



**Click on the coursebook to leaf through our fall 2021 classes**

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### **In this September 2021 Issue:**

#### **1. Spotlight on:**

- **Clementina A., DDC '21**, received three scholarships: the *Renaissance Scholars Program Scholarship*, awarded by the Renaissance Foundation to high-achieving, first-generation college students; the *Bridging the Dream Scholarship for High School Seniors*, which helps students achieve their college dreams; and the *Frankie Morris-Perez Memorial Scholarship*, for students interested in combining the study of Psychology and Theater. This scholarship was established to memorialize the life and legacy of Clementina's friend.

Last summer, Clementina completed a paid seven-week internship in the Finance & Analysis Department of Marsh McLennan, a global professional services firm focused on risk management, insurance services and consulting. Clementina is attending Colgate University.

***Congratulations Clementina!***

#### **2. The U. S. Department of Education renews DDC's Talent Search grant**

### **3. New DDC position to intensify support for students and alumni**

### **4. Dive into DDC's fall programming!**

### **5. All Things ALUMNI**

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## **2. The U. S. Department of Education renews DDC's Talent Search grant**

In August, the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) announced the renewal of DDC's five-year Talent Search grant to serve annually 737 low-income and first-generation students from five NYC public schools. The Talent Search (TS) program seeks to increase the number of youth from disadvantaged backgrounds who graduate from high school and enroll in and complete a postsecondary education. DDC has received TS grants since 1977.

With this renewed grant, DDC welcomes five new TS Partner Schools: Manhattan Center for Science and Mathematics; Park East High School; Community Health Academy of the Heights; Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning and Social Change; and Urban Assembly School for the Performing Arts. *I have always been passionate about helping high school students figure out this thing called life, says Sarah Bowen, Talent Search Assistant Director and 12th Grade Counselor. Recruiting and retaining students is my top priority for the new school partnerships. Going back to school a year and a half later may be challenging for students, it is important that we meet them where they are to help them persist in their journeys to, through, and beyond college.*

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## **3. New DDC position to intensify support for students and alumni**

DDC now has a full-time staff position, Alumni and Career Counselor, dedicated to immersing current students and alumni in a range of career exploration and readiness activities; and supporting DDC alumni with their persistence through college. DDC's career success program was developed through a multi-year grant from the Macquarie Foundation. It includes a wide-range of workshops and experiential learning activities such as job shadowing, informational interviews, community service learning projects, career fairs and panels, and boot camp sessions for resume writing and mock interviews for students and alumni. *I want to build a more equitable platform for our students and alumni so they can soar as adults!* says Yarisell Hernandez, Alumni and Career Counselor. *I believe that our work at the high school level is life changing and makes our students more competitive. I look forward to expanding that work to include a focus on*

*career explorations.*

In her new position, Yarisell will also support alumni with their college persistence and transition from college to career. Our initial program activities include tutoring assistance, individual counseling, and graduate school test prep courses. In addition, alumni will get one-on-one support and resources to navigate the complex financial aid process throughout their college journeys through DDC's ongoing partnership with uAspire. And through a new partnership with Jopwell, a nonprofit that advances careers for Black, Latinx and Native American individuals, DDC alumni will connect to a hub of career resources and opportunities with major corporations.

*I am looking forward to engaging more alumni in a new sense of Double Discovery - the reciprocity of benefits and growth that comes from the shared experiences. They will learn and benefit from our new activities about navigating college-to-career pathways while they will be volunteering as mentors and panelists to share their college experiences and insights with our current students and help them with their college journey. This is a hugely rewarding experience that will benefit everyone involved, says Yarisell.*

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#### **4. Dive into DDC's fall programming!**

*We are so excited to welcome our students back and finally move beyond Zoom boxes on the screen!* says Aisha Haynes, DDC's Pedagogical Specialist. This fall, DDC is offering 15 Academic Enrichment courses including two Financial Literacy workshop series. The Financial Literacy Program is made possible by a generous corporate grant from Macquarie, the global financial services organization. DDC's Writing Center, piloted in 2020, continues to provide students with individual support to build their writing proficiency, an essential skill for college readiness. And, at our students' request, we have expanded the prep classes for the Regents exams.

DDC's courses and workshops are designed to develop the key academic skills needed for college success. *We use the most innovative, research-backed teaching methods and we engage high-quality instructors who emphasize project-based learning – long-term, interdisciplinary, and student-centered activities – because in real life, you work on projects, not just on theories,* says Aisha. *We even go beyond the Common Core Learning Standards used by public schools to ensure that students are college and career ready. In addition, our programming is culturally responsive: we celebrate the diverse backgrounds of our students, she explains, we introduce them to authors and activists from their communities such as Toni Morrison and Mae Mallory. Our students deserve to see themselves reflected in their course of study.*

DDC's instructors have experience in education and are experts in their fields. Lorenzo Mendez, Vice President, J.P. Morgan's Public Finance Investment Banking Group, leads one of the two Financial Literacy workshop series. Our five DDC fellows are doctoral students from Columbia University (CU) and/or Teachers College (TC) who each delivers two academically rigorous courses of their own design: Fernanda Albuquerque de Araujo, Ed.D. Candidate in Science Education at TC; Margaret Banks, Ph.D. candidate in English and Comparative Literature at CU; Monica Chan, Ph.D. candidate in Instructional Technology & Media at TC; and Chiara Fuller, Ph.D. candidate in English Education at TC.

This semester, DDC is launching High Impact Tutoring (HIT), an exciting new initiative to strengthen the academic support for students who need additional resources, particularly after the educational experiences over the past 18 months. HIT, one of the most effective methods to accelerate learning gains, consists of consistent, high-quality, personalized support. *After completing a careful selection and training process, the HIT Tutor Fellows will meet with their assigned students three times a week and tailor each session to the student's strengths and needs,* says Aisha. DDC developed this new focused program through Brown University Annenberg Institute's open source, research-backed tools to promote more equitable access to quality tutoring. DDC students now have access to another high-quality academic support that is commonplace among their wealthier peers.

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## 5. All Things ALUMNI

Welcome to the first official section for all things ALUMNI. Here we will share amazing opportunities and news for you!

### **Career and Internship Opportunities:**

1. SUNY Optometry CSTEP Internship: Interested in a career in health care- *more specifically eye health and vision care*? The SUNY College of Optometry is hosting a Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) project. For more information and to app.ly click: <https://sunyopt.edu/student-life/career-development-center/cstep/>

2. FBI Programs:

Collegiate Hiring Initiative (CHI) - (application deadline- September 30, 2021)

The full-time, entry-level hiring program supports the FBI's mission and offers participants a chance to explore and transition into various FBI career opportunities. The Collegiate Hiring Initiative recruits graduating seniors, graduates, and post-graduates pursuing Ph.D. degrees. Students must graduate **by June 2022**.

**For Veterans, eligibility is within six years of the program date (June 2016 – June 2022).**

Honors Internship Program (HIP)- (application deadline-October 17, 2021) The Honors Internship Program (HIP) is a 10-week, paid internship for college undergraduate and graduate students to learn and explore FBI careers while working directly with FBI personnel across the United States. The internship will run during summer 2022, but the student must attend school full time in the Fall following the Summer internship to qualify.

\*Please review the link for additional information on both programs. <https://www.fbijobs.gov/students/undergrad>

3. Hidden Halos Kingdom Assets Inc.: A not-for-profit organization that works to support the grassroots community care and support that Pastors and Church Leaders provide to the community such as orphan care, farming and feeding the hungry, clothing, support with literacy...etc... meeting basic needs of people who are economically challenged.

International Internship Program: (College students): Build professional skills while engaging in work that addresses the most pressing needs of your community. Experience service as a part of community engagement and social responsibility. Have the opportunity to experience knowledge and work in relation to grassroots work in connection with the United Nations and the global community. Help plan and help manage projects as well as help to oversee strategy and main objectives to help assess progression. Responsible for helping to coordinate multiple Activities that are used to meet a project's main goals. Help oversee the entire process and offers strategic guidance to the committee members while ensuring proper communication between interdependent teams in the organization.

- *Internship Virtual & Remote (Hybrid In-person & Virtual Available)*
- *International Travel for Missions/humanitarian aid (optional.)*

Volunteer at Hidden Halos:

- Assist with a global project(s), lend a helping hand nationwide in the USA and/or abroad as needed.
- Provide administrative support
- Provide Social Media assistance
- Liaise with staff to gather organizational and programmatic information regarding programs for which organization seeks funding.
- Assist staff and support teams with fund raising events.
- Assist teams with research.
- Complete special projects and performs other related duties assigned

\* For more information visit: <https://hiddenhalos-kingdomassets.com/internship-volunteer/>

4. For Job and Volunteer Opportunities at DDC Please visit: [https://mcusercontent.com/b93a7c2200186e1535d4d81f3/files/8ce10c34-4f1f-62bf-0d38-1dc249ac6c23/Updated\\_NSOP\\_1\\_Pager.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/b93a7c2200186e1535d4d81f3/files/8ce10c34-4f1f-62bf-0d38-1dc249ac6c23/Updated_NSOP_1_Pager.pdf)

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**Double our Discovery, Double our Impact!**

**Partner with us to offer the gift of education!**

**Click Here to “[Change a Life](#)”**

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**Calling all DDC Alumni and Former Volunteers!**

**We want to hear from you!**

**Click [Here](#) to reconnect!**

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