

# SSS★STAR Program

“Our mission is to guide, support, and retain our students so that they may successfully graduate from Bloomfield College.”



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## Shining STAR Student: Amira N. Fair ('14)



“My internship with *Good Morning America* was a great experience. I was assigned to work in the RIM Department with Senior Producers. My tasks were to help pitch stories for the show, and also assist with various elements (ie: Videos & pictures) that supported different segments of the show.

While there, I worked in the Audience Department to bring morale to the crowd before the on-air talent arrived. I would prep the guests when to cheer, and make their time enjoyable while they were at the show. It gave me a chance to build on my public speaking skills.

The STAR Program is fortunate to gain transfer student Amira N. Fair! Amira is a Junior studying English with a Communications concentration in Broadcast Journalism. While at BC, Amira prepares for a fruitful professional career, and has obtained numerous internships. Here, she tells the Program about her recent endeavors in New York City:

During my internship, I've had the chance to see all of the *GMA* anchors, Oprah, Ne-Yo, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Jerry Seinfeld, Chef Emeril Lagasse, and Taylor Swift, among others. It very humbling to be in their presence. Although at times I wanted to be very excited, I had to display a professional demeanor. As I advance in my career, there will be many more celebrities I will encounter.

I am grateful for this opportunity that gave me a chance to grow in my field. Next semester I will remain at ABC with the show *The Chew*. While there, I will display the skills I've gained from my previous internship.”



★ **FAFSA** ★  
Did you complete FAFSA  
— Free Application for  
Federal Student Aid?

The College's priority date  
for applying for next  
year's Financial Aid is  
March 15th!

Remember to visit your  
STAR Counselor for  
assistance.

STAR Newsletter Editor  
Christina Dilkes  
Counselor &  
English Specialist

“What sculpture is to a block of marble education is to the soul” —Joseph Addison



## Senior Thesis in Creative Writing: Capstone Presentations

Thursday, December 13, 2012, marked an important day for three Bloomfield College students. The students presented their Senior Thesis in Creative Writing capstone projects in the Shelby Art Room. The STAR Program boasted two participants, Soin Alexander and Amanda Kibler, who offered the captive audience excerpts of their lyrical poetry and exciting fiction. Students also discussed their extensive research project findings, another facet of the senior capstone.

Amanda Kibler (pictured right) was the first student to step up to the podium. Amanda began with a discussion of her research regarding the obscure Harlem Renaissance poet Lewis Grandison Alexander. She read a selection of poems—including “Charmed,” “Dear Bobcat Walking in the Rain,” and “Faded”—from her chapbook *Black Native vs. Caucasian Mason*.

Soin Alexander ended the presentation by explaining her research on Young Adult (YA) fiction. She then read the beginning of her YA story *Shin no Chikara*, which tells the tale of a young mortal’s hero journey in search of the Celestial Light. The protagonist, Taiyo, must learn to let go of selfish intentions and accept guidance in Soin’s fantasy-based fiction.

We at the STAR Program are incredibly proud of the talented writers these students have become. We continually encourage all of our participants, regardless of discipline, to

hone the skills they have and explore the things they love.



Congratulations, Soin and Amanda!



“When you know better you do better.”

— Maya Angelou



## Financial Aid Workshops: What does BC’s FAFSA Priority Deadline mean?

Every school has its own priority aid deadline—that’s the day that the school begins processing all of the aid applications that they have received up until that point. **Bloomfield College’s FAFSA Priority Deadline is MARCH 15th.**

Some forms of financial aid, such as state grants, are limited. BC only receives a certain amount of this money each semester to offer students and **this is where the Priority Deadline becomes important!** On March 15th, the Office of Student Financial Services starts awarding this limited aid to students who qualify (which also depends on your EFC and other factors, such as academic standing).

**So what does this mean? Applicants who meet the priority aid deadline are considered for all available sources of financial aid. Students who miss the deadline are only considered for some sources of aid. Your FAFSA should be completed no matter what. But by meeting the Priority Deadline, you could be offered more aid! The later you wait, the more problems can arise with less time to fix them.**

Need assistance with your FAFSA? Your STAR Counselor is available to help. Bring your financial information, have your FAFSA Pin ready, and get that form filled out before the Priority Deadline. Make an appointment or come to our three Financial Aid Workshops:

**Tuesday, February 26th, 2-4pm**

**Monday, March 11th, 2-4pm**

**Wednesday, March 13, 2-4pm**

**and by appointment**

**Graduating May 23rd? Congratulations! Schedule your STAR exit interview!**



## SSS★STAR SPRING '13 Activity Schedule

Event	Date/Time	Other information
★ <u>Semester Kickoff and Open House</u> ★	Tues., Feb. 5, 1-3pm	<i>Come chat with other STAR students and staff, make an appointment to meet with your counselors and see what's happening for the semester.</i>
Writing and Revising Strategies	Wed., Feb. 13, 2-3pm	<i>Whether you're writing essays for English 107, or research papers for upper level classes, this is a vital workshop you don't want to miss.</i>
Wellness Center "Conflict 101—Part II"	Wed., Feb. 20, 3-4pm	<i>Back by Popular Demand—helpful hints on how to handle conflict.</i>
***Financial Aid Workshops***	Tues., Feb. 26, 2-4pm Mon. Mar. 11, 2-4pm Wed., Mar. 13, 2-4pm And by appointment	<i>Bring your financial information, have your FAFSA Pin ready, and get that form filled out before the priority filing date. Financial AID Priority Deadline is March 15th.</i>
Career Services Workshop: "Searching for the Opportunities You Want"	Wed., Feb., 27, 2-3pm	<i>Great presentation from Career Services—you don't want to miss this workshop.</i>
Financial Literacy Series	Ongoing	<i>Come join us for a series of mini information sessions to help you stay on top of the on-going changes in the financial world.</i>
Information on Healthcare Professions: Nursing	Wed. Mar. 27, 2-3pm	<i>Important introduction and information about how to prepare for the Nursing program. For Pre-Nursing &amp; Current Nursing students.</i>
Techniques & Tips	Wed. Apr. 10, 3:30-4:30pm	<b>FOR EDUCATION MAJORS:</b> <i>Helpful tips to prepare for student teaching.</i>
Chat & Chew	Ongoing Bi-weekly	<i>Join us for open discussions on great topics selected by the students or the counselors.</i>
Financial Literacy Workshop	Thurs. Apr 11, 2-3:30pm	<i>Having a problem managing your money? Meet an expert who will teach you how to take control of your finances.</i>
Workshop	TBA	
Mix & Mingle	Wed. Apr. 24, 1-3pm	<i>Fun, games and relaxation—a great way to de-stress before finals begin.</i>
SSS ★STAR Recognition and Awards Ceremony	Time and Place TBA	<i>Celebrate the year's successes with the STAR staff and friends—more information to follow.</i>

★ All events will be held in the Star Computer Lab/Program Room, Learning Resource Center, Room 106, unless otherwise noted ★

**SSS★STAR Program**  
Student Support Services



Bloomfield College  
Learning Resource Center  
Room 107

Phone: 973-748-9008, ext. 1170  
Fax: 973-429-7528

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On Facebook? So is STAR!  
Send a Friend Request to  
“STAR Bloomfield” and stay up  
-to-date on all STAR activities.



# WANTED:

**Students, especially Pre-Nursing students,  
to form an Anatomy and Physiology  
study group**

**Interested? Contact Mrs. Dilkes (ext. 1147)  
for inclusion on the list**

The STAR Staff

- Brenda Quintyne**, Director
- Gail Ponder**, Counselor & Math/Technology Specialist
- Christina Dilkes**, Counselor & English Specialist
- Celeste Walden-Kelley**, Office Manager



**Bloomfield College Dean’s List Awards Program**  
**STAR Award Recipients**



Lauren J. Bedell (left)



Jacqueline Hunterton-Anderson (above)

Nyeka V. Harris

Kathryn Schaub

Daniel A. Bolanos-Blumenthal

Nathaly A. Fernandez

Aaron L. Bullock



Migdalia Maldonado  
(left)



Veronica L. Dodrill (above)

STAR PROGRAM HOURS

- Monday: 8:00 am—8:00 pm
- Tuesday: 8:00 am—8:00 pm
- Wednesday: 8:00 am—8:00 pm
- Thursday: 8:00 am—4:30 pm
- Friday: 8:00 am—4:30 pm