

For Immediate Release

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Patrick & Henry Community College

Patrick & Henry Community College, a comprehensive two-year institution, services Martinsville city as well as Patrick and Henry counties. P&HCC is a top-tier leader among community colleges in areas such as athletics, technology, and unique program offerings. By providing a multitude of innovative curricula such as motorsports, entrepreneurship, and mechatronics, P&HCC is changing lives and enriching the community it serves. P&HCC is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

P&HCC Presents HCPS Career Academy with \$5,000 from NCCER

MARTINSVILLE, VA– From a pledge to raise awareness made last October, Patrick & Henry Community College was selected as one of four institutions in the nation to present a \$5,000 check to a construction craft training program of their choice.

The pledge drawing was part of the Careers in Construction Month [CICM] campaign. During the month of October, nearly 170 different organizations from all across the nation made a pledge aimed to increase public awareness of career paths in construction and inspire the next generation of craft professionals. As part of CICM, the pledging organizations were entered into a drawing to win one of four \$5,000 scholarships that the winners would be able to present to a secondary construction craft training program of their choice.

When Patrick & Henry Community College was selected as one of the four scholarship winners, P&HCC chose to nominate the Henry County Schools Career Academy as the recipient.

“Patrick & Henry Community College was proud to nominate Henry County Schools Career Academy because it is committed to taking career and technical education to the next level. The Career Academy's objective is to make education applied, practical and aligned with industry needs,” says Rhonda Hodges, P&HCC's Vice President of Workforce, Economic, and Community Development.

Career Academy is Henry County Public Schools' CTE center located in Figsboro, VA. The academy prepares high school juniors and seniors for careers in Industrial Maintenance, Cybersecurity, Cosmetology, and Animal Science upon high school graduation. Students from Bassett and Magna Vista High Schools attend the half day program throughout the school year in addition to classes at their base high schools.

"Henry County Public Schools is honored to partner with Patrick & Henry Community College to support the learning goals of students pursuing certifications in technical fields as we equip learners in our community for a successful future," said Sandy Strayer, HCPS superintendent.

The pledge, the scholarship, and the national push for awareness around construction careers is being spearheaded by the National Center for Construction Education & Research (NCCER) and Build Your Future (BYF). For the last nine years these two organizations have heralded the Careers in Construction Month each October bringing together industry professionals, training programs, and government entities to raise awareness.

According to the NCCER website, “While construction offers job satisfaction, lucrative salaries and high demand, it is facing a critical shortage of workers.” The companies state they are aiming to “help build a pipeline of talent.” One of the ways they are doing so this year is by providing financial incentive and opportunities to connect with construction trades partners by awarding scholarships.

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About NCCER — NCCER is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) education foundation created by the construction industry to develop standardized curriculum and assessments with portable credentials and certifications for skilled craft professionals. NCCER provides a comprehensive workforce development system that includes accreditation, training, assessment, certification and career development solutions for the construction and maintenance industries. For more information, visit www.nccer.org or contact NCCER customer service at 888.622.3720.

About Build Your Future – Build Your Future (BYF) is NCCER's national image enhancement and recruitment initiative for the construction industry. Its mission is to recruit the next generation of craft professionals by making career and technical education a priority in secondary schools, shifting negative public perception about careers in the construction industry and providing a path from ambition, to training, to job placement as a craft professional. BYF provides a number of resources to assist industry, education and military organizations in achieving these goals. For more information, visit byf.org.