



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 22, 2022**

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## **Halifax Community College to Salute Local African American Heroes**

**WELDON, N.C.** – Halifax Community College will host its fifth and final 2022 Cultural Learning and Universal Enrichment (CLUE) Series to recognize Black History Month. HCC’s Presidential Lecture Series strives to provide the Roanoke Valley community with a new perspective – one that will change how we see the past, present, and shape how we direct the future.

In its 15<sup>th</sup> year, on Thursday, Feb. 24, HCC will recognize dedicated and selfless community members in its “Saluting Our Local African American Heroes” ceremony at 10 a.m. in the Griffin Centre, and through livestream via HCC’s YouTube channel and [halifaxcc.edu](http://halifaxcc.edu). The event will celebrate individuals of African descent who, at a minimum, demonstrate commitment and unique contributions within the Roanoke Valley community.

“This year’s class of local African American Heroes is being recognized for the continual positive impact that it’s making in the Roanoke Valley with their actions,” said David Forester, acting president of HCC. “The importance of this event is evidenced due to the fact that the African American Heroes celebration, as part of Black History Month, is now being held for a fifteenth year. I congratulate each of the African American Heroes based on their unique skills sets and achievements in transforming our local community and shaping a better world.”

Award recipients were selected from a slate of nominations which were vetted by a diverse committee of HCC staff. 2022 Local African American Heroes include:

Roosevelt J. Banks, Sr., Deacon at Cool Spring Missionary Baptist Church

Laquitta Green Cooper, Northampton County Clerk to Superior Court

Empress Faison, Roanoke Valley Early College English Teacher

Rev. Dawn Daly-Mack, Registered Nurse at Rural Health Group, Inc.

Dr. Tyrana Battle, Assistant Superintendent of Halifax County Schools

Kingi Garner, HCC Student Government Association President

The “Saluting Our Local African American Heroes” ceremony is sponsored by Dominion Energy.

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**Halifax Community College's Mission**

Halifax Community College strives to meet the diverse needs of our community by providing high-quality, accessible and affordable education and services for a rapidly changing and globally competitive marketplace.

Halifax Community College is an equal opportunity institution and welcomes students and employees without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age or disability.