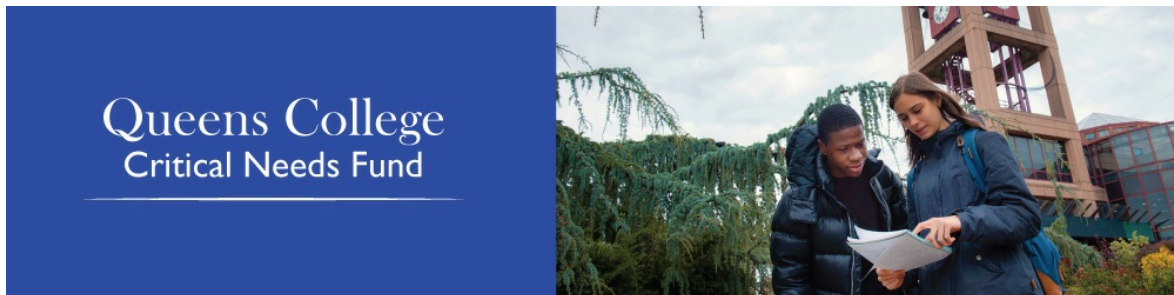


Discimus ut serviamus: **We learn so that we may serve.**

#75

## What's News

### New Fund To Address College's Critical Needs



The coronavirus pandemic has had unprecedented impact on Queens College. Students lost employment, internships, and hands-on learning opportunities; faculty shifted their classes online, adopting unfamiliar technology on short notice; and the administration has had to face challenges that range from sanitizing facilities around the clock to navigating through a likely budget crisis.

In response, the Queens College Foundation (QCF) has established a Critical Needs Fund. QCF Chairman Lee Fensterstock '68 and Queens College Interim President William Tramontano announced the new fund and its purpose in a [letter to alumni](#) and friends of the college. The fund will be used to provide scholarships, paid internships, and support for existing programs and opportunities as well as new initiatives set forth by the administration and foundation.

"The time has truly come for us to do our part for the institution that has served us so well," noted Fensterstock.

To make contributions to the Critical Needs Fund, go to [bit.ly/QC-CNF](https://bit.ly/QC-CNF) or text a

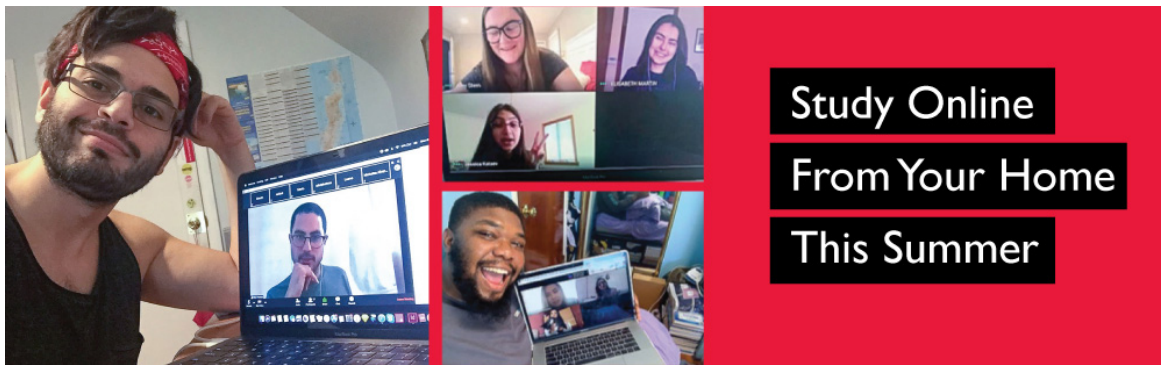
pledge to 646-846-5420.



Interim President William Tramontano



QCF Chairman Lee Fensterstock '68



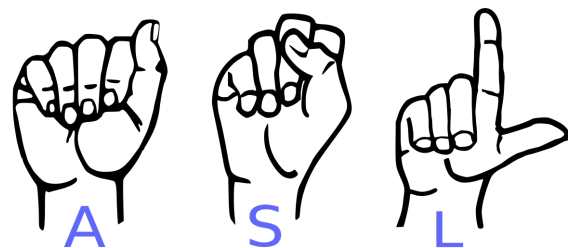
## Online at QC This Summer

Courses in notably timely subjects will make their debut at QC this summer, when all material will be presented remotely, **allowing students to take classes online from the safety and convenience of home.**

Disease in the Past, ANTH 275, from the Anthropology Department, will look at environmental factors in disease, the role of inequality, economic dislocation, and global trends confronted by communities and families today and for the foreseeable future.

Urban Studies is adding two courses that explicitly concern COVID-19. Researching New York, URBST 732, a graduate class, will introduce virtual and distance methodologies useful for community-engaged fieldwork and research in a pandemic. Contemporary Political Issues in New York City, URBST 265(02), will address policy, political, and economic issues that arose with the pandemic's impacts on families, essential services, jobs, and the urban safety net.

Introduction to American Sign Language, LCD 1913, which Linguistics and Communications Disorders began offering this spring and will present again this summer, benefits from the visual technologies available online. The course will go toward satisfying QC's language





requirements.

These are just a few of the scheduled courses available this summer; more will be described in future issues of QView. In the meantime, go to the [Summer Session page](#) to learn more.

## Co-curricular Events Are Zooming

**The Office of Student Development & Leadership**

**M** Monday Meditation with Chona  
10:00-11:00am

**T** Strength & Conditioning with Wilpower Fitness  
1:00-2:00pm

**W** Zumba with Jazs  
1:00-2:00pm

**Th** Strength and conditioning with Wilpower Fitness  
1:00-2:00pm

**F** Friday Night Live Party with DeeJay Unico  
8:00-10:00pm

**Zoom Meeting ID:**  
**951-276-3466**  
All sessions will be recorded

Follow our social media channels for regular updates:  
 qc\_studentlife

Enhancing Co-curricular Activities During Your Remote Learning Experience

The Office of Student Development and Leadership has scheduled recurring activities designed for remote participation. The schedule offers something for everyone.

**Monday Meditation with Chona** (Mondays, 10 am-11 am)

**Strength & Conditioning with Wilpower Fitness** (Tuesdays, 1 pm-2 pm)

**Zumba with Jazs** (Wednesdays, 1 pm-2 pm)

**Strength & Conditioning with Wilpower Fitness** (Thursdays, 1 pm-2 pm)

**Friday Night Live Party with DeeJay Unico** (Fridays, 8 pm-10 pm)

All sessions take place via Zoom; meeting ID is 951-276-3466. Sessions will be recorded.

## Wanted: Students To Elevate Education



Working for **Elevate Education**—a global provider of study skills programs—enables college students to develop their presentation skills while giving middle and high school students the tools to succeed in school. Elevate Education’s workshops cover time management, memory mnemonics, growth mindset, and note taking. Presenters earn \$40 to \$50 an hour on a flexible schedule, gain valuable experience, and make a difference in the lives of others.

Interested college students can learn more about opportunities with Elevate Education by joining a virtual information session on Tuesday, April 28, or Thursday, April 30 (various times available); [click here to RSVP](#).

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## PitchFest Coming to a Virtual Conclusion

The Tech Incubator at Queens College (TIQC) will hold its second annual PitchFest virtually this year, with seven semifinalists presenting their ideas in front of an industry panel and a “live” audience. A total of \$15,000 will be awarded to the top three winners as seed funding to help launch and grow their startups. Those who attend the event, which will take place on **April 30 from 6 to 8 pm**, will have the opportunity to engage in it via polls, Q&A, and live chat.



PitchFest is a yearly competition modeled after *Shark Tank* and similar contests designed to give entrepreneurs a platform to pitch to investors and stakeholders. It is open to any innovator who lives in New York City, as well as nonresidents affiliated with QC (faculty, staff, researchers, students, alums). Entries are encouraged from any field or industry but must demonstrate a technical component. During the first round, which took place in the fall, would-be tech entrepreneurs submitted their business ideas electronically. The grand prize winner will be awarded \$7,500, with second place receiving \$5,000 and third place earning \$2,500.

Last year’s first-place winner, Su Sanni, CEO of Dollaride, has raised seed funding, launched his business, and was featured in a *New York Times* article. “I am proud of our relentless entrepreneurs for continuing to follow their passions and still be productive in the face of adversity,” said Ying Zhou, executive director of the Tech Incubator. “The TIQC team is determined to advance ingenuity in business through digital platforms. The PitchFest 2019-2020 could not represent that more. This event will be an engaging opportunity for participants as well as viewers. Join us as we celebrate innovation hatched in Queens.”

To register to view the event, [click here](#).

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## Chancellor Marks First Anniversary at Helm of the University



"One year into my tenure, I am prouder than ever to lead CUNY," Chancellor Felix V. Matos Rodríguez--seen here with his cabinet, top row, third from left--told *AM New York*. Congratulations to the chancellor, who graduated from the QC presidency last May 1.

Photo courtesy of AM New York

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## Tutoring Programs Go the Distance

The college's tutoring services have moved online to support students who need help.

### Writing Center

The Writing Center offers writing tutoring online via Google Meet. The center utilizes QC's G-Suite services—to which all undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and staff, have access—to provide a fairly smooth service for students seeking tutoring support. Undergraduate and graduate writing consultants have, for the most part, transitioned well to online tutoring. Students can make appointments through the QC Navigate App or visit the Writing Center's online waiting room. Services are offered Monday through Thursday, 10 am to 6 pm.

## The Writing Center

The center offers support for all EC1, EC2, and Writing Intensive classes. In addition, it provides support for academic and professional personal statements.

For more information, see the [Writing Center's website](#).

### HSI-STEM Mentor Program

Currently, the HSI-STEM Program is also running its support services through Google Meet. Students can access Google Meet via their BlackBoard sections or through a direct email from the peer mentor(s) assigned to that section through the [this link](#):



Once in Google Meet, students are able to work one on one, or in a small group setting, with the peer mentors assigned to their course or discipline.



Peer mentors are assigned to introductory STEM courses in biology, chemistry, environmental sciences, geology, math, and physics at Queens College and Queensborough Community College. The transition of the peer model to distance learning has been mostly seamless; a fair number of students are engaged outside of official class times.

Support services are offered on the following schedule:

Day of the Week	Time
Monday – Thursday	9 am – 8 pm
Friday	9 am – 6:30 pm
Saturday – Sunday	1 pm – 3 pm

For more information, visit the [HSI-STEM website](#).

HSI-STEM is part of a larger project funded by the U.S. Department of Education through its Hispanic-Serving Institutions STEM program. The project’s aim is to improve the success of Hispanic and low-income students in STEM fields.

### Help with Math

Information about online/remote math tutoring for the remainder of the Spring 2020 Semester can be found [here](#).

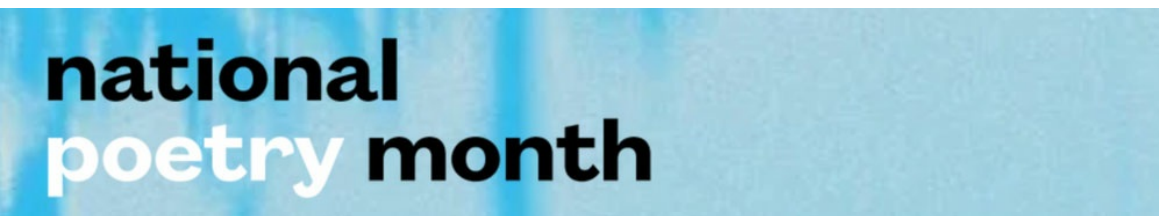
Please check that page frequently, as information there is subject to change at any time.

To view that page, students MUST sign in using their Queens College email/CAMS account.

On the first (Google sign-in) page, students should enter their email address, **including** @qc.cuny.edu. On the second (Queens College log-in) page, students should enter just their user name, **without** @qc.cuny.edu, and password.

### Other Tutoring

Support is available for other subjects, such as French, German, Greek, and Italian. The center offers limited support in accounting, business, and economics. The center also offers support for various statistics courses at the college.



### Poetry Month, Continued

This week: works by QC’s Ammiel Alcalay, Ryan Black, and Roger Sedarat

### For Lee Konitz: 1927-2020

Between sets with the nonet

at Stryker's on 86<sup>th</sup> street  
you once told me & Dick  
how bugged your mother got  
whenever you let her know  
how much Mussolini's daughter  
loved to hear you blow—  
that was a long long time ago  
but so much has been condensed  
that it's only now I find out  
Dick didn't simply kill his wife  
& then himself but that there  
was a struggle & she was  
first to strike a fatal blow:  
what might it even mean now  
to be stricken or protected,  
to know who struck the first blow,  
now that you, too, Lee, no matter  
how many glorious bars you blew  
or how many good long years you  
lived, have left the set for good?

--Ammiel Alcalay (Classical, Middle Eastern, and Asian Languages and Cultures)

In **Duke Ellington, Live at the Aquacade** by Ryan Black (English), a concert in Queens is a prelude to changes in the borough.

### **Portrait of the Iranian-American Poet in the Sufi Mirror**

As the mystics did it, polishing rough steel  
to blur distinctions between subject and object  
the postmodern Persian bored out of his gourd  
sequestered for weeks with Covid-19  
uncut remnants of his hair turning his head  
itself into the dreaded spiked molecule  
a dark star penetrating through the universe  
he toiled with his soul like Hopkins' shook foil  
an actual sheet of *Reynolds' Heavy Duty Aluminum*  
dropped while yelling at his wife and kids  
"I'm trying to cook us dinner!"  
Wadding up 20 feet of wrinkled silver  
he thought he caught a glimpse  
of his current imperfect frustration  
and the smooth illusion he'd been  
like Rumi's mirror God once held  
as ultimate answer before it shattered  
and everyone picked up a piece  
convinced they'd captured the whole  
of truth, blind to their own fragmentation.  
Ordinarily he'd never entertain such delusions  
of his own or God's grandeur, but sunlight struck  
just as he tried un-crinkling the shiny sheet  
catching a glimpse of himself belonging  
to the greater love of his family  
for whom he'd just gone shopping  
holding his breath in aisles of Shop Rite  
pausing in prayer for the harried cashier  
who when asked told him at least for today  
she's not dying, her eyes beyond the mask  
full of terror after seeing the bigger picture  
of the sick world to which he too belonged  
albeit with greater privilege, plagued with guilt

in his newly renovated kitchen  
where a cold spring breeze  
blew through his window  
swaying the wafting foil  
like a whisper out of time.

--Roger Sedarat (English)

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### **Free Food Program Introduces Kosher Meals, Adds to Halal Options for Ramadan**



The New York City Department of Education has expanded its free meal program for children and adults.

Kosher options are now provided at designated food hubs in Brooklyn, Queens, and Staten Island. These meals are produced in partnership with a certified kosher distributor and meet USDA nutrition guidelines.

Halal meals have already been on the menu at the DOE's more than 400 food hubs. In response to Ramadan, which started last week, halal supplies will be increased at 32 locations in neighborhoods with significant Muslim populations.

Vegetarian food is offered at all sites in this program. Whatever the cuisine, three meals a day can be picked up by anyone, to be eaten off-site, Monday through Friday; no registration or identification is required. For details, [click here](#); scroll down for separate entries on kosher and halal food.

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### **Macaulay Alumna Wins NSF Graduate Research Fellowship**

Former QC Macaulay honors student Samantha Chiu '17 has been accepted into the National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship Program.

A national competition, the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program issues about 2,000 awards to incoming and first-year graduate students in research-centered programs. Applicants must write a personal statement and propose a research project. The best applicants in each of the 11 broad scientific fields that are eligible become NSF Graduate Fellows; they receive a graduate stipend of \$34,000 a year for three years, opportunities for international research and professional development, and freedom to conduct their own research at any accredited university in the nation. The program also grants the student's university \$12,000 a year.



Chiu, who was a psychology major at QC, will be attending University of Iowa's Cognition (Psychological and Brain Sciences) PhD program in the fall and her area of study is psycholinguistics—the study of the relationships between linguistic behavior and psychological processes, including the process of language acquisition. She will focus her research on speech processing and speech production. Upon completing the program, Chiu hopes to continue research as either a professor or a research scientist in music, speech



processing, and speech production.

## Helping Stroke Victims

One particular area she hopes to study in the future is aphasia, a condition in which people lose their power of speech after a stroke. Typically, speech therapy is used to help patients recover and re-learn to speak. An alternative approach—melodic intonation therapy—uses music and sung speech to rehabilitate language. Chiu is especially interested in this field because she grew up in a bilingual household and played the piano.

“From learning to differentiate between different phoneme sounds such as /b/ and /p/, to trying to understand how we identify a single word heard from the lexicon of words we have ever encountered, it's amazing how speech perception even occurs and makes studying speech perception quite difficult,” said Chiu. “Still, it's important to study speech perception, as many populations struggle with their native language (dyslexia, aphasia, learning disorders) and many more struggle to learn a second language.”

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## Digital Libraries Free Up Information

The ability to conduct research remotely has never been more important than it is now. In honor of National Library Week (April 19-25), CNN provided links to seven libraries in the United States that can be accessed online for free; *QView* visited all of them.

The Digital Public Library of America <https://dp.la/> has a collection of over 37,000,000 images, videos, sounds, and texts—including more than 6,300 ebook titles—drawn from cultural institutions across the country. The DPLA also holds online exhibitions, such as *America during the 1918 Influenza Pandemic* <https://dp.la/exhibitions/1918-influenza>, which has particular resonance at the moment.

Interested in shipwrecks, or the port areas from which ill-fated crews embarked? Make a stop at the Nautical Archaeological Digital Library <https://nadi.tamu.edu/>, a joint project of Texas A&M University's Center for the Study of Digital Libraries and the J. Richard Steffy Ship Reconstruction Laboratory. “Archaeology is public or it is nothing,” announces the NADL, which was launched in 2006 with the support of a three-year National Science Foundation grant. To view historically accurate, scaled-down reproductions of 17th-, 18th-, and 19th-century vessels, go to Texas A&M's ship model lab <https://nautarch.tamu.edu/model/>.

You don't have to be a spy to browse in the Freedom of Information Act Electronic Reading Room <https://www.cia.gov/library/readingroom/>, maintained by the Central Intelligence Agency. Recent FOIA releases range from a 97-document survey of the *CIA's animal partners* to a *collection of summaries* presented to Harry S Truman during his presidency, when the intelligence agency began this daily practice.

Apples and cider, white whales, dinosaurs, and natural history books written, co-written, or introduced by Theodore Roosevelt are among the entries at the *Biodiversity Heritage Library*. *Black-and-white images from BHL holdings* can be printed out for hand coloring by children or adults in need of distraction.

An initiative of the Getty Center and Villa, the *Getty Publications Virtual Library* comprises more than 300 books and catalogs on art, architecture, antiquities, and other topics. Materials can be read online or downloaded; additional titles are available for sale.

The History of Medicine Division of the *National Library of Medicine* houses material related to health and disease; holdings represent a thousand years of

knowledge and come from all over the world. [Digitized collections include the papers of prominent scientists and doctors](#), medical images—some rather alarming—from the 15th century to the present, and clinical reports on a wide range of topics. Recommended for students and professors of English: an exhibition on [Shakespeare and the four humors](#). (No, we're not talking about funny business.)

Last but assuredly not least, the [New York Public Library](#) adds new materials—prints, photographs, maps, manuscripts, streaming video, and more—every day on almost every conceivable topic. Among the treats for local history buffs are New York City photo collections, such as an [extensive group of images taken from the 1870s to the 1970s](#). See if you can find your neighborhood, or the one where your parents grew up.

## In Memoriam: Michael Cogswell

Musician, scholar, and archivist Michael Cogswell, who passed away on April 20 of complications of bladder cancer, will be forever remembered for converting a jazz legend's unoccupied home into the internationally celebrated landmark that is the Louis Armstrong House Museum (LAHM).

Born in Buffalo, New York, in 1953, Cogswell spent much of his childhood in rustic parts of Fairfax County, Virginia. Playing alto saxophone in a school ensemble and in a rock group with similarly inclined teens would change the course of his life. He matriculated at



the University of Virginia but left after three semesters and devoted nearly two decades to performing with bands.

Returning to UVA, Cogswell completed his bachelor's degree in music. Next stop was the University of North Texas, where he created his own jazz history track in the musicology master's program, writing his thesis on saxophonist and free jazz exponent Ornette Coleman. Hired to organize the Louis Armstrong Archives at Queens College, Cogswell earned a Master of Library Science at QC and subsequently assumed responsibility for making Satchmo's house into a museum.

"What was originally a stack of 72 shipping cartons filled with Louis Armstrong's vast personal collection of home-recorded tapes, scrapbooks, photographs, manuscripts, and memorabilia was transformed into a monumental research archives, eventually holding 11 collections of Armstrong material," recalled [Cogswell in the obituary he wrote for himself](#), posted, appropriately, on LAHM's Facebook page. Leaving his saxophone in its case, Cogswell dedicated all his energies to the museum, which opened in 2003, serving as its executive director until his illness prompted him to step down 15 years later.

"Before the job, there were two people in this marriage," Cogswell's widow, Dale Van Dyke, told the [New York Times for the obituary by QC alumnus](#)

**Richard Sandomir** it published on April 25. "When Louis came into Michael's life, he came into my life, and all of a sudden there were three people in this marriage, and that was fine with me."

Lewis Porter, founder and former director of the Master's Program in Jazz History and Research at Rutgers University-Newark, recalled Cogswell as an outstanding steward of Armstrong's home and legacy. "Under his guidance, the house and the collection became world famous, the subject of news stories in *Newsweek* (when Hillary Clinton came to visit), the *New York Times*, and of course all the jazz press. He did an unbelievable job at fundraising, culminating in groundbreaking in the spring of 2017 of an entire new building that will locate the archive and a performance center right across the street from the house."

In addition to his wife, whom he met at UVA, Cogswell is survived by two brothers, Frank B. Cogswell and Charles H. Cogswell. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, funeral services are postponed. Donations in Michael Cogswell's name may be made to the Louis Armstrong House Museum [www.louisarmstronghouse.org](http://www.louisarmstronghouse.org).

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## Heard Around Campus



**Alfred Morabia** (Barry Commoner Center) is among the experts cited in a *CityLab* article, "To Combat Coronavirus, Scientists Are Also **Breaking Down Barriers**" . . . . alumnus **Ray Romano** narrates a **public service announcement** from Northwell Health that expresses gratitude to health care workers battling coronavirus . . . . **Netanel Sapir '19** has been named a City University Jonas E. Salk Scholar. The award includes an \$8000 scholarship toward medical school or graduate studies in biomedical research.

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**The Q View is produced by the  
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**Comments and suggestions for future news items are welcome.  
Send them to [jay.hershenson@qc.cuny.edu](mailto:jay.hershenson@qc.cuny.edu).**