

# WHAT'S AT THE CAT

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STUDENT HIGHLIGHT  
**KENNETH HAYNES**

New Haven native and recent high school graduate, Kenneth Haynes, is ready for his new career as a Phlebotomist. Haynes, who was a student with Phlebotomy Cohort XIV has completed his didactic training and received major compliments for his work during his externship at Bridgeport Hospital Lab Services in Shelton, Connecticut. Receiving praises for his dedication, dependability and initiative, Kenneth Haynes has indeed made ConnCAT very proud.

## CONN-CAT FEEDS SAT. MARCH 23, 2019

Knowing that hunger does not subside after the holidays, ConnCAT is joining the fight against hunger. In a report on Food Insecurity, "Across New Haven, 22% of the city's residents are food insecure- with not enough food or money to buy food - much higher than the Connecticut rate of 12% and national rates of 13%."

ConnCAT Feeds is an event created for the community hosted by the community of students and staff at ConnCAT. On Saturday, March 23, 2019 from 12 noon until 3 pm, the Orchid Café at ConnCAT will open its doors for a free luncheon. Donations for toiletry items and food have been collected over the past three months from parents of students in the after-school program, current students in the adult programs, staff, local supermarkets, churches and IRIS.

With the support of the community, our intent is to feed the hungry but also to create a culture of compassion and community stewardship.

Donations are being accepted for this event until Friday, March 22nd.



7th Grader Shanae Cowan

## ALL ABOUT LOVE

While in art class, students were instructed to create art that reminded them of love. Most of the budding artists used heart shapes, the color red and even the word "love" to show what they believed love to look like. Under the surface of these colorful images, the viewer will see love bleeding, blurring lines, growing and being universal. Six of the students artwork have been printed on blank note cards that are perfect for thank you notes, love letters, and other personal messages. The All About Love series note cards are available for purchase in the Orchid Café at ConnCAT.



From left to right: Raven Blake, Jamilah Rasheed, Stacy Spell and Kim Acosta. Leah Andelsmith Photos.

# YALE FOOD SYSTEMS SYMPOSIUM COMES TO CONNCAT

For six years, Yale’s School of Forestry and Environmental Studies (F&ES) has hosted an annual interdisciplinary conference about food systems scholarship and practice. The two-day symposium held in February, included workshops and panel discussions focused on community-based approaches to food systems work.

This year, the weekend of events started with a Cooking Class and Demonstration led by our very own Culinary Cohort V students and Culinary Lead Instructor, Chef Jenna Martin. Students served healthy food options like garlic zucchini noodles with sauteed shrimp and beet chips topped with honey goat cheese and quinoa.

On Saturday, Chef Jenna sat on the panel for a discussion on the Role of Restaurants in Sustainability while



From left to right: Dan Giusti, Sara Brito, Jenna Martin, and Raquel Rivera Pablo.

Raven Blake, Orchid Café’s new manager, shared her views on the panel for *Urban Agriculture in New Haven*. During the panel discussion on Urban Agriculture, Blake made note of the number of empty lots in New Haven confronting the challenges posed by, "the amount of red tape gardeners must go through before they are able to take over and cultivate the land."

The hope for the annual symposium is to serve as a platform for the exchange of ideas to give experts and attendees the opportunity to leave with new perspectives on sustainable food.

# EXHIBIT GIVES ARTISTIC FACES TO MASS INCARCERATION

Hanging in the ConnCAT Art Gallery is a body of work that uses charcoal drawings to explore the impact that mass incarceration has not only on those serving time, but also on the families affected by their sentences. Visiting artist, Deborah McDuff’s traveling exhibit entitled, *Impact on Innocence*, directs attention to a topic that to her is very black and white.

McDuff, a multimedia artist and poet who typically uses textile as her medium, chose charcoal for her over-sized portraits using only black and white as her colors. In an interview by the New Haven Arts Paper, McDuff shares, “I work on social justice issues. Let me shed light on something where people aren’t paying enough attention. I wanted it to be raw,” she added. “These canvases are crooked and uneven—but the subject matter is crooked and uneven too.”

*Impact on Innocence* will be up on display through April 12th.

