starting fresh
at Saint Paul College
Making the most out of every opportunity

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For Eloisa Segura, Saint Paul College represented a chance to reinvent herself as a standout student and community leader.

Saint Paul College Magazine is published two times per year for current and future students, alumni and friends of Saint Paul College.

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At Saint Paul College, our first priority is to provide students with an exceptional education. We provide the opportunities for multiple pathways, and the students themselves mold these opportunities into their personal successes. Just like the first-generation college-goers Eloisa Segura and Dr. Zahra Roble, who we’ve featured in this issue. Our students' accomplishments are attained through their own perseverance, fortitude and commitment to fulfilling their own dreams and their own definition of success. That’s why I think of Saint Paul College as being at the intersection of opportunity and success. No matter your journey, our primary concern is for you, the student, and our focus is on your success. In other words "Start here. Go anywhere!"

-Rassoul Dastmozd, Ph.D., President/CEO
For Eloisa Segura, Saint Paul College represented a chance to reinvent herself as a stand-out student and community leader.

From the start, the odds seemed stacked against Eloisa Segura. “My mother immigrated to the United States to work as a nanny and housekeeper – she was a woman with only a ninth-grade education who did not speak English, and who had no family in the U.S.,” says Segura.

“I was born into a Spanish-speaking single-parent household with a family income far below the poverty line. As you can imagine, the circumstances I was born into did not set me up for success.”
A Rocky Beginning

Due to these challenges, as a high schooler Segura found herself just scraping by. “I never played a sport, an instrument, or got involved in extracurricular activities – in part because of the costs,” she says. “I didn’t take ACT prep classes, I didn’t try hard in school, and to be honest I almost didn’t graduate high school.”

When senior year came Segura was surrounded by the buzz of college tours, applications, and acceptance letters; she got caught up in the excitement and decided she wanted to go to college, too. Segura chose a small Catholic college in Iowa, where she was excited to join the cheerleading team. She was accepted, however when her financial aid letter came, reality hit.

“I hadn’t prepared to go to college and I wasn’t a strong applicant,” says Segura. “I wouldn’t get an academic scholarship because I hadn’t demonstrated that I was capable of doing the work. I wasn’t worth investing in.”

Opening to Opportunity

Rallying from her disappointment, Segura soon realized Saint Paul College could offer her the affordability she needed and the fresh start she wanted. “My mom dropped me off on my first day, and I was ready to start a new path and fully dedicate myself to doing my absolute best,” says Segura.

Looking back, Segura believes Saint Paul College was the perfect place for her. “My classes were interesting and manageable, and the instructors were flexible, caring, and understanding. There were no surprises, so you could take charge of your own education by planning ahead and keeping your own commitments in mind.”

She soon began taking advantage of the many opportunities available to Saint Paul College students, including earning a lead role as Millie in the Saint Paul College production of Picnic and serving as a Saint Paul College Student Ambassador.

“Eloisa was an excellent student who was committed to the process of creating our production of Picnic,” says theater instructor James LeDuc. “She was a leader in the cast, and through her hard work and dedication, she was able to create a wonderful character.”

“As a Student Ambassador Eloisa was always eager to represent our college on tours and at off-campus events, and was a very confident public speaker,” adds Dave Mogren, a former advisor for the Student Ambassador program.

“Eloisa is a great example of how valuable networking within the college can be – her constant participation was noticed by everyone, including our college president, who invited Eloisa to speak in front of visiting groups on several occasions.”

Finding Success

Segura’s academic efforts and enthusiasm paid off quickly with a scholarship to attend Saint Paul College for a second year. After meeting her would-be husband, she set her sights on a closer Catholic college, St. Thomas, to complete her four-year degree.

“When I received my acceptance letter from St. Thomas it included an academic transfer scholarship for over half my tuition, and I could afford to finance the rest with federal student loans,” says Segura. “I went on to become part of St. Thomas’ honor society, as well as my department’s honor society.”

Segura graduated cum laude from the University of St. Thomas in 2016 with a major in Spanish linguistics and a minor in business. Today, she works as a commercial insurance analyst for a national commercial real estate capital solutions provider, and has paid off all her student loans. “I am a success story, however none of this would have been possible without the existence of Saint Paul College and the opportunity it presented,” says Segura.

Minnesota State Transfer Pathways

Through Transfer Pathways, students enrolled at a Minnesota State college will be able to select from up to 28 fields that will prepare them to major in related four-year bachelor’s programs at the Minnesota State universities. Saint Paul College currently offers two specific Transfer Pathways, the Biology AS Transfer Pathway and the Business AS Transfer Pathway, with plans to create several more in the next few years.

more details at saintpaul.edu/TransferPathway
Proving Anything is Possible

Through hard work and dedication, Saint Paul College graduate Dr. Zahra Roble earns her nurse practitioner doctorate.

As a young child growing up in Somalia, Dr. Zahra Roble always had a drive to learn. “When I was just three years old, I would take my book and walk to school with my brothers and sisters – the teacher would give me a piece of candy and tell me to come back when I was a little older,” says Roble. “When I was in fourth grade I skipped to eighth grade because I always listened closely to the teacher.”

The early 1990s were a time of deep civil unrest and war in Somalia, and so at age 16, Roble moved to Saint Paul, Minnesota, where she began attending high school and married one year later. “I finished high school in 1999, and by that time I had three young children,” says Roble. “No one in my family had ever gone to college – my parents didn’t even know how to read or write – but the spark to learn was still there and I decided to begin the nursing program at Saint Paul College.”

Working for Success

At first, college was a challenge for Roble. “I didn’t know anything about science or the body systems and I was raising four children as a single parent, but I did have the determination to succeed. I would wake up very early and study hard to pass the tests, and I often ended up being the best student in the class.”

Roble’s hard work paid off and she earned her Saint Paul College Practical Nursing diploma in 2003, however her desire to learn and grow drove her to pursue further schooling. While juggling work and motherhood, Roble attended St. Catherine University where she earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing in 2008, her nursing practitioner master’s degree in 2015, and her doctor of nursing practice degree in 2018.

“No one in my family had ever gone to college – my parents didn’t even know how to read or write – but the spark to learn was still there and I decided to begin the nursing program at Saint Paul College.” -Dr. Zahra Roble
Proving Anything is Possible

Through hard work and dedication, Saint Paul College graduate Dr. Zahra Roble earns her nurse practitioner doctorate.

“I have nothing but praise for Dr. Roble who has been an incredible model for her children – how grateful we are that Saint Paul College is a part of all their lives. She has been an exemplary example at St. Kate’s for the caliber of students we have at Saint Paul College.”
-Rassoul Dastmozd, President/CEO

Throughout her years of schooling, Roble believes the educational foundation she built at Saint Paul College was invaluable. “When I began at St. Catherine, everybody was asking me where I went to school,” says Roble. “They were all amazed by the quality of education I received at Saint Paul College.”

“Saint Paul College is a great place to start. You can continue on to an advanced degree at another college or start your career right after graduation. To fulfill your dreams, all the resources are here,” says Wossen Tsegaw, practical nursing instructor. “Pathway advisors can help students determine which classes will apply to a higher degree at another college.”

A Family Tradition

Today, the four kids who saw their mom studying so hard throughout their childhood are now college-age themselves – and they are all attending Saint Paul College. “My children have enjoyed attending Saint Paul College very much, and as a mother I appreciate the fact that it is such a great value for a high-quality education” says Roble. “My oldest son recently graduated from the nursing program and is now attending a four-year college, my middle son is a computer science major and plans to attend the U of M, my daughter is in the practical nursing program, and my youngest son also intends to pursue a medical-field degree at Saint Paul College.”

St. Kate’s Complete at Saint Paul College

Complete your associate degree at Saint Paul College, and be ready to transition seamlessly to a St. Catherine University bachelor’s degree.

Why St. Kate’s?
• Finish in as little as 24 months
• Free transfer evaluation
• Tutoring and academic support + career counseling
• Financial aid available

Transferring to St. Kate’s is fast and hassle-free.
learn more at saintpaul.edu/StKates

Dedication Drives Success

As a nurse practitioner for a local nonprofit, Roble now enjoys caring for her geriatric patients. “I see a lot of elderly patients, many of them from minority communities, with health issues such as kidney failure and diabetes,” says Roble. “My schedule is full, my clinic is great, and I really like making a difference in the lives of my patients.”

Her advice to other potential first-generation college students is that with hard work and dedication, anything is possible.

“If you have a goal, you can reach it,” says Roble. “I earned my doctorate in nursing with a belief that I could do anything, but I am not smarter than anyone else. My secret of success was simply keeping the doors and my heart wide open to new experiences and never giving up.” -Dr. Zahra Roble
Nursing Career & Degree Options

**Nursing Assistant/ Home Health Aide (CNA)**
- 1 semester certificate from Saint Paul College
- $13.52 - $18.24/hour
- Adjust positions of patients in beds or tables.
- Administer basic health care or medical treatments.
- Administer therapy treatments.
- Apply bandages, dressings or splints.
- Assist patients with daily activities.
- Learn more about our programs at saintpaul.edu/HealthScience

**Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)**
- 3 semesters diploma from Saint Paul College
- $19.65 - $24.40/hour
- Administer basic health care or medical treatments.
- Administer intravenous medications.
- Apply bandages, dressings or splints.
- Assist healthcare practitioners during examinations or treatments.
- Statewide median wage. Information from careerwise.minnstate.edu. - Minnesota State’s career, education and job resource; September 2018

**Registered Nurse (RN)**
- Associates, 2-3 years bachelors, 4-5 years prerequisite & gen ed courses from Saint Paul College
- $30.94 - $44.77/hour
- Administer basic health care or medical treatments, intravenous & non-intravenous medications, anesthetics or sedatives to control pain.
- Treat patients using psychological therapies.
- Prepare patients physically for medical procedures. Refer patients to other healthcare practitioners/resources.
- Assist healthcare practitioners during examinations, treatments, or surgery.
- Immunize patients.
- Statewide median wage. Information from careerwise.minnstate.edu. - Wage statistics are not broken down according to degree. Generally, BSN offers 3-5% higher pay scale and additional opportunities for leadership, specialization and advancement.

The Workforce Training and Continuing Education division at Saint Paul College stands ready to serve the educational and professional development needs of organizations and individuals in the greater metro area.

Connect with us at saintpaul.edu/WTCE

Relevant. Real-world. Results.

**FREE TUITION**
for Adult Learners New to College

For first-time adult learners age 24+ seeking a certificate, diploma or associate degree. Make it Count covers the cost of tuition and fees for up to 60 credits, for a maximum of three years.

Eligibility at saintpaul.edu/MakeItCount

**THE AUGGIE PLAN**
Guaranteed admission to Augsburg at an affordable price.

Complete your associate degree with a GPA of 2.75* or better to seamlessly transfer from Saint Paul College to Augsburg at a relatively low cost. You may also be eligible for merit scholarships based on your previous college coursework.

*A 2.5-2.75 GPA still considered for admission, but not guaranteed. Details at saintpaul.edu/AuggiePlan

MetroConnect
MetroConnect is a dual admissions program that allows students to be dually admitted at the time of application to both Saint Paul College and Metropolitan State University for designated pathway programs.

Info at saintpaul.edu/MetroConnect

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**PaChang Vang**
Saint Paul College student, Associate of Arts

**Why did you choose Saint Paul College?**
I attended my first semester at Saint Paul College as a Career Pathways Academy student when I was a junior at St. Paul Central High School. I had a wonderful experience with one of my instructors, and asked myself “Is this how it feels to be a college student? I love it.” I am a first-generation college student, and I knew this was a suitable college for me - it’s so well organized and flexible.

**How has Saint Paul College impacted your life?**
I am in the Power of YOU program, which pays for my tuition. I also am a work-study, working on-campus between classes. When I started the Power of YOU, I had a peer mentor who helped me access resources and tutoring. Now I am a peer mentor, and I am also a Student Ambassador. I help current students and future students with their FAFSA, registration and online work. Because I am a student, they can relate to me. I also share my personal story. This college has really helped to encourage my personal growth in ways that I always dreamed of. I am able to interact with students and work as a team member, and also work independently.

**What are your higher education and career goals?**
I’ll complete my Associate of Arts degree in 2020, and plan to transfer to Metropolitan State University to earn a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree.

**What would you say to someone considering enrolling at Saint Paul College?**
Saint Paul College has many programs that have inspired me to do well in school, and that have helped me to build my network of friends. There are endless programs and student support services that impact and change individual student lives every day. I’m thankful for my experiences and opportunities to grow at Saint Paul College.
making College Affordable

Power of YOU students Kessya Molina (l) and Nisma Mohammed (r) are enjoying different pathways, but have benefited from tuition-free programs to help pay for college.

While no two students have the same educational journey, many benefit from the same programs, such as the Power of YOU. More than just free tuition for two years, the Power of YOU encompasses all of these positive aspects of the student experience: academic advancement, affordability, belonging, encouragement, involvement, success and support.

We asked both Kessya Molina and Nisma Mohammed questions about choosing Saint Paul College, their experiences with the Power of YOU, and the overall impact of both on their lives.
How did you hear about Saint Paul College and the Power of YOU?

**Kessya Molina:** I did PSEO at Saint Paul College my senior year of high school. I was really eager to earn college credits that also counted as high school credits without having to go to high school. Being on campus for my senior year I noticed the Power of YOU signs all around the building, as well as their page on the school’s website. It seemed like the most logical option for me if I wanted to go to college because neither of my parents could even remotely afford it.

**Nisma Mohammed:** I didn’t want to go through my college experience alone and it was almost time for me to graduate high school. That’s when I started looking for something that could further support me after Gateway to College (Saint Paul Public Schools). I heard about the Power of YOU through Gateway to College. They had a flyer in the office and when I asked a staff, they told me everything about it.

What has been your experience with the Power of YOU?

**Kessya Molina:** I realized it feels amazing to be part of the community. To be a part of something. We have new Power of YOU staff this year, and I love them so much due to their kindness, attentiveness, and eagerness to help - even when I don’t even feel that way about helping myself!

**Nisma Mohammed:** The staff at Power of YOU have been so helpful. They are with you every step of the way when it comes to things like class registration, FAFSA, academic support and so on.

How has Saint Paul College impacted your life?

**Kessya Molina:** Because of the atmosphere Saint Paul College has, it allows me to focus on my schooling. You can tell when you go to this school that the majority are here to learn, and become something great whatever their interpretation of that may be.

**Nisma Mohammed:** Saint Paul college is one of the most diverse colleges in Minnesota and that’s what makes it such a beautiful campus. The teachers, staff, and student workers are so understanding and helpful.

Why should high school seniors choose this program and college?

**Kessya Molina:** This program is amazing because not only do they help you with your tuition, but they also motivate you to become involved in the campus and your community. I have met some really cool people on campus, as well as gotten closer to the Power of YOU staff, and been able to have lunch with the school President!

**Nisma Mohammed:** How can you turn down free college for two years? High school students should choose this program because they offer so much support during the time you are here in college. The Power of YOU also gives you tips on how to manage your way on campus. It’s like getting a head start before all the other students who are starting their first year on their own.

What is your program major? What are your career/educational plans?

**Kessya Molina:** I’m currently finishing the Sterile Processing Certificate in order to complete the Surgical Technology AAS degree. After finishing that degree I expect to graduate from Saint Paul College and go straight into the field.

**Nisma Mohammed:** My major is Health Sciences Broad Field Associate of Science degree. My plan is to finish my two years at Saint Paul College and transfer to Metropolitan State University’s Nursing Program to complete my goal of being a registered nurse.

The Power of YOU is a program that makes college available tuition-free. It covers the cost of tuition and fees for two years at Saint Paul College through state and federal grants and private scholarships. The Power of YOU supports as many students as possible based on student need and funds available for the program.

Graduate from one of these eligible high schools: All Saint Paul or Minneapolis public schools or public charter schools, Brooklyn Center Secondary, Columbia Heights, Henry Sibley, Richfield, Robbinsdale Cooper, Roseville Area, Simley, South St. Paul Secondary, and Woodbury.
Dr. Ian Stoner, adjunct faculty instructor of philosophy

Discusses Colonization of Mars on BBC Radio

Dr. Ian Stoner, adjunct philosophy instructor at Saint Paul College, was interviewed on the BBC to discuss his views about Mars colonization, with other notables including the director at the European Space Agency. In 2017, Dr. Stoner published a paper arguing that we have moral obligations not to colonize Mars. Here's the link to the radio program: Money on Mars: www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/w3cswk0f. Stoner also was awarded the 2017 American Philosophical Association’s Rutledge, Taylor & Francis Prize for his article “Ways to be Worse Off."

learn more about the College's philosophy courses at saintpaul.edu/PhilosophyCourses

Sophocles

ANTIGONE

The Saint Paul College Theatre Department will be presenting Antigone for the 2019 spring play production. Antigone is a classic Greek tragedy by Sophocles and part of his Theban trilogy. This is a powerful drama that focuses on numerous issues. Saint Paul College will bring this poignant story to life, telling this classic story in a modern setting. Performances will be in the College Theatre:

• 7:30pm - Thursday, March 7
• 7:30pm - Friday, March 8
• 1:30pm - Saturday, March 9

Admission is free and open to the public.
details at saintpaul.edu/SpringPlay

New partnership agreement is signed between Saint Paul College Culinary Arts program and Southwest Minnesota State University providing a pathway for our graduates to earn a bachelor’s degree in the field of Culinology® from SMSU.

L to R: Chef Nathan Sartain, Culinary Arts instructor and Department Head; Dr. Connie Gores, President, Southwest Minnesota State University; Dr. Rassoul Dastmozd, President/CEO Saint Paul College; Chef Pierre Rabbia, Culinary Arts instructor

indigenous strong

Many advisors and Native American students gathered on Indigenous Peoples Day, enjoyed indigenous food, while building new connections on campus.

L to R: Kyra Engen - Multicultural Program Coordinator, Salia Price, Lamar Shingles - Director of Student Life, Amanda Ecker, Danielle Polk, Andrew Fairchild, Sarah Butler - Indigenous Strong Advisor, Brian Yazzie
Saint Paul College welcomed new and returning students in our Career and Technical programs on September 5, 2018, for Trades Student Welcome Day. This included a panel discussion with industry partners from McGough, Factory Motor Parts, Allstate Peterbilt Group, Honest-1 Auto Care®, Brixon Manufacturing, and more to discuss manufacturing careers in Minnesota.

$20K James Beard Foundation Scholarship Recipient

Ben Rengstorf, ’16 Culinary Arts grad (2nd from left), one of ten U.S. recipients of the prestigious scholarship, says he enjoyed learning from our expert chef instructors. He’ll be pursuing a Master of Science Degree in Sustainable Food Systems at Green Mountain College in Poultney, VT.

Auto & Truck Career Fair

Local and national company representatives were available to talk about full- and part-time opportunities in the transportation industry at Saint Paul College on September 12, 2018.

saintpaul.edu/CulinaryArts

saintpaul.edu/TradePrograms
Spring 2019
Major Programs

For information on our programs, visit saintpaul.edu/Programs

Minnesota Transfer Curriculum
The STEM & Liberal Arts divisions offer general education courses across the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) Goal Areas to fulfill associate degree requirements. Students enrolled in the Associate of Arts degree complete the first two years of a four-year degree including 40 general education and 20 pre-major credits. For a complete list of MnTC courses offered at Saint Paul College, go to saintpaul.edu/MnTC.

Liberal & Fine Arts Programs
- Associate of Arts Degree
  - Emphasis in Communication Studies
  - Emphasis in Criminology
  - Emphasis in History
  - Emphasis in Social Science/Public Affairs
- Associate of Fine Arts – Music
- American Sign Language Studies Certificate

STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering & Math
- Biology Transfer Pathway AS
- Chemistry AS
- Computer Animation Certificate
- Computer Graphics & Visualization AS
- Computer Network Engineering AAS
- Computer Programming/Coding AAS
- Computer Science AS
- CyberSecurity AAS
- CyberSecurity Certificate
- Data Science AS NEW!
- Engineering Broad Field AS
- Enterprise Computing Certificate
- Geographic Information Science AAS NEW!
- Geographic Information Science Certificate NEW!

Business Programs
- Accounting AAS
- Accounting Technician Diploma
- Business Certificate
- Business Transfer Pathway AS
- Customer Service Office Support Certificate
- Entrepreneurship Certificate
- Event and Meeting Management Certificate
- Finance AS
- Global Trade Professional Certificate
- Global Trade Specialist AAS
- Hospitality Management AAS
- Human Resources AAS
- Human Resources Certificate
- Marketing AAS

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS (AA) DEGREE
The Associate of Arts (AA) Degree is awarded for successful completion of 60 semester credits in liberal arts and sciences designed to constitute the first two years of a bachelor’s degree. The AA Degree is intended primarily for students who plan to transfer to another college or university to complete a four-year degree. Transfer of courses may vary depending on the major and/or receiving college.

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE (AS) DEGREE
The Associate of Science (AS) Degree is awarded for successful completion of a program of 60 semester credits in a designated field or area which transfers to a four-year major in a related scientific or technical field. The AS Degree includes a minimum of 30 semester credits from Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) courses. The AS Degree may also be designed to prepare students for employment.

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS) DEGREE
The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree is awarded for successful completion of a program of 60–72 semester credits and is intended for students who desire immediate employment upon graduation. The degree includes a minimum of 16 semester credits of liberal arts and sciences courses from the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) distribution requirements for the AAS degree.

Spring Semester
STARTS
JANUARY 14
saintpaul.edu/Apply
BACHELOR’S (BA OR BS) DEGREE
A baccalaureate degree or bachelor’s degree (Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science—depending on the major field of study) is a four-year college or university degree required in some career fields. The bachelor’s degree is typically a program of courses consisting of 120–128 semester credits in the liberal arts and sciences and a specialized field of study.

DIPLOMA
Diplomas are awarded for successful completion of 30–72 semester college-level credits and are intended for students who desire entry-level employment skills or career advancement. Students in diploma programs are required to complete technical courses as well as general education courses. One third of the credits required for a diploma must be earned at the College.

CERTIFICATE
Certificate programs are intended to provide students with entry-level employment skills or to enhance a student’s technical skills. Certificates are awarded for successful completion of 9–30 semester college-level credits. One third of the credits required for a certificate must be earned at the College.

Health Science Programs
Clinical Sports Massage AAS
Clinical Sports Massage Certificate
Esthetician Diploma
Esthetician Certificate
Esthetics for
Cosmetologist Certificate
Esthetician Advanced Practice AAS
Esthetician Advanced Practice Certificate
Esthetician Spa AAS
CIDESCO Readiness Certificate
Healthcare Documentation Specialist Certificate
Healthcare Informatics AAS
Health Information Technology AAS
Health Sciences Broad Field AS
Massage Therapy Certificate
Medical Coding Diploma
Medical Laboratory Technician AAS
Medical Office Certificate
Medical Office Professional AAS
Nursing Assistant/ Home Health Aide Certificate
Patient Care Technician AAS NEW!
Pharmacy Technician AAS
Pharmacy Technician Diploma
Phlebotomy Technician Certificate
Practical Nursing Diploma
Public Health AS NEW!
Registered Yoga Teacher Certificate
Respiratory Therapist AAS
Sport & Exercise Sciences AAS
Sport & Exercise Sciences Diploma
Sport & Exercise Sciences Certificate
Sterile Processing Certificate NEW!
Surgical Technology AAS NEW!

Service Programs
Child Development Careers AS
Child Development Careers AAS
Child Development Careers ASL AS
Child Development Careers Diploma
Child Development Careers Certificate
Cosmetology AAS
Cosmetology Diploma
Culinary Arts AAS
Culinary Arts Diploma
Culinary Foundations Certificate
Nail Care Technician Certificate
Pastry and Baking Certificate
Sign Language Interpreter/ Transliterator AAS
Wine Professional Certificate

Career and Technical Programs
Automotive Service Technician AAS
Automotive Service Technician Diploma
Cabinetmaking Diploma
Carpentry Diploma
CNC Toolmaking Diploma
Electrical Technology Diploma
Electromechanical Systems Diploma
Electromechanical Systems Certificate
Machine Operator Certificate
(Right Skills Now)
Pipefitting Diploma
Pipefitting Apprenticeship
Building Trades Diploma
Pipefitting Apprenticeship Service Diploma
Plumbing Diploma
Robotic Welding Certificate
Sheet Metal/HVAC Ducts & Fittings AAS
Sheet Metal/HVAC Ducts & Fittings Diploma
Truck Technician Diploma
Welding Technology Diploma
Atsede Guanje, Surgical Technology

I graduated from the Sterile Processing Certificate program last year, and plan to graduate from the Surgical Technology AAS degree in May 2019, and then start working in my field right away. I had always heard from my friends that the College had good science classes, and this program has a lot of science classes, like anatomy, physiology, biology and microbiology.

The lab environment in our classes is very realistic, and I feel well-prepared as I learn how to properly organize, clean and set-up instruments as part of good patient care. Our whole class is very excited about going to observe a real OR in a few weeks. Our training is very interesting, and I really like learning about all the instruments, the OR environment, and how to be a critical part of the patient surgical team.

Joseph Hanka, Geographic Information Science

I chose the GIS program because I had taken up an interest in studying geography and landscapes. I spent a lot of time exploring the satellite imagery on Google maps. The highlight of my time at Saint Paul College was definitely working with great people in classes – fellow students and friends, my instructor, Kirk Stueve, and others – to answer questions and solve problems using GIS. I transferred to St. Cloud State University because my instructor was familiar with their GIS related programs. After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in Land Surveying and Mapping Science at St. Cloud State I plan to take a stab at the workforce. I would like to work as a land surveyor, a city planner at the Met Council, or a civil engineer at Duluth Port Authority.

Brie Musgrave, Computer Graphics and Visualization

Right now I am a part-time student and I work full time as a retail merchandise assistant. I switched into Computer Graphics and Visualization. At the time, I debated between going into psychology or animation. I realized that I didn’t feel the same passion for psychology. Computer graphics felt like a path towards a future as an artist - which has always been a dream of mine. The program is great preparation for many different jobs. I learned HTML5, CSS3 and Javascript because of the encouragement of an instructor here. I met loads of fantastic people here too. It’s thanks to the welcoming environment created by some of the instructors here that I got to learn so much more about other people and other cultures.
**Clint Smith, Hospitality Management**

I chose the Hospitality Management AAS degree program because customer service has always been a passion of mine in the workplace. I plan on graduating from Saint Paul College hopefully at the end of 2019, and transferring to St. Cloud State University where I can specialize in tourism and receive my bachelor’s degree. I decided to take two online classes this semester, Consumer Behavior and Hotel/Lodging Operations, as a means of balancing work with school.

The highlight of my program/classes so far is engaging with the rest of my classmates in discussions. People who are there want to be there. Discussions on business topics, hospitality, etc., are very in-depth and interesting. You really learn a lot from each other's perspectives and ideas, which builds on your own knowledge and understanding of the industry.

**Erik Steen, Welding Technology**

I spent 20 years in a very rewarding career as a martial arts instructor, until an unexpected spinal injury ended that journey. I wasn’t sure what I was going to do. I wanted to pursue something that would satisfy my artistic inclinations. As fate would have it, I volunteered as a chaperone for my two sons on a school field trip for a blacksmithing course. One of the blacksmiths recognized my enthusiasm for their craft and asked if I’d thought about a career in welding. He said welders were the modern-day blacksmiths, and an experienced welder can take an engineer's blueprint and bring it to life. He recommended Saint Paul College - and so here I am making the transition from martial arts to metal arts.

**Phongxoleecheh Thao, Computer Graphics and Visualization**

Whether it’s watercolor work, building model kits, or digital artwork, art is an invaluable skill and hobby to me. From my first gameboy to my first car, there has always been a special place in my heart for anything electronic. I felt at home when I first decided upon the Computer Graphics and Visualization program. It included an education based on the familiar elements and principles of art. My favorite highlight has been earning my Photoshop certification! After playing with the program for several years, I learned about the certification test and was given a chance to complete it. I am working on other ones and will likely have two more by the end of the 2018 fall semester. I plan to graduate in the spring of 2019.

Phongxoleecheh Thao designed the 2018-2019 Student Handbook Cover. The design places Saint Paul College values on graduation caps, to emphasize that “as a current student, you should exhibit these values and continue to do so after you leave or graduate.”
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**VISION:** Transform lives by making college accessible for all students.

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**Thursday**

**December 6, 2018**

**5:30PM • Saint Paul College**

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RSVP by **November 30**

[saintpaul.edu/Gala](http://saintpaul.edu/Gala)

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Trading Up 2.0 Program Jump-Starts Construction Trade Careers

Trading Up 2.0 is an eight-week program, free for low-income individuals seeking the basic skills needed to begin a career in a variety of skilled trades. These trade industry jobs pay family-sustaining wages. By completing Trading Up 2.0, trainees will have the foundational skills to fill the growing industry need for workers.

Trainees gain foundational experience in several skilled trades including: carpentry, electrical, plumbing, pipefitters, bricklaying, tile setting, sheet metal, heat and frost insulation, equipment/machine operation, manufacturing, transportation, welding, iron works, painting, glazing, and roofing.

Program participants get confidence-building career planning workshops as well as safety certification from OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration).

The goal of Trading Up 2.0 is to launch trainees into a successful career in the building trades, manufacturing and transportation fields. Some program graduates earn an apprenticeship, a spot with a trade union or trade employer while others increase their formal education in a Saint Paul College certificate/diploma/degree program. Each trainee receives individualized assessment and guidance counseling from a career navigator so all future options are clear.

For the next two years, the Trading Up 2.0 is funded by a thoughtful grant from Thrivent Financial Foundation. In September 2014, Trading Up became a pilot project funded by the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership (MJSP). The pilot project finished with 83 trainees jumping directly into the workforce (average starting wage of $15.26 per hour) and another 29 enrolling in postsecondary education. The average age for participants was 34 with 77% people of color, 30% women and 4% veterans.

learn more and apply at saintpaul.edu/TradingUp

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Student Success!

Because of kind and thoughtful donors, the Friends of Saint Paul College helps students achieve their educational goals through scholarships. Students are juggling their studies with work and family responsibilities so a scholarship lessens the financial burden and uplifts their spirits.

In 2017-2018, over 300 scholarship awards were made, valued at $310,000. About 20% of these scholarships will always be there because they are endowed at the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundations.

Individuals, family foundations, small businesses and corporations all contributed important scholarship, emergency grants to students and program support again this year. We’re grateful for their investment in hard working Saint Paul College students!
$35,000 in emergency student grants given for unexpected needs like car repairs, utility bills, childcare and food.

Endowed scholarships grew to $1,255,000 during the 2017-18 school year. Funds are held at the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundations.

Over $569,000 in grant funds for programs across the College helped students succeed by enhancing services and opportunities.

Over $400,000 in equipment donations to Saint Paul College programs made workshops and labs more effective teaching environments.

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