

College of the Mainland®

Horizons

Magazine

SPRING 2023

OUR
MOMENTUM
IS NOW!

SUMMER & FALL 2023 REGISTRATION OPENS APRIL 11
[VISIT COM.EDU/START](https://visit.com.edu/start)

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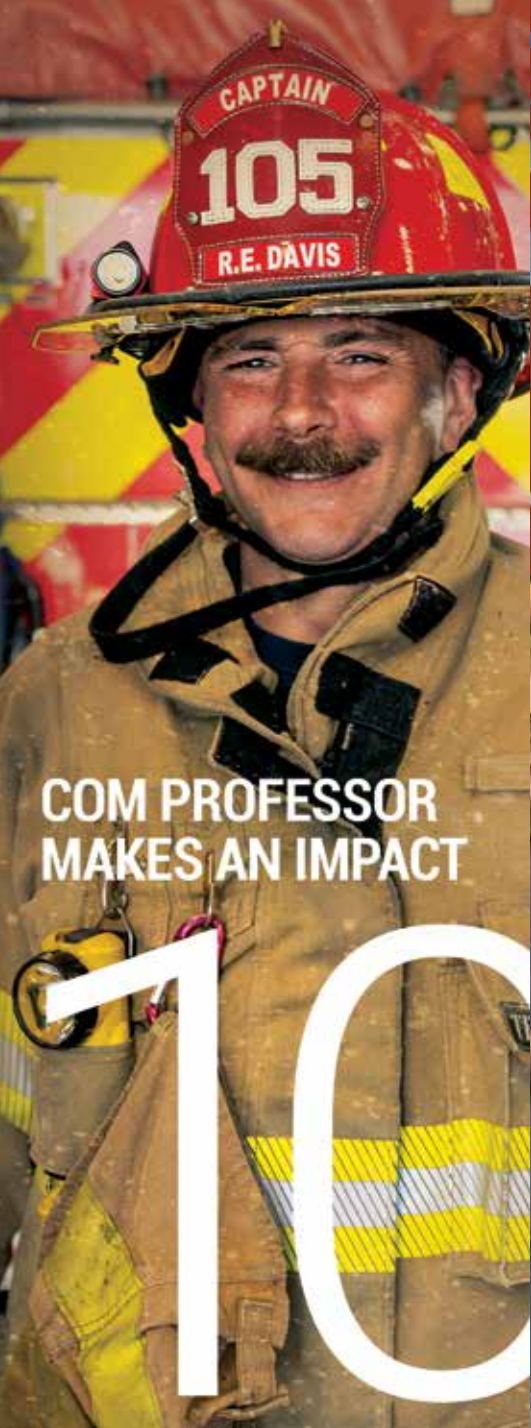
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College of the Mainland is a learning-centered, comprehensive community college dedicated to student success and the intellectual and economic prosperity of the diverse communities we serve.

The college district includes Texas City, Dickinson, Hitchcock, La Marque, and Santa Fe. The service area includes League City, Friendswood, Kemah, Bacliff and San Leon.

OUR MOMENTUM IS NOW!

The COM story is a special story and over the years has come to mean many things to the many people we serve.

Dating back to 1966 when we first opened our doors, the COM story has been a story of community as our college has served as an integral backbone for preparing a skilled Gulf Coast workforce that supports our region through our steady supply of qualified, skilled workers who fill critical industry needs. From health care and public service to petrochemical and engineering, our long legacy of meeting our area's education and workforce training demands fuels the economic strength of the thriving industries throughout our region.

The COM story is a story of service when our Police Academy program launched in 1969 at the behest of Texas City Police Chief Rankin Dewalt. Since then, nearly 1,800 cadets have graduated from the program ready to serve, protect and make the communities around us a safer place to live and work.

It is a story of innovation when 55 students walked into a College of the Mainland classroom and made history in 1994 as the first class to work toward an Associate of Applied Science degree in Process Technology (PTEC). That not only began the first PTEC degree at COM but the first of its kind in the nation.

It too is a story of progress when our community rallied together to overwhelmingly support the historic 2018 bond measure in an effort to maintain pace with the rapid growth of Galveston County. And since the completion of this first phase of COM's long-range plan, on time and on budget, our campus has undergone a major facelift that allowed for a new trajectory to be established.

While these moments each leave their own unique imprint on COM's story, together they paint a bigger picture of the renewed spirit of the College of the Mainland learning experience.

But the COM story doesn't stop here.

As so many of our neighbors have seen the very landscape of our college campus rapidly transform in recent years, I'm often asked, "What's next for College of the Mainland?" In order to answer that question, I must first ask myself, what's now?

Now, there is tremendous regional growth, local industry demand for skilled workers and an increased interest among individuals looking to pursue continuing education and training.

Now, our community stands strong as an economic engine for the booming Gulf Coast region which has seen an expansion in maritime operations and hospitality as well as aerospace/aviation, health care and logistics.

Now, our college is experiencing continued enrollment growth as our classrooms and aging facilities fill to capacity with students eager to transform their lives through top-tier learning experiences.

Now, we're living in an environment rife with a heightened sense of urgency to ensure that physical security measures exist and that our community feels safe.

Now, many of our neighbors are still reeling from the COVID-19 pandemic and looking to College of the Mainland as a much-needed beacon of hope for job recovery.

Now, we have a steady stream of momentum, as countless industry partners are regularly approaching our college with the need for skilled workers, creating endless opportunities to develop new programs and attract new students.

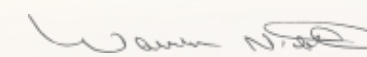
Simply put, now is our moment – a moment for us to boldly transform our community to the next level and ensure that we continue to meet the growing needs of our students and community, now and for years to come.

Looking back at these past 57 years, our college has experienced a rapid period of massive transformation as we have remained committed to offering dynamic learning and training opportunities that are attractive and responsive to local industry and workforce needs. During this time, our community has grown to trust that the College of the Mainland learning experience is forward-thinking and prepares our students with the knowledge and skills needed to fulfill the jobs of tomorrow.

Looking forward to the next six decades and beyond, we know that there is much more work to be done. But I can assure you that by providing a high-quality and innovative educational experience, our college community will be better, stronger and ready to reach limitless potential.

So, as we ponder what's in this next chapter of the College of the Mainland story, there may still be many unknowns, but one thing is for sure. Our moment is now!

Sincerely,



Dr. Warren Nichols
President, College of the Mainland

Thank you!

Since the passage of College of the Mainland’s historic \$162.5 million general obligation bond in 2018, our college campus has undergone a major facelift that has ushered in a number of new and upgraded learning spaces to better serve the growing needs of our students and community. The new buildings, improved technologies and expanded instructional areas demonstrate COM’s never-ending commitment to growing the opportunities for student success. With that in mind, we asked our students to share how the bond program has impacted their educational journey at COM.



“I’m so thankful for the big upgrades that we had to this building. This will absolutely prepare me for the real world. When I walk out of these doors, I feel more confident that I can go and get myself a job and understand the new unit. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to change my life.”

Velimir
Process Technology



“I was at COM when we had our old building. So, moving from the old building to this one is a drastic change in the way you can learn. There are fully functioning hospital rooms to really prepare us for our career field. I always knew I wanted to be in the medical field, but COM has opened all the doors possible for me.”

Kaitlyn
Nursing



“This facility is high tech. It’s up to date. And it’s basically better all the way around. This gives students the opportunity to further their life and education. I won’t have any problems transitioning into the industry. Thank you for investing in my HVAC certification and education.”

Nikolas
Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration



“Theatre is my absolute love and passion, and I want to do it for the rest of my life. Getting to be in that new space, getting to see all those new things and experience those new opportunities is going to be incredible. Thank you for supporting me.”

Hannah
Theatre



“I’d like to thank all the people who voted and allowed all these beautiful facilities to be created. They’re more than just classrooms. They provide us with study areas where we can collaborate and build friendships through study groups.”

Taylor
Pharmacy Technician



“I really appreciate the fact that I get to take mechanical engineering here instead of having to go to university. Mechanical engineering to me is something where I can create. There’s a lot of problems in the world, and everything requires a solution. So, at the end of the day, if I can use what I know to make it better or make a difference, then that’s what matters to me.”

Serenity
Mechanical Engineering



“I’m most thankful for the wonderful facilities and the community that we have around here. Now, CHS has its own floor, and we are now able to see each other all the time, help each other and share the same space. We have more modern technology, modern classrooms and just a wider space than we had before. The new facilities have greatly impacted my experience in Collegiate High School and College of the Mainland.”

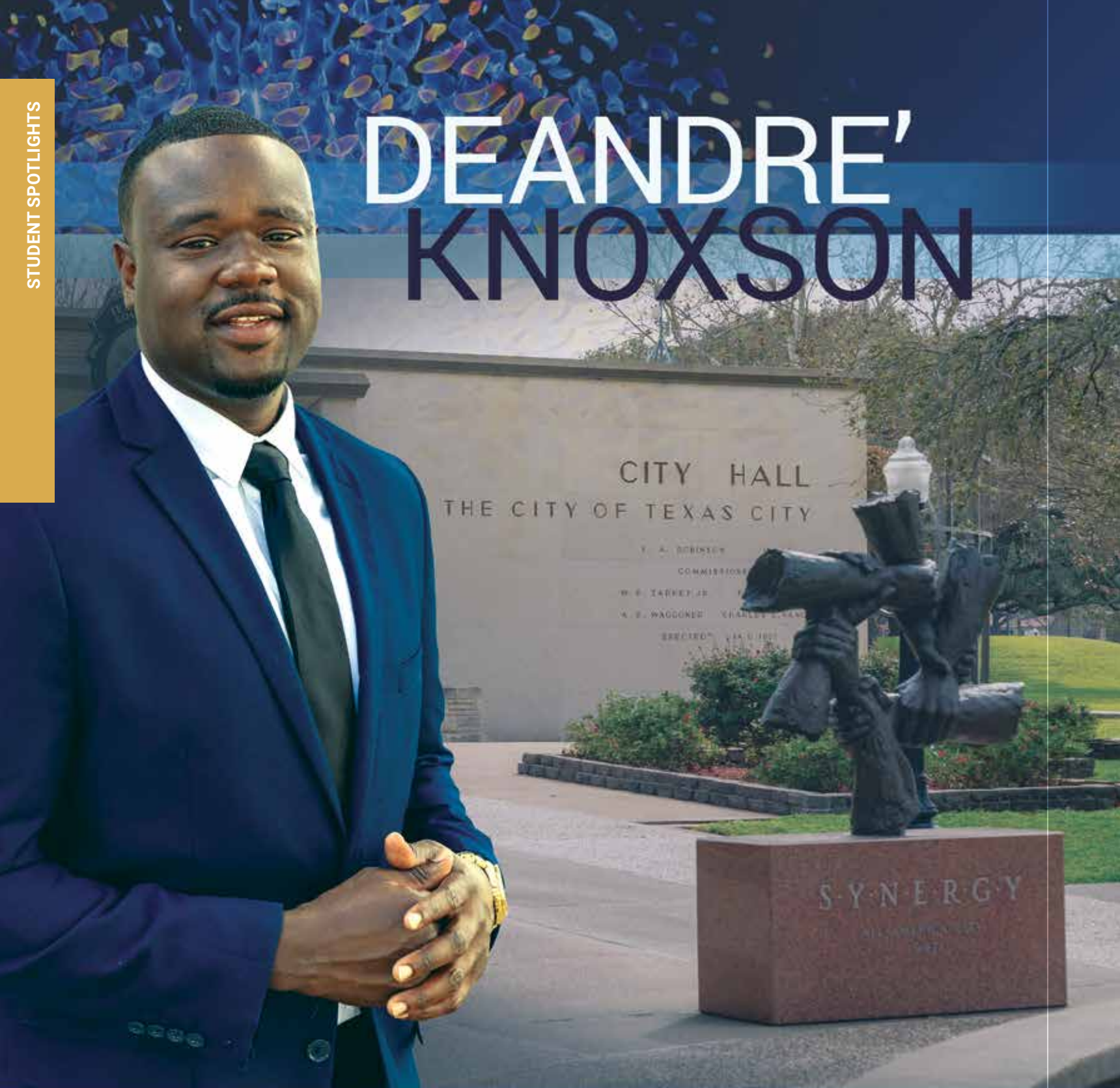
Kristen
Collegiate High School



“With the skills and facilities here, it really will help me in the real world. Thank you for believing in me, supporting me, pushing me to do better and giving me the resources and opportunity to pursue my career.”

Trevon
Graphic Arts

DEANDRE' KNOXSON



A COMMUNITY'S INVESTMENT BREATHES
LIFE INTO A RISING LEADER

Back in 2012, DeAndre' Knoxson was a bright-eyed College of the Mainland student who could regularly be found seated in a Process Technology (PTEC) classroom, eager to learn and ready to make the community around him a better place. Now, you'll find him in a seat of a different kind – at the dais of the council chambers as one of Texas City's newest commissioners.

Growing up the oldest of nine siblings in public housing on the south side of Texas City, Knoxson's journey from pupil to politician was definitely not an easy one. "I know how it feels not to have everything," he recalled.

But he defied the odds by becoming a first-generation college graduate who now holds a seat in one of the most powerful positions in his community as the Texas City Commissioner of District 1. For him, knowing that the watchful eyes of his siblings were upon him pushed him to want better not only for himself but for those coming after him.

"It doesn't matter where you come from," Knoxson said. "It's where you're going."

Knoxson's leadership potential and innate ambition were apparent at an early age. As a Texas City High School student, he was a constant fixture in a variety of leadership development and extracurricular activities including his local Juneteenth committee, student council, football, track and field, and swimming. It was here that he realized the importance of community engagement and was introduced to a strong network of community leaders who guided him along the way.

"Outside of my parents doing a great job raising me, I had great community leaders – individuals who actually gave back and showed that they cared about us," DeAndre' recounts. "There are so many different paths that I could have gone down, but I didn't. So, I really thank them for that."

It was this desire to forge his own purposeful path in his community that led Knoxson to pursue a career as a process operator, a field fueled by the region's thriving petrochemical industry.

Recognizing the longstanding and impressive reputation of the PTEC program, he knew that College of the Mainland was the perfect fit for him.

"I remember I was hooked after the first Intro to Process Technology class," Knoxson said.

He credits the COM PTEC program for preparing

him to work in the field through hands-on labs and classroom instruction. Here, he trained alongside industry professionals which allowed him to ultimately transition into the rewarding career path that he loves today.

"We have professionals who know what it's like to do shiftwork, turn the valves and work the board," Knoxson said. "We also have a Glycol Separation Unit (GSU), so we get a good sense of what it's like to work in the industry."

Upon earning his Associate of Applied Science in Process Technology in 2015, he worked briefly in banking before deciding to return to his PTEC roots to now work as a process operator at LyondellBasell.

Never one to stop learning, he later returned to COM to pursue a second degree in general studies – an intentional choice to prepare him for university transfer where he could pursue his bachelor's degree.

While at COM, he took full advantage of many opportunities to maximize his leadership potential by serving as a team captain for intramural flag football, Process Technology Club treasurer and secretary, and Minority Men for Excellence president.

"Being the president helped me sharpen my skills as a leader," Knoxson said. "I felt an obligation to complete my degree to show the club that perseverance pays off."

Earning his second degree from COM in 2022 was only one of many accomplishments for the COM alum. When he was 19, Knoxson started the Sting-to-Sting Scholarship for Texas City High School students and is also one of the youngest people to be appointed to the Housing Authority of the City of Texas City. Most recently, he was selected as one of Galveston Daily News' 40 Under 40 honorees, an accolade he was not expecting, but is still very proud of.

"It was an incredible moment for me because the things I have been doing haven't gone unnoticed," he said.

And while his accomplishments are vast, for Knoxson, the real work has only just begun. Since being elected as a commissioner last year, he has hit the ground running and is committed to continue paying it forward like his own mentors who came before him.

"I just want to do my part now," Knoxson said. "I truly care about this community. I grew up here. I currently still live here. This is my home. I really want to make a difference here."



COM PROFESSOR MAKES AN IMPACT

IN THE CLASSROOM AND IN THE COMMUNITY

Not many college professors choose to volunteer their time to the community by moonlighting as firefighters. Then again, San Leon Fire Captain and COM Communications Theory Professor Dr. R.E. Davis is far from your average professor.

“People are calling 911 when they are having one of their worst days of their lives,” he said. “So if I can help alleviate the emergency they’re experiencing, it’s something I’m willing to put my time and effort into.”

When he first moved to the area, he went to the fire station to see if he met the requirements to become a volunteer firefighter. Davis then participated in a training program to learn the basic skills and has been volunteering with the department ever since.

“Being a firefighter has allowed me to see all the different types of people and places that the community college serves,” he said. “After my regular day job is done, it allows me to extend my service to people in need.”

During the COVID-19 pandemic, he also volunteered his time by working in conjunction with the Galveston County Health District to administer vaccines at the mass clinic.

In addition to his work as a professor, Davis brings all this valuable experience to his role as the Public Service Careers Department Chair at College of the Mainland. He works with faculty to prepare students for public service jobs in law enforcement, fire academy, criminal justice and EMS programs. He also helps the department reach its student success goals in recruitment, retention and completion, which he believes further enhances COM as well as its surrounding communities.

“We take people that have a heart for service and train them in a way that allows them to spend their lives helping their communities,” Davis said. “Students can have a career where they support their families, make a good living and also do fulfilling work that helps other people.”

And this is the kind of personalized approach that students can expect as part of the COM experience.

“My favorite thing about College of the Mainland is the unrelenting commitment to student success,” Davis said. “I have students that have transferred from other colleges and they tell me that the COM student experience takes them in, helps them out and supports them throughout their degree pathway.”

As a communications theory professor, he reviews communication methodologies and research while also showing students skills that will help them across all professional settings.

“Particularly in Public Speaking, I teach students how to stand confidently in front of an audience and really tap into an amazing source of leadership power that will help them in their careers,” he said.

Davis does not want his classes to simply fill up spaces on a student’s transcript. He strives to teach in a way that has a direct and lifelong impact on his students’ career and leadership goals.

“When students come into my class, I want it to pay for itself over and over,” he said.

This is why it is so rewarding when former students check in and he sees how he has helped them achieve their goals.

“When they come back and say I went to that college or nursing school or I wasn’t sure about the public speaking stuff, but now I’m using it all the time in my job, that’s probably the most rewarding payoff that I can get.”

In his case, being active in the community gives him a different perspective that he brings to his role as a professor, allowing him to be more in tune with the students he seeks to serve.

“I think it has given me a greater level of empathy and understanding for my students, the communities they’re from and how to reconstruct my classes to meet their needs where they are.”

Ultimately, Davis believes that the supportive atmosphere at College of the Mainland is a key factor in why his students excel in class and beyond.

“There’s something about COM in particular that builds loyalty and trust within our community,” he said. “I think students understand that the professors are there to take care of them, to make sure they succeed and to help them in any way possible.”

Putting the H in heart

THEATRE DIRECTOR'S PASSION SETS THE STAGE FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

COM THEATRE
THE BIGGEST LI'L THEATRE IN TEXAS

Over the past eight years, H. Russ Brown and his team have grown the College of the Mainland Theatre program into a nationally recognized, distinguished program cherished by students and the community alike. And while that work is impressive, Brown's ultimate goal is simple – to foster a community college learning experience where students can unlock their unique strengths and talents on stage and beyond.

"I love teaching community college because we provide the important foundational training that will serve students the rest of their career" Brown said. "Students leave here having a solid sense of who they are as an artist."

In the short timespan that Brown has held his role as Head of Theatre and Artistic Director, he has already grown the program from one theatre major in 2015 to about 50 over his eight-year tenure – proof positive of Brown's success.



When he first arrived, he quickly began cultivating relationships with local high school theatre programs by offering services for free such as hanging lights and choreographing fight scenes. That relationship building has been a key element in Brown's recipe for program success.

"Once you can get in the high school and meet the kids, the only thing that matters is that relationship," Brown said. "Teachers want to know they will be passing along their students to someone who will invest the same time into their future that they did, and they know that now because of the relationships we've built."

Through a collaborative effort with COM Theatre's design team, the program has consistently won national awards through the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF), beating out colleges from around the country. More recently, Brown was recognized as the Educator of the Year in Higher Education by the Texas Educational Theatre Association, Inc. which celebrates theatre educators and their meaningful contributions.

"Although it's not why I do what I do, it's nice when other people notice how hard you've been working," he said.

But for Brown, the true mark of success goes far beyond awards and accolades. As he explains, the real prize is building genuine, long-lasting



A Divine Kerfuffle

Pump Boys
& Dinettes



connections with students along the way.

"We call ourselves the COM Theatre family because we're teachers for a while, but mentors for life," Brown said. "We are here for our students and their individual journey."

Whether it's a high school student beginning their college journey or a seasoned adult learner discovering a new passion for acting, Brown works diligently to ensure that the College of the Mainland Theatre program offers a comprehensive curriculum to serve all students by tailoring the learning experience to each student's individual needs. And this tailor-made approach is evident through the personalized care and highly specialized resources that students receive from the moment they walk in the door.

The program offers its students an array of courses and services to support them as they refine their craft. From stage combat skills certification classes and musical theatre dance training to website development and headshot services, Brown is committed to nurturing student talent as they prepare to enter the thriving performance industry.

"I get really excited about those 'aha!' moments where

they lock in on a concept suddenly," Brown said. "I love seeing the trajectory of their talent and the growth is immense."

And in terms of growth, the transformation doesn't only lie within the talent of students.

Because of the exponential growth of the program and to better serve the needs of students and the community, College of the Mainland will soon be welcoming in a newly renovated Fine Arts Building which is slated for completion this spring. Made possible through the 2018 bond program, the building is a welcome upgrade for students and the community alike. Some of the building's special features include a new black box training/performance space, a dedicated classroom for technical theatre and theatre appreciation courses, larger dressing rooms and a first-time green room.

"We'll be able to do more studio shows for our students, and we'll do the summer musical and our season opener in the new space," Brown said.

While the transformation Brown has seen during his tenure has been immense, he looks forward to seeing what the next chapter holds for COM Theatre. As for his students, Brown's ultimate measure of success is seeing his students transform into their best selves, not only as thespians, but most importantly as people.

"We train people on how to be better human beings. Collaborative, empathetic, generous human beings."

To learn more about
COM Theatre, visit
com.edu/theatre-arts.



INDUSTRY APPROVED

REGIONAL EMPLOYERS VALUE JOB-READY GRADUATES

LyondellBasell

Research has shown that College of the Mainland's economic impact on its surrounding region is an estimated \$250 million a year. While that figure is impressive, perhaps COM's most substantial contribution to the local economy is the steady supply of skilled, job-ready graduates we produce each year. With a career-focused mindset, our longstanding industry partnerships, rigorous curriculum, hands-on training and stimulating classroom experiences ensure that COM graduates have a competitive edge and are ready to fuel the economic strength of the Gulf Coast and beyond.

But don't just take our word for it. Hear what regional employers have to say about the value that COM brings to our communities.

"It is evident that COM process technology (PTEC) instructors enforce high standards for student performance, both technically and behaviorally. Because of this, students transfer into the LyondellBasell culture smoothly. Various COM PTEC programs, including tutoring, mentorship and soft skills development, support student success in the workplace. At LyondellBasell, our employees work to safely and reliably deliver the plastics, chemicals and technologies that advance solutions to global challenges. Our highly motivated team is driven by a set of values that guides them in their day-to-day work and leads them to success including excellence and teamwork. The COM PTEC program reinforces similar values. Graduates understand the importance of attendance, effort and social interaction. Their practical understanding of workforce expectations and technical knowledge enables them to integrate quickly and demonstrate success sooner. At LyondellBasell, we are committed to being a responsible, good neighbor in the communities where we operate. We recognize the importance of preparing tomorrow's workforce. The COM PTEC program creates a qualified talent pool for local industry and collaborations like these make good business sense."

Elizabeth Weiss
Senior Manager, Global Corporate Citizenship
LyondellBasell



Marathon Petroleum Corporation

“At Marathon Petroleum Corporation (MPC), we’re in the business of enhancing life’s possibilities. Our efforts entail providing energy solutions and working to help communities where we operate thrive. Our MPC Galveston Bay Refinery (GBR) values the College of the Mainland as a vital community partner, as they enrich our community by preparing students to succeed in a diverse, dynamic and global environment. This said, because of the

College’s outstanding Process Technology (PTEC) program, MPC is fortunate to have COM graduates as employees – right here at GBR.

Currently, we have approximately 176 MPC employees at GBR who have graduated from the COM’s PTEC program. These employees work in our Operations, Products Controls, and Environmental, Safety and Security departments. The knowledge they’ve acquired from the COM PTEC program, along with the practical experience they acquire at MPC, helps GBR run as a world-class refining complex. Overall, we’re grateful for our partnership with the COM, and we’re proud to support the College through charitable contributions and the generosity of our employees who volunteer there, sharing their knowledge and expertise.”

Dave Leaver
Marathon Petroleum Corporation Vice President of Refining at the Galveston Bay Refinery



HCA Houston Healthcare

“HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake is actively involved in supporting our community and enhancing workforce development initiatives. College of the Mainland students are part of our community, and a great number of allied health and nursing graduates choose to work in the same area where they grew up to

care for their family and friends. These close-knit relationships benefit our hospital recruitment efforts as nurses often recruit their colleagues. Additionally, our facilities and the community benefit as a whole because COM graduates are highly engaged in giving back to local organizations, building relationships and ensuring their loved ones get access to the best health care possible.

COM graduates are prepared to work when they arrive at our facilities, and they are committed to providing excellent care to our diverse patient populations. With the national nursing shortage, it’s imperative for hospitals and healthcare programs to

work together to encourage students to pursue a career in nursing. When COM students learn about mentoring, internship, residency and employment opportunities available to them at HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake, HCA Houston Healthcare Mainland and our affiliated facilities, they can feel secure about their career path. Our partnership with COM allows students to have this information readily available as well as opportunities to work with faculty on training students to be well-prepared to enter the workforce. We want to help build curriculum that promotes nurse resiliency and prepares graduates for a variety of challenges that may come their way.”

Sherry Camacho
Chief Nursing Officer
HCA Houston Healthcare Clear Lake/Mainland

“Why do we hire COM graphic arts graduates? Take a look at our visual concepts from our advertisements, billboards, retail merchandising, photography and videos, all designed by COM graduates. Their work is exceptional! Graduates come to us with the latest skills, techniques and trends. They are proficient in design software, video production, social media, photography and more. The graphic arts faculty is doing a great job of preparing students. I don’t know their secret sauce, but Coleena and her team have something special at COM. Their graphic arts graduates are top-notch!”

Tina Foster
Executive Vice President of Administration
AMOCO Federal Credit Union



AMOCO Federal Credit Union



Walgreens



“Walgreens chooses to partner with COM for a variety of reasons. Walgreens and COM have already built a trusting partnership as Walgreens serves as a site for COM’s pharmacy students to perform their externship hours. This gives COM students a launch into the operations of Walgreens pharmacies across the Galveston County

area, making the transition into employment a seamless process. Knowing the standards that COM has for students to enter into their program reassures myself and others that the best of the best have already been selected. Every student that has gone through externship hours in our locations has already gone through an immense amount of classroom hours and is very excited and eager to start the work experience. The values and expectations that COM has for its students align with Walgreens, this ultimately results in job offers to students at graduation.”

Travis Stiver
Certified Store Manager
Walgreens



La Marque Police Department



“I serve on the COM Law Enforcement Academy Advisory Committee and must state that Dr. R.E. Davis and his team have been great with providing my staff and I information regarding COM programs and training opportunities. COM is a Galveston County resource, and we certainly wish to take advantage of the great educational benefits that COM offers. The COM curriculum and instructors have always been excellent.”

Randall Aragon
Chief of Police
La Marque Police Department



Texas City Fire Department



“The Texas City Fire Department was instrumental in the development of the COM’s fire program back in 1988. Prior to that, we ran our own graduate program from a classroom provided by COM, so our partnership is well established. Since then, we have hired graduates, sent employees to obtain state certification, and many of our personnel have worked as adjunct faculty throughout the years, myself included. COM not only provides a graduate with the knowledge necessary to begin a career, but also instills in each of

them the confidence that they can be successful. We have numerous COM alumni working in Texas City beginning with our current Assistant Fire Chief as well as three captains and five engineers, which confirms that COM graduates often go on to successful careers that began at COM.”

David Zacherl
Fire Chief
Texas City Fire Department

OUR MOMENTUM IS NOW!

**EARLY VOTING
APRIL 24 – MAY 2**

**ELECTION DAY:
MAY 6**

MEETING THE EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE TRAINING DEMANDS IN OUR COMMUNITY

The COM Bond 2023 is Phase 2 of the COMPASS 2025 Master Plan created to propel our communities forward. Aimed at meeting the booming regional demand for higher education and workforce training, we will continue to create better jobs, reduce crime and ensure prosperity for decades to come. Together, we will continue building on the successes of the recently completed 2018 Phase 1. Please take a few minutes to learn more so that you can make your vote with confidence!



PHASE 1 projects were completed on time and budget

BUILDING ON A HISTORY OF EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS

Phase 1, which was completed on time and budget, included newly constructed buildings that provide collaborative, technologically advanced learning environments. These modern facilities are serving students in high-demand career fields such as nursing, pharmacy tech, engineering and petrochemical operations – just to name a few.



68 PERCENT of students attending a two-year college remain in the area to grow the economy

HIGHER PAYING JOBS, HIGHER QUALITY OF LIFE

Creating affordable best-in-class educational opportunities for students of any income level raises the standard of living for the entire community. This leads to better jobs, lower crime and higher home values for everyone. Data shows that 68% of alumni from two-year colleges remain in the area, so supporting a college near you increases prosperity in the whole region.



\$33 PER YEAR on a home valued at \$100,000, less exemptions

LOW TAX INCREASE TODAY, HIGH LONG-TERM REWARD

Improving our region's economic outlook for decades to come does not come at a high cost to our individual taxpayers. In fact, COM Bond 2023 costs only **63 cents** per week or \$33 per year on a home valued at \$100,000, less exemptions. The future benefits, however, will create lasting rewards for decades to come.

OPPORTUNITIES

NEW CONSTRUCTION,
NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Building on the on-time and on-budget momentum of Phase 1, COM Bond 2023 includes a blend of new construction and renovations to existing facilities. These additions create affordable, best-in-class educational opportunities for students, workers and all residents in our communities.

NEW

New Library/Classroom Building
(approximately 134,000 sf)

New Public Services Center
(approximately 50,000 sf)

New Corporate and Continuing Education Center (approximately 20,000 sf)

New 3-Story Classroom Building
(approximately 65,000 sf)

RENOVATIONS

Public Services Center Addition/Renovation – Conversion to College Services
(approximately 5,750 sf addition; 9,246 sf renovation; 3,300 sf storage building relocation)

Welding Building Addition/Renovation
(approximately 5,000 sf addition; 8,400 sf renovation)

Industrial Education Building Renovation
(approximately 22,250 sf)



NEW PUBLIC SERVICES CENTER
APPROXIMATELY 50,000 SF



NEW 3-STORY CLASSROOM BUILDING
APPROXIMATELY 50,000 SF



NEW LIBRARY/CLASSROOM BUILDING
APPROXIMATELY 134,000 SF



NEW CORPORATE & CONTINUING EDUCATION BUILDING
APPROXIMATELY 20,000 SF

COMPASS 2025 MASTER PLAN – ONGOING INITIATIVES

(Continuation from 2018 General Obligation Bond)

1

CLASSROOM
STANDARDIZATIONS

2

NEXT GENERATION
LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

3

CAMPUS SAFETY AND SECURITY

4

MECHANICAL, ELECTRICAL,
PLUMBING AND TECHNOLOGY
IMPROVEMENTS

5

TRAFFIC INFRASTRUCTURE

6

MAKE THE COLLEGE FEEL
MORE COLLEGIATE

7

WAYFINDING AND SIGNAGE

OLD FACILITIES



NEW FACILITIES



COM BOND 2023 MAJOR WORK ITEMS AND ASSOCIATED COSTS BY PHASE

	PROPOSED PROJECT	COST
NEW CONSTRUCTION	New Library/Classroom Building	\$96,193,410
	New Corporate & Continuing Education Center	\$14,357,226
	New Public Services Career Center	\$35,893,064
	New 3-Story Classroom Building	\$43,490,943
ADDITION + RENOVATION	Welding Building Addition/Renovation	\$8,008,145
	College Services (PSC) Addition/Renovation	\$9,487,754
	Industrial Education Building Renovation	\$10,648,278
	Infrastructure Upgrades and Campus Improvements	\$29,826,273
DEMOLITION	LRC Demolition	\$1,636,540
	Racquetball Court Demolition	\$48,680
	College Services Building Demolition	\$236,603
	Firing Range Building Demolition	\$173,084
	TOTAL BOND RECOMMENDATION	\$250,000,000

GROWING OUR REGIONAL WORKFORCE IN A FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE WAY

	\$250 Million 2023 Bond
Home Value	\$100,000
Exemption	-\$20,000
Value Less Exemptions	\$80,000
I & S Tax Rate	\$0.000409
Annual Cost	\$32.72
Weekly Cost	\$0.63

Same weekly
cost as one U.S.
postage stamp!



LEARN ABOUT COM BOND 2023!

Q: Would the proposed tax increase be effective immediately?

A: No. The tax impact on voters is gradual, as bonds are sold over time to fund the phased construction projects.

Q: I am a senior citizen in the COM taxing district. Will my taxes go up because of this bond?

A: Property taxes are not affected for residents 65 and older (or disabled) if the appropriate homestead exemptions are filed.

Q: How can bond funds be used?

A: Funds received through bonds may be used on various capital projects including new construction, renovations, facilities/technological enhancements, etc. They may not be used toward salaries, operational expenses or other maintenance costs.

Q: Would this bond cause an increase in student tuition?

A: No! We're proud to say that we have not increased student tuition in more than 12 years, and the passage of this bond would not change that.



SCAN THE QR CODE
FOR A FULL LIST OF
FAQS OR VISIT
COMPASS2025.COM

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

DONORS MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Lifetime donations to the College of the Mainland Foundation

TEXAS LONE STAR

Level \$5 million and up

- Awaiting gracious donors

TEXAS LONGHORN

Level \$1 million to 4,999,999

- Charles T. and Mary Ellen Doyle
- City of Texas City
- Texas Mutual Insurance Company

KING RANCHER

Level \$500,000 to 999,999

- BP
- Houston Endowment

SILVER SPUR

Level \$250,000 to 499,999

- College of the Mainland Employees
- Dickinson Management District
- Mainland Medical Center Auxiliary
- Marathon Petroleum Co., LP
- Program Honoring the 15 Victims of the 2005 BP Incident
- The McDaniel Charitable Foundation
- Shell Oil Company

COWBOY

Level \$100,000 to 249,999

- AMOCO Federal Credit Union
- Del Papa Distributing Company
- Frank Webb and June Godard Webb
- Greater Texas Foundation
- Ivan and Linda Langford
- Logical Innovations, Inc.
- Meadows Foundation, Inc.
- The Brown Foundation
- The Carmage and Martha Ann Walls Foundation

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- A.J. and Lynn Amato
- Anonymous Donor
- Austin Commercial
- Bay Area Municipal Inspectors Association Inc.
- Dr. Bill and Mrs. Genevieve McGarvey
- Consulate General of Mexico in Houston
- Dow Chemical
- ExxonMobil Foundation
- Galveston County AFL-CIO
- Hitchcock Industrial Development Corporation
- Joe and Elizabeth Amato
- Linde
- Rockwell Fund, Inc.
- Smith Barney
- Texas Book Company
- The William Gammon Henry Charitable Trust
- Trellis Company
- Valero Refining, Texas City

YELLOW ROSE

Level \$25,000 to 49,999

- Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.
- Carolyn and Oscar Robinson
- City of Santa Fe
- Craig and Melissa Eiland
- COM-Unity
- Darrell and Debra Booth
- Galveston County Daily News
- Gary and Catherine Potter
- HCA Houston Healthcare Mainland
- John P. McGovern Foundation
- Kathleen Cailloux Foundation
- Lift High Foundation
- LyondellBasell Corporation
- Marianne Duncanson
- Matthew and Debra Doyle
- Metropolitan Life Insurance Company
- Moody Foundation
- North American Process Technology Alliance (NAPTA)

YELLOW ROSE (continued)

- PBK, Inc.
- Randy and Peggy Dietel
- Texas Association of Community Colleges
- Texas New Mexico Power
- The Lubrizol Foundation
- Verizon Foundation
- Dr. Warren Nichols Jr. and Mrs. Chris Nichols
- Ziegler's Foods

BLUEBONNET

Level \$10,000 to 24,999

- A&A Machine & Fabrication, LLC
- Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation
- Associated Credit Union
- Barbara Austin
- Bartlett Cocke General Contractors, LLC
- Blimp Base Interests, Inc.
- Bruce Latimer
- Catherine Moran
- CBRE | Heery
- Dr. Clen and Michelle Burton
- Coast Foundation, Inc.
- Commercial Metals Company #303
- COMPeers
- Constance and James O’Kane
- Dawn and Jason King
- Dorothy Godard
- Douglas and Dr. Crystal Alvarez
- Ernie and Kathy Deats
- Eva Rowe
- Fidelity Investments
- Fred Krebs
- Fred Sandberg
- Dr. Gary E. and Diane Wilson
- Gary and Pam Scoggin
- H. Russ Brown
- Hitchcock ISD Education Foundation, Inc.
- In loving memory of Pamela Faye Bass
- In memory of Maurice Moore and Ray Gonzalez
- Jack McConnell

BLUEBONNET (continued)

- Mayor James and Carol Yarbrough
- Jason and Angie Bass
- Jeanette Godard Robbins
- Dr. Jere Hammer
- John Glowczwski
- John S. Dunn Foundation
- Karsten Interior Services, L.P.
- Ken and Carolyn Adams
- Larry Smith
- Lawrence and Sue Edrozo
- Lowe’s Charitable and Educational Foundation
- Mary Ann and Eric Amelang
- CDR Maxine Wilcox, USCG Ret
- MGC, Inc.
- Moody National Bank
- On the Run, Inc.
- Peter and Henrietta Doak
- Ralph and Linda Holm
- Ray Bass
- Robert C. and Pat Updegrove
- Robert Handy and Janet Ward
- Ronald Shelby
- Santa Fe Texas Education Foundation
- Scholarship America
- Terrence and Rosalie Kettler
- Texas City – La Marque Chamber of Commerce
- Texas First Bank
- Texas Higher Education Foundation
- Texas Pioneer Foundation
- Trevino Group, Inc.
- Twilight & Marc Freedman Foundation
- Dr. Vicki Stanfield and Mr. Richard Stanfield
- Dr. Yolanda Waters and Mr. Alan Waters

OPENING DOORS PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP

The COM Opening Doors Promise Scholarship covers 100% of tuition and fees for any eligible high school student in Texas City, La Marque, Hitchcock, Dickinson or Santa Fe for up to two years.

Eligibility

- Class of 2023 high school graduates
- GED, public, private, home or charter school students
- Texas City, La Marque, Hitchcock, Dickinson or Santa Fe residing student
- La Marque High School students, regardless of residence
- GED students must be between the ages of 17-19
- No income or high school GPA requirement



Talk to an enrollment coach now to get started!
Visit com.edu/promise to learn more.

College of the Mainland les promete matrícula gratuita a los estudiantes que se graduarán de bachillerato o que recientemente obtuvieron un GED. Para obtener más información, vaya a WWW.COM.EDU/PROMESA

Opening Doors One Student at a Time

Facing the financial challenges of pursuing higher education is a tough reality for many college students. College of the Mainland is helping to alleviate that burden through its tuition-free college initiative, the Opening Doors Promise Scholarship. Since launching in 2020, the scholarship has enrolled 342 new Promise students representing the cities within COM's taxing district. Check out what our students are saying about taking their first steps toward a promising tomorrow.



Jacquelyn Flores

Bay Area Homeschool Academy,
Class of 2022

"I have loved learning my entire life and attending college has always been my dream. However, while my classmates worked on college and scholarship applications, I was battling an unknown illness. After months of testing, I was diagnosed with Dysautonomia near the end of my Senior year. This diagnosis made it impossible for me to go away to college. I was devastated. Then I saw a billboard for the Promise Scholarship! Now I can attend college and heal in a safe environment close to home while paying my medical bills. This is all thanks to the Promise Scholarship donors."

Ernesto Mena Garcia III

Dickinson High School, Class of 2021

"As a student coming from a household where my parent's income is deemed too high, the Promise Scholarship has allowed me to be independent in my journey and to create a future built with my own choices. This scholarship was the driving factor when choosing COM and has given me so many opportunities. I have also been able to create connections with many unique people and get to hear about their stories and goals. College of the Mainland is the stepping stone that every student should take, and I am proud to be here."





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2025 BOND AT:**

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**EARLY VOTING
APRIL 24 - MAY 2**

**ELECTION
DAY
MAY 6**

**GO
VOTE!**



**For a complete list of voting
locations, scan the QR code
or visit GalvestonVotes.org**

Registered voters in the COM taxing district
are eligible to vote. This includes voters living
within the following school districts:

Dickinson, Hitchcock, Santa Fe and Texas City.
Residents may vote at any polling location in
Galveston County.