



News & Notes

An update from the Communications Department • November/December 2023

We trust that your fall semester has been enjoyable, and you're now preparing for the upcoming holiday break. Here's the most recent update from Collin College!

1. Collin College named Best for Vets for 11th year

- Collin College has been named as one of the **Best for Vets Colleges 2023** by *Military Times*.
- This is the **11th year** that the college has received the distinction. This year, the college was ranked **39 out of 325 colleges** across the nation.
- Collin College also ranked **third** in the country among two-year colleges.
- Collin College served **1,469** veterans in 2022-23, the period for which the survey was conducted.



2. Raytheon and Collin College Expand Registered Apprenticeship Program



- On **Nov. 14**, **Raytheon** and the college held a signing ceremony for the expansion of the occupational roles in the **Registered Apprenticeship** program at the **Raytheon Optics Consolidated Manufacturing Center**.
- Last year, Raytheon partnered with Collin College and the **U.S. Department of Labor** to launch the **Advanced Manufacturing Consortium**. Sponsored by Collin College, the initiative includes a Registered Apprenticeship program with three occupational roles.

- **Encore Wire** joined the consortium in August of this year with three occupations in its apprenticeship program. Together, Raytheon and Encore Wire Registered Apprenticeship programs make up Collin College's growing Advanced Manufacturing Consortium.
- Collin College program areas impacted by these apprenticeship partnerships are Electronic Engineering Technology and Welding Technology. Students can earn credits toward an Associate of Applied Science in Electronic Engineering Technology or an Associate of Applied Science in Welding Technology.



Raytheon Intelligence & Space

continued

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3. Collin College earns 2023 Handshake Career Spark Award



- Collin College was recognized as one of the **31 esteemed winners** of the **2023 Handshake Career Spark Awards**.
 - Handshake, an online recruiting platform tailored for higher education students and alumni, collaborates closely with universities and employers to streamline and simplify the recruitment process.
 - These inaugural awards celebrate educational partners who have excelled in utilizing and succeeding through Handshake in three distinct categories: student engagement, employer engagement and curation, and reporting, analytics, and First Destination Survey (FDS).
- Collin College entered its partnership with Handshake in 2021 at the Frisco Campus and then rolled the platform out to all other campuses in 2022.

4. Collin College and Plano ISD partner to create new collegiate academy

- Collin College and **Plano ISD** recently signed an agreement to create **Wildcat Collegiate Academy**.
- The new academy will start in **Fall 2024** and will offer Plano ISD students a streamlined pathway to earn an associate degree and a high school diploma at the same time.



- With cohorts of **125 students**, the collegiate academy will be open to all eighth grade/rising ninth grade Plano ISD students. Students will start at Vines High School and continue at Plano Senior High School.
- Wildcat Collegiate Academy students can earn an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree from Collin College.

5. Collin College honored area veterans with handmade quilts at Farmersville Campus

- The **Farmersville Campus** honored area veterans with handmade quilts during a **Veteran's Day** celebration known as **Quilts of Valor** on Nov. 14.
- This event is in partnership with the Quilters Guild of Farmersville.
- Each nominated veteran was presented with a handmade quilt as a recognition of their service.



Photo courtesy of Benjamin Cardon

For more information on these stories and more, go to www.collin.edu/news.

