



COMMUNITY AND  
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

**MARTINSBURG, WV**

**FIFTEENTH  
COMMENCEMENT**

**FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2023  
7:00 PM**



## **ABOUT BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE**

In the spring of 2005, Blue Ridge Community and Technical College received independent accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. In 2010, Blue Ridge Community and Technical received the highest level of accreditation of 10 years. This prestigious accreditation affords many opportunities for the college to serve the community as detailed in its mission:

*Blue Ridge Community and Technical College is dedicated to providing a diverse student population with collaborative programs and support services to improve the quality of life and promote economic development in its service area. The quality academic programs are learner-centered and focused on career entry, university transfer, adult basic education, and workforce development.*

Additionally, many individual programs are accredited at the state and national level. Blue Ridge Community and Technical College has established its presence in Martinsburg, expanded its faculty to increase offerings in many areas of coursework, and added many new staff to directly and efficiently provide student services.

During 2012, Blue Ridge Community and Technical College moved to the new main campus, located in Martinsburg, WV. The attractive new building offers custom Allied Health labs along with 18 classrooms. As the fastest-growing community college in West Virginia, the new campus assists in absorbing current and projected growth.

In addition to the new main campus, Blue Ridge Community and Technical College also expanded its service region to include Berkeley Springs, WV. A new center was opened in 2012 at the Pines Opportunity Center to serve Morgan County and the surrounding areas. Blue Ridge Community and Technical College continues to grow and prosper in its environment for the benefit of the citizens of the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia.

The fall of 2014 marked another impressive milestone. Blue Ridge Community and Technical College became the first CTC in the West Virginia Community and Technical College system to enroll over five thousand five hundred students. Reporting 5528 as the official headcount places Blue Ridge Community and Technical College as the third largest public institution in the state of West Virginia. As reported by Community Times Weekly, this achievement ranked the College as the third fastest growing Community and Technical College in the United States.



**BLUE RIDGE CTC BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

Ms. Stephanie Harvey, Chair  
Ms. Heather McIntyre, Vice Chair  
Mr. Brad Close  
Mr. Jim Rogers  
Dr. William L. Stubblefield, Rear Admiral  
Mr. Keith Unger  
Dr. Apryl McDonough, Faculty Representative  
Ms. Elizabeth Brautigan, Staff Representative  
Ms. Grace Daiker, Student Representative

**BLUE RIDGE CTC EXECUTIVE STAFF**

Dr. Peter G. Checkovich, Founding President  
Ms. Laura Busey, Chief Academic Officer  
Mr. Michael Byers, Vice President of Information Technology  
Dr. R. Craig Miller, CFAO, Vice President of Professional Studies and University Transfer  
Ms. Megan Scott-Michael, Executive Assistant to the President  
Ms. Leslie See, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Allied Health Sciences  
Dr. Ann M. Shipway, Vice President of Workforce Development and Engineering Technologies

**WEST VIRGINIA COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE EDUCATION**

Dr. Sarah Tucker, Chancellor  
Ms. Christina Cameron, Chair  
Mr. Steve Roberts, Vice Chair  
Ms. Tracey Miller, Secretary  
Mr. William (Bill) Baker  
Mr. Robert Brown  
Mr. Clinton Burch  
Mr. Mike Graney  
Mr. Andrew A. "Drew" Payne III  
Ms. Traci Nelson  
Mr. Harry Keith White

## **PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

The President's Award is a distinguished honor given to an individual or group that has shown exemplary service for the advancement of Blue Ridge Community and Technical College or provided significant contributions to higher education. The Award is a bronze medallion that is embossed with the official seal of the College.

Previous recipients include:

- 2006: Berkeley County Commissioner Mr. Howard Strauss  
Congresswoman Ms. Shelley Moore Capito
- 2007: Ms. Teresa McCabe  
Secretary of State Ms. Betty Ireland
- 2008: West Virginia State Senator Walt Helmick
- 2009: Mr. Ralph Shockey  
Secretary of State Ms. Natalie Tennant
- 2010: West Virginia State Senator John Unger  
Ms. Jong-on Hahm, Ph.D.
- 2011: Mark Julian  
WV Chief Justice Workman
- 2012: West Virginia First Lady JoAnn Jaeger Tomblin
- 2013: Dr. William Stubblefield, Rear Admiral
- 2014: Dr. Michael Riccards
- 2015: Dr. Taylor Perry
- 2016: Mr. William Lucht
- 2017: Mr. and Mrs. Paul & Elaine Guttman
- 2018: Mr. Francisco Lanza  
West Virginia State Delegate Daryl Cowles
- 2019: Senator Patricia Rucker
- 2022: Jean-Luc Azzani



# PROGRAM

## **PROCESSIONAL**

## **WELCOME AND RECOGNITIONS**

Dr. Peter G. Checkovich, Founding President, Blue Ridge CTC

## **NATIONAL ANTHEM**

## **MOMENT OF SILENCE**

In Honor of *Duane Roberson* {August 21, 1954-April 9, 2023}

## **PRESENTATION OF THE GRADUATES**

Dr. Peter G. Checkovich

Ms. Stephanie Harvey, Board of Governors Chair

## **CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Dr. Peter G. Checkovich

Dr. Ann Shipway, Vice President of Workforce and Engineering Technologies

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

Dr. Peter G. Checkovich

## **RECESSIONAL**

*Please remain seated throughout the ceremony. A professional photographer is taking photos of each graduate. To honor the graduates, remain at your seat following the ceremony until all graduates have exited the stadium.*

# 2022-2023 GRADUATES

## ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Kevin Bonilla, Honors .....	Liberal Arts
Alecia Rhae C Burgess, High Honors.....	Liberal Arts
Max A Cohen .....	Liberal Arts
Meredith G Crenshaw, High Honors, PTK .....	Liberal Arts
Angela N Defendini, Honors .....	Liberal Arts
Chardale Y Graves.....	Liberal Arts
Rebecka L Graves .....	Liberal Arts
Charis A Harbaugh.....	Liberal Arts
Madison G Jones .....	Liberal Arts
Daniel I Kahsay .....	Liberal Arts
Grayce A L'Ecluse.....	Liberal Arts
Cecilia A LeFebvre, High Honors .....	Liberal Arts
Noah R Levy .....	Liberal Arts
Kimberly A Mills, Honors .....	Liberal Arts
Kristen A Orourke .....	Liberal Arts
Brooke M Poling .....	Liberal Arts
Natalie J Scott .....	Liberal Arts
Alexandria J Sheldon, Honors.....	Liberal Arts
Rylee A Stevens .....	Liberal Arts
Olivia D Wesner .....	Liberal Arts

## ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Kaare J Aabel-Mejias .....	Board of Governors
Sean M Abbott, High Honors .....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Abigail A Adams, High Honors .....	Business Operations
Kristin N Ainsworth .....	Board of Governors
Collin A Aitken .....	Culinary Arts
Katherine Albright .....	Board of Governors
Jordan T Allen.....	Board of Governors
Jordan T Ambrose, Honors .....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Grecia Araujo, High Honors, PTK.....	Occupational Development - Child Development Specialist
Nicole A Bailey, PTK.....	Human Services
Jade A Baker .....	Business Operations
Chase L Ballard, PTK.....	Environmental Science Technician
Sarah Marie Barnett .....	Board of Governors
Daniel P Barrow .....	Board of Governors
Brittany A Bates, High Honors.....	Board of Governors
Michelle D Bayer .....	Board of Governors
Jeremy Beach, Honors.....	Paramedic
Rachel D Beahm, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Delayna D Beasley, Honors.....	Early Childhood Specialist
Cameron R Becker.....	Culinary Arts
Stacey Bennett, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Michael Bivens .....	Digital Media Specialist
Olukorede G Bolarinwa.....	Accounting
Pia Boskey.....	CyberSecurity
Jamie L Bowers .....	Board of Governors
Aidan J Boyer.....	Human Services
Amy M Brant .....	Board of Governors
Lisa Breece.....	Paramedic
Jacob T Broadwater.....	Mechatronics
Kendra R Brooks .....	Board of Governors

Zachary P Brossart, Honors.....	Healthcare Professions
Marquita A Brown .....	Medical Assisting
Samantha L Browning .....	Medical Assisting
Hannah E Burch .....	Agribusiness
Deanna R Burke, Honors, PTK.....	Software Development Engineering
Lincoln A Caldwell, Honors .....	Digital Media Specialist
Hannah E Canby, High Honors.....	Medical Assisting
Beth A Cantrell.....	Healthcare Professions
Destini N Caviness .....	Criminal Justice
Jacqueline E Chamberlain.....	Healthcare Professions
Ethan Q Champ, High Honors .....	Electric Utility Technology
Sarah E Chapman, Honors .....	Culinary Arts
Brady T Chrisman .....	Agribusiness
Jacob B Cline, High Honors.....	Information Technology
Olivia F Cole.....	Digital Media Specialist
Cristina M Colley, Honors .....	Applied Technology
Chayson J Combs, High Honors .....	Electric Utility Technology
Bethany G Cosgrove, High Honors .....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Judy E Courtney .....	Health Information Management
Abigail R Cowles .....	Board of Governors
Kiara Cox, Honors .....	Board of Governors
Matthew A Cox .....	Applied Technology
Christian Crawford .....	Applied Technology
Christian Crawford .....	Computer Network Engineering Technologies
Nicholas Crosbie.....	Software Development Engineering
Nicole M Dahlberg .....	Digital Media Specialist
Richard W Daigle Jr, High Honors .....	Software Development Engineering
Natarsha L Daniels .....	Criminal Justice
Caleb J Dawson.....	CyberSecurity
Emily DeCicco, High Honors .....	Baking and Pastry
Jason T DeHaven, High Honors .....	Information Technology
Sherry L DeHaven, Honors .....	Accounting
Shawn P Delaney.....	Computer Network Engineering Technologies
Shawn P Delaney.....	CyberSecurity
Nathaniel A Dillard, High Honors.....	Board of Governors
Jack P Dubyak .....	Business Operations
Brett I Dunham, High Honors .....	Business Operations
Charles P Engle .....	Board of Governors
Tearsa M Engle.....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Samantha J Esposito.....	Business Operations
Mary C Everhart .....	Human Services
Tiffany R Farias .....	Criminal Justice
Kaitlin D Farrell.....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Karina Flores.....	Digital Media Specialist
Nellie M Fowler.....	Board of Governors
Stephanie L Fox, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Erin Fratantaro, Honors .....	Information Technology
Julia Fravel, High Honors .....	Human Services
Glenda D Fuller .....	Board of Governors
Danijel Galusic.....	CyberSecurity
Angelina Garcia, High Honors.....	Health Information Management
Laura E Glaze-Mardo, Honors.....	Board of Governors
Lisa A Glover, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Carolina H Gowers .....	Accounting
Tyler P Guilliams .....	CyberSecurity
Bradley V Guyer .....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Trey D Haines.....	Software Development Engineering
Veda K Hall-Ferguson, PTK.....	Human Services
Kevin E Hamilton, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Mollie C Hanscom, High Honors, PTK .....	Information Technology
Nicolas S Harbeson.....	Digital Media Specialist



Dylan L Harder.....	Agribusiness
Malissa A Harder, High Honors.....	Board of Governors
Lauren E Harris.....	Board of Governors
Danielle N Hatcher, Honors .....	Human Services
Marissa N Heiner.....	Paralegal
Ariona Heise, High Honors, PTK.....	Baking and Pastry
Chantie Henderson.....	Board of Governors
Brooke R Henss.....	Paramedic
Deanna N Hercules, Honors.....	Business Operations
Meghan E Hess.....	Healthcare Professions
Shannon M Hicks, Honors.....	Human Services
James M Hipkins, High Honors .....	Electric Utility Technology
Courtney L Hoffman, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Beckie L Hohner.....	Board of Governors
Carolyn A Holbrook .....	Human Services
BrookeLynne Holcomb.....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Anna N Hoopengardner .....	Environmental Science Technician
Aleta K Hoover, PTK.....	Board of Governors
William A Hornbeak, Honors.....	Computer Network Engineering Technologies
William A Hornbeak, Honors.....	CyberSecurity
Tammy E Hough.....	Board of Governors
Arnold Huff, High Honors .....	Applied Technology
Rachel Hughes .....	Applied Technology
Staci A Hughes.....	Board of Governors
Deborah Hulver, Honors .....	Board of Governors
Skyler B Hutton, High Honors .....	Healthcare Professions
Joshua S Jack.....	Information Technology
Elizabeth S Jenkins, High Honors.....	Board of Governors
Ian Z Johnson .....	Applied Technology
Meghan Johnson.....	Healthcare Professions
Hope D Jones.....	Board of Governors
Owen A Keller.....	CyberSecurity
Owen A Keller.....	Software Development Engineering
Stella A Keller, PTK.....	Paralegal
Adam Kendig.....	Agribusiness
Brooklynn Jade E Kerns .....	CyberSecurity
Jacqueline E Kerns, Honors.....	Healthcare Professions
Jennifer Kerns, High Honors.....	Business Operations
April D Kesner .....	Criminal Justice
Debra A Kidwell, High Honors.....	Board of Governors
Hallie Kief, Honors.....	Business Operations
Nicholas G Kilmer.....	Information Technology
Joseph B Kline .....	Computer Network Engineering Technologies
Joseph B Kline .....	CyberSecurity
Andrew Knoeller, High Honors, PTK, Jobs & Hope .....	Software Development Engineering
Edward L Knotts, Honors, Jobs & Hope .....	Engineering Technology
Edward L Knotts, Honors, Jobs & Hope .....	Plastics Engineering Technology
Kelly L Kortright .....	Accounting
Germaine Kwene .....	Board of Governors
Garrett R Landman, High Honors .....	Electric Utility Technology
Cole T LaPierre, High Honors .....	Electric Utility Technology
Chelsea N Latham .....	Criminal Justice
Patricia R Lawrence, High Honors, PTK.....	Human Services
Bryan A Layman, Honors.....	Electric Utility Technology
Melissa L Leake .....	Paralegal
Trinity J Lee, Honors .....	Environmental Science Technician
Rachel LeGore, High Honors .....	Business Operations
Joshua LeRose .....	CyberSecurity
Quinton B Liles .....	CyberSecurity
Julian M Lopez, Honors.....	Healthcare Professions
Michelle L Lucas.....	Board of Governors

Rhovelle A Luke .....	Business Operations
Kimberly Maldonado .....	Information Technology
Evan L Manich .....	Applied Technology
Everett B Marcian, High Honors .....	Business Operations
Kevin A Markley Jr, High Honors .....	Applied Technology
Raquel A Marks .....	Human Services
Adam C Marshall, Honors .....	Electric Utility Technology
Evan A Martin, High Honors .....	Electric Utility Technology
Hunter W Martin .....	Board of Governors
Meghan Mason, High Honors .....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Patricia L Mauck, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Lindsey N McCarron, PTK .....	Early Childhood Specialist
Erin I McCormick .....	Healthcare Professions
Hailey N McDaniel, Honors .....	Healthcare Professions
Karina N McDowell, Honors .....	Healthcare Professions
Erica M McKinney, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Cindy L McKnight, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Bertille Mignoungui .....	CyberSecurity
Abigail A Miller .....	Criminal Justice
Jayden S Miller, High Honors .....	Electric Utility Technology
Leeanna E Miller, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Madison R Miller, High Honors .....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Wesley A Mills .....	Board of Governors
Adam Mitchell .....	Board of Governors
Heather M Money, Honors, PTK .....	Agribusiness
Nicholas B Moore, High Honors .....	Information Technology
Cheyenne K Mulligan .....	Board of Governors
Emilee Mullins .....	Healthcare Professions
Alyson L Murphy, Honors .....	Board of Governors
Amanda A Murphy .....	Board of Governors
Katelyn B Myers .....	Board of Governors
Farheen Naviwala, High Honors .....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Oluwakemi J Obafemi Akinawo .....	Early Childhood Specialist
Jacqueline E O'meara .....	Healthcare Professions
Colleen P O'Neill, Honors .....	Criminal Justice
Jennifer A Park, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Garrett T Parsons Jr .....	Board of Governors
Clifton H Patterson III .....	Board of Governors
Dawn M Petro, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Tracie A Pifer .....	Board of Governors
Susan M Poore, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Patrick C Popp .....	Criminal Justice
Keith D Pruitt, PTK .....	Mechatronics
Alexis M Puffinburger, High Honors .....	Business Operations
Aaron D Pulse .....	CyberSecurity
Michaela A Raines, Honors, PTK .....	Paramedic
Daniel Ramirez .....	Human Services
Sheila L Reed .....	Criminal Justice
Bernice Resto Carolina .....	Board of Governors
Kandice Reynolds .....	Board of Governors
Logan C Richter .....	Information Technology
Joshua M Ridenour, High Honors, PTK .....	Engineering Technology
Andrew E Roark .....	Accounting
Olivia A Rodriguez .....	Accounting
Everette Rogers .....	Paramedic
Roselyn Rosas, Honors .....	Baking and Pastry
Koleen K Ross .....	Board of Governors
Brendan S Rudy, Honors .....	Digital Media Specialist
Charles A Russler III .....	Board of Governors
Brian S Rutan .....	Paramedic
Isabella I Schiano-Dicola .....	Catering and Hospitality Management

Isabella I Schiano-Dicola .....	Culinary Arts
Adrian L Schleuss, Honors, PTK .....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Lillie J Schoppert, High Honors, PTK .....	Digital Media Specialist
Hailey E Schramm, Honors .....	Physical Therapist Assisting
Jonah A Scott .....	CyberSecurity
Barret J See .....	Electric Distribution Engineering Technology
Jacob Seeley, High Honors .....	CyberSecurity
Faizan U Shaikh .....	CyberSecurity
Gage L Shetley .....	Computer Network Engineering Technologies
Gage L Shetley .....	CyberSecurity
Lakin B Shoemaker .....	Healthcare Professions
Rachel S Smith .....	Board of Governors
Joni R Smitherman, Honors .....	Human Services
Nathaniel A Snyder .....	Applied Technology
Tyson J Sothen .....	Criminal Justice
Brooke A Sours, Honors .....	CyberSecurity
Matthew E Sprecher .....	Electric Utility Technology
Kevin P Stapleton, High Honors, PTK .....	CyberSecurity
Isabella P Steffey .....	Culinary Arts
Selena M Stillions .....	Healthcare Professions
Cole A Stotler .....	Electric Utility Technology
Shannon N Stotler, High Honors .....	Early Childhood Specialist
Allison N Stricklin, High Honors, PTK .....	CyberSecurity
Allison N Stricklin, High Honors, PTK .....	Information Technology
Joshua Sutphin .....	Paramedic
Joshua L Swartz, Honors .....	Electric Distribution Engineering Technology
Terry L Swiger, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Krista Tabor .....	Business Operations
Adam T Taylor .....	Electric Utility Technology
Hunter D Taylor, High Honors .....	Software Development Engineering
Lyndsay B Taylor, Honors .....	Digital Media Specialist
Rebecca S Taylor .....	Board of Governors
John Z Tedozashvili .....	Engineering Technology
Ashley R Tester .....	Digital Media Specialist
Dawna J Tetteh .....	Board of Governors
Brendan S Thompson .....	CyberSecurity
Antoinette M Toliver, PTK .....	Human Services
Alex A Torres .....	Health Information Management
Luke B Trimmer .....	CyberSecurity
Joel Truax, PTK .....	CyberSecurity
Tyler J Tyson .....	Mechatronics
Mary L Wagner, Honors .....	CyberSecurity
Caitlynn E Walker .....	Medical Assisting
Victoria A Weatherholtz .....	Paralegal
Tonya M Weaver .....	Board of Governors
Kyle R Webber .....	Board of Governors
Emily G Weigle, High Honors, PTK .....	Criminal Justice
Kina P White, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Mark H Whitmore, High Honors .....	Computer Network Engineering Technologies
Tanieda S Wilds-Mason, Honors .....	Human Services
Lori A Wilfong, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Jonathan F Wilfred, Honors .....	Digital Media Specialist
Rachael E Williams .....	Criminal Justice
Candida L Wills, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Ronda L Wilson, High Honors .....	Board of Governors
Melissa A Winstead .....	Board of Governors
Zelia E Wood .....	Business Operations
Gavin L Woods .....	Applied Technology
Amanda D Wooley .....	Criminal Justice
Lyle A Wooley .....	Criminal Justice
Megan K Wooley .....	Criminal Justice

Rebecca M Yost .....	Human Services
Alexis C Young .....	Board of Governors
Osbey D Zimmerman, High Honors.....	Applied Technology

## **ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE**

Starr D Arroyo.....	Education
Ryan A Barz .....	Business Administration
Emilee C Benson .....	Social Sciences
Jasmine I Burdine.....	Business Administration
David A Burton.....	Business Administration
Jose Capacho Escobar.....	Business Administration
Cara R Frye, High Honors.....	Business Administration
Uriah R Greene.....	Business Administration
Spencer R Hamilton, High Honors .....	Business Administration
Clayton M Hedrick, High Honors .....	Education
Clayton M Hedrick, High Honors .....	Social Sciences
Aleta K Hoover, PTK.....	Business Administration
Caitlyn M Jennings.....	Education
Lindsay D Klees, Honors.....	Education
Annie E Miller.....	Social Sciences
Tessa J Penwell, Honors .....	Education
Nayeli E Plata Candelario, High Honors .....	Education
Chase C Price .....	Education
Hunter J Rassa .....	Business Administration
Nely N Rider .....	Business Administration
Corinne A Salesky .....	Education
Kiersten A Schleuss.....	Business Administration
Kyle J Schools .....	Business Administration
Caleb Tucker, High Honors.....	Business Administration
Katie A VanMetre.....	Education

## **ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**

AnnaClaire I Acly.....	Nursing
Viktoria A Andrews-Martin, High Honors, PTK.....	Nursing
Kimberly L Barr .....	Nursing
Whitney L Berry, PTK .....	Nursing
Zachary P Brossart, Honors.....	Nursing
Cathy J Colvin, Honors.....	Nursing
Kiana L Day.....	Nursing
Evanthia V Dillow, High Honors.....	Nursing
Marcelline Eta Oben, Honors .....	Nursing
Ashley N Falls, PTK .....	Nursing
Renee N Finzel, Honors, PTK.....	Nursing
Amanda M Homan.....	Nursing
Karegan F Howard.....	Nursing
Julie M Huffman .....	Nursing
Catherine L Ingersoll, High Honors .....	Nursing
Zalina Kubalova .....	Nursing
Grayce A L'Ecluse.....	Nursing
Michael P Lisk .....	Nursing
Alexa L Mason, Honors .....	Nursing
Kaitlin M McGrogan Marr, Honors, PTK.....	Nursing
Tiffany E Michael, Honors.....	Nursing
Tiffany M Payton.....	Nursing
Angela D Powers, Honors, PTK.....	Nursing
Kaylee N Schlaefli .....	Nursing

Katie T Snyder, High Honors, PTK .....	Nursing
Judy L Stotler, Honors.....	Nursing
Anna H Tucker Miss, High Honors.....	Nursing
Sarah M Tuttle, Honors, PTK .....	Nursing
Shelby E Wilkinson .....	Nursing
Erin Wood, PTK .....	Nursing

## **EXPLANATION OF *HONORS***

**Honors** are awarded according to these criteria: **Honors, cumulative** grade point average 3.50 to 3.74; **High Honors, cumulative** grade point average 3.75 to 4.00.

## **EXPLANATION OF ACADEMIC ROBES AND REGALIA**

The robes, caps and hoods worn by faculty members and graduates have historical origins and significance. During the Middle Ages, scholars wore wool or fur garments to stay warm in the drafty, stone buildings that were poorly heated. Most of the scholars wore cloaks that included a hood that could be pulled up to keep their heads warm. Academic gowns and hoods were adapted from these early garments, the hood chosen by the scholars to indicate the degree held by the wearer. In 1895 American colleges and universities adopted a uniform code of academic dress. It has remained the general standard in America since. Black is the traditional color for academic gowns, although some institutions allow degree holders to wear robes in the college or university's colors.

The head covering most commonly used in America is the square, tasseled mortarboard, although other styles of head coverings are sometimes worn with academic regalia. The tassel is usually black and is worn over the left front quarter of the mortarboard. Holders of doctoral degrees may wear gold tassels. The hood is a distinctive feature of academic dress, which may indicate the wearer's degree and the institution from which that degree was earned. The color of the hood's lining indicates from which college or university the degree was given, and the field of study is designated by the color of the hood's velvet facing.

## **ABOUT PHI THETA KAPPA**

"The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa shall be to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students. To achieve this purpose, Phi Theta Kappa shall provide opportunity for the development of leadership and service, for an intellectual climate for exchange of ideas and ideals, for lively fellowship for scholars, and for stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence." Phi Theta Kappa's two-fold mission is: 1) to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of two-year college students and 2) to provide opportunities for individual growth and development through participation in *Honors*, leadership, service and fellowship programming.

The Beta Omicron Delta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa was created at Blue Ridge Community and Technical College in January 2006. To be eligible for membership, a student must have a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale, be a degree-seeking student, and have completed at least 12 credit hours of coursework at Blue Ridge Community and Technical College.

## **ABOUT PHI BETA LAMBDA**

Phi Beta Lambda's (PBL) mission is to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career development programs. Opportunities exist to develop business-related career competencies. PBL is an integral part of the instructional program and in addition promotes a sense of civic and personal responsibility. Students have an opportunity to compete at both the state and national level for awards and scholarships, network with industry leaders, provide community service, socialize with peers from across various majors and travel.

## **ABOUT BLUE RIDGE CTC ROTARACT**

Rotaract of Blue Ridge CTC was founded March 2015. It is an on campus club that meets to exchange ideas, plan activities and projects and socialize. The BRCTC club is sponsored by the Martinsburg Noon Rotary.

### **SPECIAL THANKS TO:**

Staff and Faculty of Blue Ridge CTC

Antietam Cable

Berkeley County Schools

Mark Salfia and the SMHS Staff

Berkeley County Sheriff and its Reserve Unit

Blue Ridge CTC Foundation

Bruin Café

DSL Sound Inc

Inwood Florist and Gift

Progressive Printing

Tricky Person Productions