



News & Notes



An update from the Communications Department • January 2025

Spring 2025 started off a little chilly, but the news is heating up. Here are just a few of the stories Collin College is talking about!

1. Power Leadership Breakfast Celebrates Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Legacy

- More than **350** people attended the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Power Leadership Breakfast at Collin College's Plano Campus Living Legends Conference Center on Jan. 18.
- This year's breakfast theme was **"Connecting Hearts. Inspiring Change."**
- The breakfast included presentations and student performances sharing Dr. King's message, along with a panel discussion about mental health featuring local leaders.
- A business and information expo took place immediately following the breakfast.

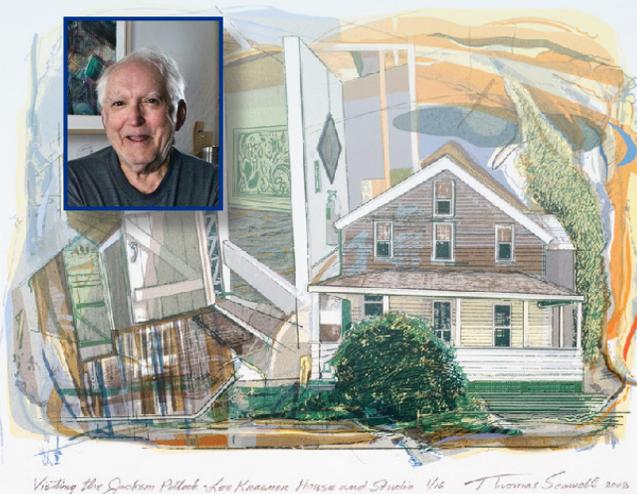


2. Renewed TRUE Grant Will Support Automotive Education

- Collin College received a \$278,100 grant from the **Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board** as part of a renewed **Texas Reskilling and Upskilling Through Education (TRUE) 2024 Grant** program.
- The TRUE Grant program supports workforce training that leads to postsecondary certifications required for high-demand occupations.
- Collin College's grant funds will provide 83 students with additional opportunities to pursue an Enhanced Skills Certificate (ESC) as a **Toyota Collision Technician**, an occupational skills award (OSA) in **Collision Technician**, or an **Express Maintenance Technician (XMT)**.
- The proposed OSA, XMT, and ESC programs will be offered at no cost to the students, covering uniforms, textbook subscriptions, and tool kits.



3. The Art Gallery Exhibits Groundbreaking Printmaker's Work



- The Art Gallery at Collin College's next exhibition is **"Thomas Seawell: A Printmaker's Themes and Variations,"** on display through Feb. 14.
- Seawell (1936-2015) was a prolific artist recognized as a leader in the collagraph medium of printmaking.
- His works have been included in the **National Collection of Fine Arts**, the **Smithsonian Institution**, the **Library of Congress**, and in galleries from London to Moscow. Seawell's primary collection is archived at **Texas Tech University**.
- This exhibition will include an artist's talk at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 5 in the gallery.

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4. Student Uses Make-A-Wish Opportunity to Attend Collin College



- **Noah Denton**, a first-year student, used his “wish” from the Make-A-Wish Foundation to pay for his Collin College education.
- A survivor of Ewing’s sarcoma in his fibula first diagnosed when he was 15 years old, Denton decided that graduating debt-free would be a wish come true.
- Inspired by his decision, **the Collin College Foundation** will cover a semester’s worth of tuition for a classmate of Denton’s choosing.
- Read the full story at: www.collin.edu/news/2024/12/make-a-wish-foundation-grants-students-wish-for-paid-tuition

5. Collin College Students Participate in National Cornhole Tournament

- **Galen Horacek** and **Cody Brooks**, two Collin College students, won their way into the semifinal round of an **American Cornhole League (ACL) College National Championship**, Jan. 2 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.
- The pair were sponsored by Collin College Intramurals and represented the college well during their five-round run.
- The ACL College National Championship and Horacek and Brooks’ semifinal round is available for viewing on-demand on **ESPN+**.
- Horacek took first place in non-collegiate four-person team play later in the ACL tournament.
- The college is considering introducing intramural cornhole across the district, building on the pair’s success.



For additional information on these stories and more, visit www.collin.edu/news.

