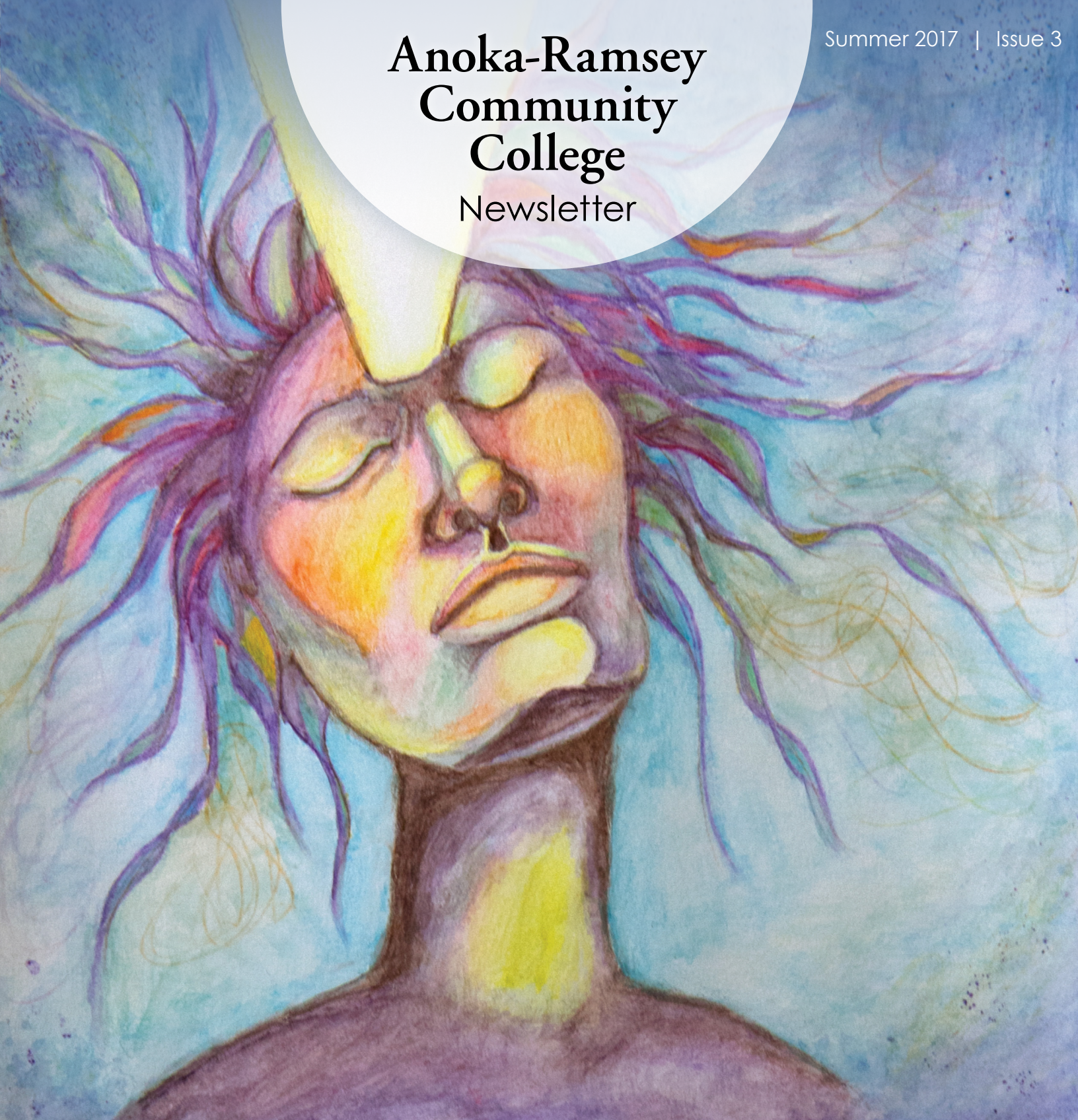


Anoka-Ramsey Community College Newsletter



This Issue: 50 Years of Nursing • Lasting Impressions • Biomedical Technology • Undergraduate Research • Outstanding Athletics



ANOKA-RAMSEY
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



On the Cover

“3rd Eye”

By Rachel Longfield

The cover art by Rachel Longfield was featured in the *Origins Art Exhibition*, a student showcase produced in the Visual Arts program. Now a graduate of Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Longfield created “3rd Eye” using watercolor pencils.

“I get a lot of inspiration from the natural world and how humans interact with nature. It’s interesting to think about open-mindedness—seeing things differently and looking at life from a new perspective,” says Longfield.

Since she began working toward her Associate of Fine Arts degree, Longfield has grown in her skills and talents. She hopes to work in an elementary school one day, inspiring young art students.

“I definitely feel like I’ve found who I am as an artist while I’ve been here.”

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Kent Hanson, Ph.D.
President

Kent Hanson holds a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from the University of North Dakota (UND), a Master's Degree in Human Resource Administrator from Central Michigan University, and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from UND.

Prior to becoming president of Anoka Technical College and Anoka-Ramsey Community College in 2013, he served as interim president of Riverland Community College, and provost and vice president for academic and student affairs at Northland Community and Technical College.

The President's Message

In the last newsletter, I wrote about Anoka-Ramsey being honored as one of the Aspen Institute Top 10 community colleges in the nation. This culminated in March as I and several other representatives of the college traveled to Washington, D.C., to accept our college's award. It was a proud and humbling experience for us to be recognized and in the company of such high-quality community and technical colleges across the nation. My congratulations to Lake Area Technical Institute in Watertown, SD, for taking home the top prize.

Anoka-Ramsey's undergraduate research initiative has become a strength of the college, culminating in the hosting of the CCURI Spring 2017 Colloquium (Community College Undergraduate Research Initiative) in April, as well as the OSCARS (Outstanding Scholarship, Creative Activities and Research Symposium) event, which celebrated Anoka-Ramsey's own student research projects.

This year brought much success for our athletic teams, with both the Men's and Women's Basketball Teams finishing fourth in their respective national tournaments. That success has continued, with the Women's Softball Team and the Women's Soccer Team both rated sixth in the country. Being a sports enthusiast myself, I am proud and supportive of all of our athletes, and appreciate how participation in sports can add to the vibrancy of a student's experience in college.

The Cambridge Campus recently hosted its second annual "Spring Fling," a family-oriented event for hundreds of community constituents, which included a 5K race, Health Fair, and Earth Friendly Fair. And of course, the commencement ceremonies allow us to celebrate what Anoka-Ramsey does best: giving our students a solid educational foundation to move on to the next phase of their lives, whether it be transferring to a four-year institution or transitioning into the workforce.

There are many other events I could mention which celebrate our students. But what is certain is that I couldn't be more proud of our faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication to helping our students succeed. And as we prepare for the coming school year, I want to thank you, also, for your support of the college and our students.

If you have an Anoka-Ramsey story to share, please tell us!



50 Years of Nursing

Anoka-Ramsey Nursing Program Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Nursing at Anoka-Ramsey Community College consistently ranks at the top of Minnesota's Nursing programs. The program offers both clinical and classroom experience to students. Since its inception in 1967, the Nursing program has graduated more than 3,000 students. Two special events will be held to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Nursing program, including a dinner on Thursday, Sept. 21, on the Coon Rapids Campus, and a daytime event on Saturday, April 21, on the Cambridge Campus.

Turning the Tassel

On May 1, 2017, the first students to complete the Minnesota Alliance for Nursing Education (MANE) program from Anoka-Ramsey Community College walked during commencement, turning their tassels. They graduated from Metropolitan State University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

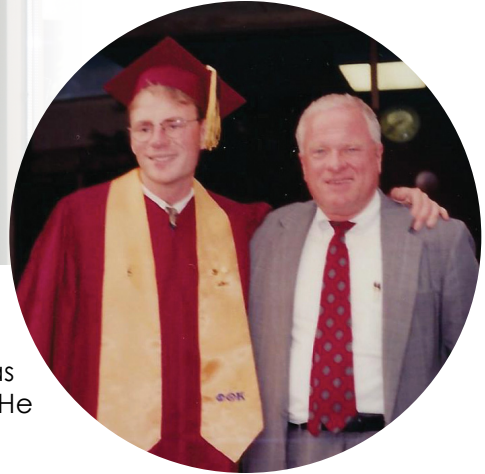
The MANE program brings together community colleges and universities to increase access to a baccalaureate degree for nursing students in Minnesota. MANE offers a comprehensive four-year curriculum designed to answer the growing demand for highly-educated nurses in the workforce. Anoka-Ramsey joined the program in 2014, producing its first graduating class this year.

"Watching our amazing and dedicated students achieve their goal and move on with a promising future touches my heart and makes me extremely proud of them," says Anoka-Ramsey Dean of Nursing Sandra Kohler. "Knowing what this program can do for students and how it changes lives, motivates me to strive to make the program even better for the next graduating class."



A Conversation with Patrick McVary

Before he graduated from Anoka-Ramsey Community College in 1994, Patrick McVary made a connection with a man behind the scenes. An avid theatre enthusiast, Damon Patton was working backstage to help produce the theatre productions. He also took time to mentor the students who crossed his path.



“Mentorship has been a key to my success, without a doubt,” says McVary. “When I was at Anoka-Ramsey, I met a man who became the most cherished mentor in my life.”

Looking back on his community college years, McVary remembers starting out as a “wayward” student. At 21 years old, he didn’t know what he wanted to do, but he was ready for the chance to do something great. Patton, who had built a successful career in software development, showed McVary the business side of the profession. In the process, he taught him discipline, accountability and professionalism.

“Anoka-Ramsey is the place where I found the roots of my self-discovery,” says McVary.

Those insights helped McVary design his own career. He doubled majored in entrepreneurship and marketing at the University of Saint Thomas, and he started a commercial painting business. His career path brought him back to Anoka-Ramsey as director of admissions. Through his work assisting international students, he found a passion for transactional law.

In 2007, the alumnus earned a law degree, which allowed him to combine his strengths in business, counseling, philosophy and writing, in the service of

others. Now, he not only works as principal at McVary Law Group, but he’s also employed as a consultant at UnitedHealth Group. He credits his success to college instructors.

“The first time I realized I had some real talent was in a writing class here at Anoka-Ramsey,” says McVary. He recalls a class with Bill Gunlock, who told him he was a talented writer, then insisted that he hone his craft. “After that, I was just on fire.”

Philosophy, biology and math instructors served as mentors too.

“These instructors, they taught with passion,” says McVary. “When you see someone that’s living out their passion, you want to do that too.”

As a successful attorney, McVary now carries that torch forward for a new generation. He has given back to Anoka-Ramsey, serving on the Coon Rapids Foundation Board of Directors for six years, and he actively mentors people from different backgrounds.

“Some people come to college for a little tweaking. I came to college looking for transformation,” says McVary. “There are other students here looking for the same transformation, looking for some helping hands to get them up the next rung of the ladder.”

Cambridge Campus Hosts Spring Fling

Anoka-Ramsey Community College Cambridge Campus celebrated the Second Annual Spring Fling in April, hosting a day of events to thank the community for their continued support. More than 250 people gathered to participate in the festivities, which included the Earth-Friendly Fair, the Health Fair and a 5K Family Run/Walk.



The Anoka-Ramsey Community College Foundations

Fundraising events in 2016–17 included the Top 10 Celebration, the David Walch Memorial Golf Tournament, and the Scholardazzle scholarship fundraising event.



“I have been a single mom for six years and every amount of money I make goes to our living expenses. I have worked for the foundations through work-study at Anoka-Ramsey for one year now. I cannot express enough how grateful I am for this second chance at furthering my education.”

Melissa Brausen

Kopp Family Foundation
Scholarship Recipient



Both college foundations are always looking for new members and event volunteers. To donate or volunteer, contact AdvancementOffice@AnokaRamsey.edu, or 763-433-1130.

Golf Tournament

The Anoka-Ramsey Coon Rapids Campus Foundation invites students, alumni, faculty, foundation board members and community members to attend the David Walch Memorial Golf Tournament.

David Walch Memorial Golf Tournament

June 20, 2017

Bunker Hills Golf Club

All proceeds support student scholarships.

Register: AnokaRamsey-AnokaTechCommunity.org/Golf

Scholardazzle

More than 225 guests attended the Cambridge Campus Foundation Scholardazzle event at the Spirit River Community Center in January, raising more than \$70,000 for scholarships to Cambridge students. Some of the top sponsors included:

- Juanita Peterson and Presbyterian Homes donated \$5,000
- Anoka-Ramsey's Professional Workforce Training (PWT), Doherty Staffing, and Ray and MarieAnn Magnuson donated \$2,500
- Anoka-Ramsey Community College, Cambridge Family Dental, Cambridge Medical Center, Century 21–Moline, Chilson's Jewelers, First State Tire, R-T.E.A. Manufacturing, Schlagel Inc., Evert and Carol Klingberg, Knight Inspection Service, Peoples Bank of Commerce, and John and Bonnie Schlagel donated \$1,000



“Being able to be a scholarship recipient didn't only support me financially, but it gave me the inspiration that I needed to come back to school stronger and to be motivated to work hard and give what it takes to succeed in my classes and pursue my goals. I would like to thank each one of you scholarship donors and Coon Rapids Foundation for making these scholarships happen.”

Saeed Saeed

Kopp Family Foundation Scholarship Recipient

Biomedical Technology Program Connects Students with **Industry**

The Biomedical Technology program emerged in response to industry needs, to produce a pool of highly-qualified candidates for the medical device field. The Anoka-Ramsey program benefits the local economy, supporting one of Minnesota's largest industries.

Founded in 1999, the Biomedical Technology program began with a Federal Department of Education grant. The funding allowed college faculty to collaborate with medical device manufacturers and a national network of community colleges to develop curriculum and train students for medical device careers.

There's high demand for graduates of the program, because courses impart the knowledge and skills employers seek. With an average age of 36, courses at night, and labs in the Professional & Workforce Training Center, students find the program accessible. A diverse group, these students share one thing in common.

"The determining factor for students in this program is they want to make a difference," says Training Director Matthew Salo. "They want to be cutting edge."

The courses give students a foundation in science and technology, then cover the processes, standards, regulations and trends in Biomedical Technology. Tom Deroush, an adjunct instructor, offers a survey course in design and manufacturing.

"One of the things I can offer students is real-world experience," says Deroush, principal scientist and program manager of business development at Medtronic. "We are practitioners, and I think that's where the strength of this program is."

Deroush says Medtronic has a reciprocal partnership with Anoka-Ramsey, where assemblers and other entry-level employees can train for advancement. "We create students for this program, and the program creates candidates for other roles."

Many students also have the privilege of studying with Katherine Whelchel, who helped design the

program at its inception. Retired from the industry, she has taught at Anoka-Ramsey for 18 years.

"What a lot of people don't realize about Biomedical Technology is it's a lot like a business degree, where you can do anything," says Whelchel. She orients her students to a range of career options, and helps them define their path using aptitude tests. "You're going to find out if there's a place for you in the industry."

Whelchel connects students with industry professionals, offering career advice, company tours and networking tips for LinkedIn. For many students, the results are invaluable. "You're whole life changes when you're a student in this program," she says.

The medical device field often draws on other areas of knowledge, ranging from patient care to intellectual property law, and it uses expertise ranging from clinical research to a registered nurse or juris doctor.

"There are many different types of credentials that will get you in the room," Deroush says. As medical advances continue to transform patient care, biomedical technology continues to be a vital industry—and not just for larger companies like Medtronic, Boston Scientific and St. Jude Medical (now Abbott). "Hundreds of other small companies are recognizing the importance of this industry to Minnesota, to sustain a program that creates good candidates for well-paying jobs."

Instructors have worked to keep the program innovative, adding a clean room, a new laser and a course on regulations for machinists. "As we're discovering new things, they're being implemented to help people," says Whelchel.

For students in Biomedical Technology, that's the most important part. "They walk out of here empowered," says Salo.

Discovery through Deep Learning

Anoka-Ramsey presents Second Annual OSCARS Symposium

Coon Rapids Campus

- *"Life So Far"* by Chisom Owghonda
- *"Honors in Action—Youth Homelessness"* by Joehey Cici
- *"Optimization of a BF₃ Catalyzed Biodiesel Reaction and MALDI-TOF Mass Spectrometry Analysis of a Lipid Feedstock"* by Tyler Leng, Taylor Borgman and Andrew Steward

With symposiums at both campuses, Anoka-Ramsey Community College was proud to present the Second Annual OSCARS (Outstanding Scholarship, Creative Activities and Research Symposium) to showcase exceptional student achievement and culminate a year of undergraduate research.

Unique among two-year community colleges, the OSCARS offers students the chance to conduct their own research projects while they are pursuing an associates degree, working closely with faculty mentors. The first place winners of the Second Annual OSCARS included the following scholars and subjects.

Cambridge Campus

- *"Creative Works of a College Girl"* by Chelsey Schindeldecker
- *"How Parents and Teachers Perceive their Communication to Influence a Child's Education"* by Megan Claassen, Nolan Hentges, Brad Slaughter, Josh Bohnen and Jessica Bustron
- *"Effects of Wildflower Field Management Practices on Pollinating Insect Counts"* by Pheylan Anderson

Golden Rams Athletics Climb the Ranks

Golden Rams Basketball ranked No. 4

Men's Basketball

- The Anoka-Ramsey Men's Basketball Team entered the NJCAA National Tournament as the #1 seed. Despite a few turns on the court, the Golden Rams placed fourth in the nation.
- The Golden Rams entered the national tournament with a track record of high-scoring games, scoring an average of 90 points per game. Men's basketball finished the season with a 28-5 overall record. After the championship game, Edvonte Copeland was named to the All-Tournament Team.

Women's Basketball

- The Anoka-Ramsey Women's Basketball Team also ranked among the best teams in the nation, placing fourth in the NJCAA Division III National Tournament.
- The Women's Basketball Team finished the season with a 20-10 overall record, securing their place in the top echelons of junior college basketball. After a great season, Rashonna Thomas was also named Second Team All-American.

Golden Rams Softball Sweeps into Postseason

- Starting off the season strong, the Anoka-Ramsey Softball Team pitched their way into national rankings as well, placing sixth in the nation.

Hall of Fame

- Many alumni athletes were also inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame. Read more at: AnokaRamsey.edu/HallofFame2017



Anoka-Ramsey Community College

Events Calendar

AnokaRamsey.edu/calendar

And follow us:



ART EVENTS

High School Art Faculty Exhibit

Sept. 14 - Oct. 18
(Reception Sept. 14, 5 to 7 pm)

CR

Glass Pumpkin Fundraiser Sale

October TBD **CR**

2D Design Panel Discussion

Oct. 11, 3 pm **CR**

Music and Art Juried Student Exhibition

Oct. 12 - Nov. 30
(Reception Oct. 12, 5 to 6 pm)

CR

Holiday Art and Gift Sale

Dec. 5 - 8 **CR**

FOUNDATION FUNDRAISER

David Walch Memorial Golf Tournament

June 20, 8:30 am to 5:30 pm
Bunker Hills Golf Club

CREATIVE WRITING EVENTS

Faculty Reading

Sept. 29, 7 to 9 pm
Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts

Anoka-Ramsey Creative Writing at the Twin Cities Book Festival

Oct. 14, 10 am to 6 pm
Minnesota State Fairgrounds

Two Rivers Reading Series

Nov. 1, Noon to 12:50 pm/2 to
2:50 pm **CR**
*"A Good Time for the Truth: Race
in Minnesota"*, Speakers Sun Yung
Shin and David Lawrence Grant

Introduction to Creative Writing Class Reading

Dec. 5, 9:30 to 10:45 am **CR**

Introduction to Creative Writing Nonfiction Class Reading

Dec. 5, 12:30 to 1:45 pm **CR**

MUSIC EVENTS

Faculty Recital

Sept. 22, 7 pm **CR**
Music Building, Room 109

Choral Music of the Reformation

Nov. 14, 7 pm **CR**
Performing Arts Center

NURSING EVENTS

50th Anniversary Dinner

Sept. 21 **CR**

50th Anniversary Event

April 21, 2018 **CC**

THEATRE EVENTS

2017 – 2018 Season

"Good and Plenty"

By Jeffery Hatcher
Directed by Lisa Weaver
Oct. 27, 28, Nov. 2 - 4 **CR**

"The Boy Friend"

Musical by Sandy Wilson
Directed by Blayn Lemke
Feb. 9 - 10, 15 - 17 **CR**

"The Veteran's Project"

By Beth Gilliland and Blayn Lemke
Directed by Blayn Lemke
April 8 - 9, 19 - 21, 2018 **CR**

You are invited
to join the
Anoka-Ramsey
Career Network
Group on LinkedIn!

[www.linkedin.com
/groups/7026195](http://www.linkedin.com/groups/7026195)

CR Coon Rapids Campus
CC Cambridge Campus