

#### Vision

Where dreams come to life, and lives come to change.

#### Mission Statement

The mission of Carl Sandburg College is to provide all students with opportunities for success.

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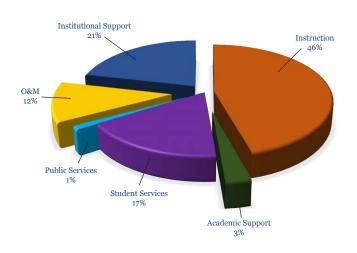




## **FY 2021 PERCENT OF TOTAL GENERAL FUNDS REVENUE BY SOURCE**



## **FY 2021 PERCENT OF TOTAL GENERAL FUNDS EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM**



## President's Message

am delighted to share with you some updates from our campus as we celebrate the accomplishments of our faculty, staff, students and alumni. Despite the challenges of a global pandemic, Carl Sandburg has continued to support students as they pursue their dreams and educational goals.

Our faculty and staff went above and beyond to innovate in the classroom and expand outreach to students working in a virtual space. This included the creative use of technology, but faculty and staff also spent extra time connecting with students using traditional communication methods such as phone calls, text messages or, yes, Zoom calls.

Carl Sandburg College and the Carl Sandburg College Foundation distributed federal, state and private dollars to support students with unexpected financial burdens caused by the pandemic. We reacted to student need and learned about barriers to their education. These interactions will help us better prepare to serve students in the future.

We also discovered ways to bring the campus into peoples' homes if they could not be present. The virtual Student Art Show (see Page 5) brought the students' artwork to your living room. And peoples' "virtual" offices meant that we all got a peek into workspaces and sometimes even got to meet the pets.

Community colleges are places where people come to change and where they can prepare for the next stages of their lives. It is an investment in the future. We are especially grateful to acknowledge the investment and pledge by Tracey Moore Baker and Mark Baker (see Page 12) to the future growth and development of the College. Thanks to their generosity, we can be sure that Sandburg will continue to transform lives in our district for years to come.

Carl Sandburg is committed to supporting students as they seek to achieve their dreams. However, this past year has taught us that we must be actively engaged



in bringing students to our campus or bringing the campus to our students. This is a time of transformation, and we are central to making sure that our district is ready and prepared for the innovation and opportunities that lie ahead. Now, more than ever, Carl Sandburg stands ready to be in the vanguard of the transformative change.

-Dr. Seamus Reilly, President



hile COVID-19 has presented our students with plenty of challenges over the past year, Carl Sandburg College has been there to help them make it through this unprecedented moment. Here are just a few of the ways Sandburg has stepped up to support students in need.

### **Technology Assistance**

As the College halted in-person classes and shifted to online instruction last March, our information technology staff got to work making sure students were equipped with the tools they needed to get through the semester. Dozens of laptops, Chromebooks, tablets and other equipment was loaned to students at no cost, and our staff members remained on call to assist students (and faculty) in need as they transitioned to a new mode of education.

## Federal Dollars Through CARES Act, GEER Fund

Sandburg distributed nearly \$600,000 in federal funds to 1,015 students last May through the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) portion of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Students received \$350-\$700, depending on the number of credit hours they were enrolled in as of March 20.

The College also received more than \$250,000 last September as part of the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. The funds were used to support efforts to retain and enroll low-income, under-represented and first-generation students who might otherwise not enroll or return to Sandburg for reasons related to COVID-19.

## Supporting Students in Need







## Sandburg Foundation Crisis Grant Expansion

As the pandemic began to impact our everyday lives, the Carl Sandburg College Foundation expanded its crisis grant program for students — typically geared toward non-academic, nonrecurring funds such as medical bills and car emergencies — to include all emergency needs. Students were able to apply online to receive grants ranging from \$50-\$500.

"I was so excited because right now I have to do 12-hour shifts — on top of going to school — just to pay off my bills," said Ashley Allen, a nursing student who was working in a nursing home and received a \$500 grant. "With this crisis grant, it's really helped me. That changed everything for me."

#### **Grants for Latino Students**

In addition to its crisis grant program, the Sandburg Foundation also partnered with the Chicago-based Latino Policy Forum for a \$10,000 grant to support Latino students. The funding awarded 20 Sandburg students with \$500 each that could be used toward tuition or other expenses.

"It makes me feel like someone's supporting my goals," said Allison Garcia, one of the grant recipients, "like going to college, having a good career and bettering myself."

## For First Time, Graduation Goes Virtual

Rather than crossing the stage as their names were read, the newest group of Carl Sandburg College graduates instead saw their photo come across the screen.

Because of COVID-19, the 52nd annual Sandburg Commencement became the first to be held virtually. The ceremony took place on Facebook and YouTube and featured submitted photos of students wearing their navy blue caps and gowns while proudly displaying their hard-earned Sandburg diplomas. Although unable to celebrate in person like the 51

groups that came before them, the Class of 2020 earned the same distinction: Carl Sandburg College graduates.

"I think it is fair to say that this graduating class, the Class of 2020, may have overcome the greatest obstacles on their way to graduation," President Dr. Seamus Reilly said in the ceremony. "I believe that you will continue to rise to all the challenges that are in front of you. I know that for some of you, this moment even if it is taking place in a virtual space — represents a lifetime of trying to attain this goal. Congratulations. You made it."

## Monthly Care Packages Help Students Recharge From Home

ith most Carl Sandburg College students not attending classes on campus for much of the 2020-21 school year, Genny Stevens wanted to find a way to keep them engaged.

As Stevens, Sandburg's coordinator of student life, and members of the Student Government Association brainstormed ideas back in October, someone mentioned the idea of care packages modeled after monthly subscription boxes that people can have delivered to their door. Soon, Project Recharge — named after the College's mascot, the Chargers — was born.

"But we wanted to be true to Carl Sandburg College nature and have this be a free program for students," Stevens said. "We didn't want there to be any cost to them."

The program, which is sponsored through Sandburg's Student Government Association, allows students to sign up to receive a free package each month during the school year filled with snacks, school supplies, Sandburg promotional items and other goodies. Family members also are able to sign up their student

It's been nothing but positive responses and students who are just so thankful.

relative as a gift, and students with gluten, peanut or other food allergies can request substitute items when they register. Packages for those new to the program include a handwritten welcome card. In a year that has been trying for so many, the packages provide, as Stevens described them, "a little box of happiness."

When initial registration for Project Recharge opened in October, Stevens figured she'd have 50-75 people sign up.

"And it just took off," Stevens said. "And then it just kept growing."

The first round of deliveries in November included boxes for 163 students. That number ballooned to 244 in December, and it has remained in the 200s during the spring semester.





Macaroni cups, Pop Tarts, coffee mugs and Post-It notes have been among the most popular items so far.

"It's been nothing but positive responses and students who are just so thankful. I have several students who email me almost every month and say, 'This has just made my day, thank you so much,'" Stevens said. "It's so nice to come home to a box like this, to have someone thinking about you during this time, and they've just really, really loved it."

Because of COVID-19, Stevens and SGA members involved in Project Recharge take several precautionary measures when packing and delivering the boxes. Each is marked with the date it was packed and stamped to note who packed and shipped it. Once all the packages have been sealed, Stevens waits 72 hours before sending them out. Just under half of the packages each month are shipped in the mail. For the remaining 125 or so, Stevens and SGA members make contactless deliveries in a Sandburg shuttle bus on a route that averages 275 miles and stretches from Victoria to Smithshire.

"One of the cool things about this project is we're literally out in our community," Stevens said. "People in these neighborhoods are seeing our bus driving around, pulling into driveways and dropping off these things. And we're seeing where our students live and experiencing a little bit of what they travel."

While so many students have been unable to be at Sandburg in recent months, Project Recharge has helped bring a piece of Sandburg to them.

"We're used to putting on events that are serving 50, 100, 150 people almost every week, and we haven't been able to do that this year so we can make sure that we're keeping our campus safe. It's been a struggle that we can't do that," Stevens said. "I'm really looking forward to the day we can again, but until then, this project has helped kind of give purpose to us and reaching out to our students outside the classroom."



## **Turner Captures 'Stages of** Quarantine' on Canvas



s the world went into quarantine last spring, Madelyn Turner Aput paintbrush to canvas.

Turner, a 2019 Carl Sandburg College graduate, was nearing the end of her spring term at Knox College last year as COVID-19 began to spread, and the school had switched to online instruction. As the final assignment for her studio art class, Turner's professor challenged the students to work with their feeling of being isolat-

"And this piece," Turner said, "really just kind of came out by itself."

The finished product, "Stages of Quarantine," depicts a young man alone in a bedroom, going through three phases of continued isolation. At first, he sits up straight on the corner of the bed near a window on a bright day. His right foot is propped up on the bed with his knee tucked against his chest and an unknowing smile spread across his face.

As your eyes move to the center of the painting, he's now lying on the bed, curled up on his left side. His eyes are shut, with his feet and right arm dangling off the edge of the mattress. Finally, near the right edge of the frame, we see the young man sitting on the floor up against the bed. His knees are tucked against him as he stares blankly off into the distance, wondering what lies ahead.

The hues of the piece also transition from a soft yellow curtain and light red walls near the window to a deep blue sheet on the bed to a dark corner of the room, highlighting the loneliness so many experienced as the world around them came to a virtual halt.

"I think the colors in that piece really show the moodiness of this stressed environment, of being stuck at home," said Turner, who graduated from Bushnell-Prairie City High School and now lives in Peoria. "We just have this one space that we're confined to for a long time."

Turner, who will graduate from Knox in June and plans to become a college art instructor, created it with acrylic paint on a 36-inch-by-38-inch frame. She used her boyfriend, fellow Sandburg alumnus Dalton Havens, as the subject for the painting. Turner took photos of him posing on the bed, then created a composite of the poses in Photoshop and went to work, needing just three days to complete it in late May.

"I thought the scale for this was very important because the bigger it is, the more confrontational it is. I wanted people to become confronted with this and like have to sit with it," Turner said. "It's really easy when you get into these pieces — this one, specifically — when it has such charged emotions. You can really get stuck in there and forget what time it is, forget to eat and drink your water. You don't know what else is going on around you."

"Stages of Quarantine" was featured in an online exhibit at the Galesburg Civic Art Center last summer, and it was part of a show in Sandburg's Lonnie Eugene Stewart Art Gallery for a short time in October before the exhibit was interrupted because of an increase in COVID cases. A year after creating her painting and a year into the pandemic, Turner believes her work has stood the test of time to this point.

"I think it's aging perfectly, honestly, because the last figure is still how I feel right now. We're able to go out more and it's still loose, but it's still this fear of what's going to happen next," Turner said. "I feel like this is going to be a really representative piece of this time. And my hope is years in the future, maybe someone will see it and be like, 'What do they mean?' and look up the history and learn about COVID."

To view "Stages of Quarantine" and other works by Turner, visit madelynturner.art

## Virtual Art Show a Welcome Sight for Nichols

ne of Jennie Nichols' favorite memories of growing up was attending art shows with her mother, carefully examining each piece and sharing their thoughts with one another.

When Nichols and her mom, Mechelle Rylander, viewed last year's Carl Sandburg College Student Art Show, it was just like old times, albeit in a very different setting.

Because of COVID-19, the show's opening reception wasn't held in person. Instead, the College created a virtual space for the show on its website, unveiling it at the same time the reception



was supposed to begin. Rather than seeing works in Sandburg's Lonnie **Eugene Stewart Art** Gallery, Nichols and her mom discussed them while looking at photos on a laptop on Rylander's dining room table.

"It was like, 'Oh, wow, look at this,' and then I got to show off. 'This is my friend, and here's what they did," said Nichols, who had three ceramic bowls featured in the show. "It was nice. It was like when I was vounger

and her health problems weren't as bad."

Those health problems are her mother's fibromyalgia — a chronic nerve pain condition — and chronic fatigue syndrome. While canceling the in-person opening was a disappointment for many, the transition to a virtual reception gave Rylander an opportunity





to experience one of her daughter's shows like everyone else for the first time in years.

Nichols, who will graduate this spring with her Associate in Arts, said chronic fatigue syndrome is her mother's biggest obstacle from being able to attend her events. She described the condition as an average person being handed a bag of coins at the start of each day to spend on their energy for the next 24 hours. The more energy they use at a given time, the more money they fork

"With my mom," Nichols said, "it's like it's a Monday and somebody hands her two nickels and says, 'That's your energy for the week.' So physically leaving her house to do things like this takes a lot more coins for her overall than it would for everyone

Typically, Nichols would show photos of her pieces to her mom and then take the physical items over to her once the show's run had ended. The virtual format also meant Nichols' 76-year-old grandmother, who has knee trouble and mobility issues, could view from the comfort of home as well. Additionally, Nichols, who has been accepted to attend Monmouth College in the fall and plans to become a college art instructor, received digital versions of the photos of her bowls to include in her portfolio.

"For situations like mine or family members that don't live instate, it was really nice to be able to include them in this," Nichols said. "I know that if it helped me in some way, other people definitely had to benefit from it."

View the Sandburg Student Art Show at sandburg.edu/StudentArtShow



ana Djunga first enrolled at Carl Sandburg College to support and set an example for her daughter. She's continuing her educational path to honor her late mother.

A native of Congo, Djunga moved to Galesburg in 2011 as part of the United States' Diversity Immigrant Visa Program. Only 22 at the time, she came to the US with her parents and four siblings, speaking little English.

"Oh my goodness, it was frightening," Djunga said. "In the Congo, we spoke French and a few other languages. It was a big change, coping with the weather, the food here. It wasn't easy at all."

When she wasn't working, Djunga spent hours at a time at the Galesburg Public Library, devouring everything she could to help her learn English. She soon earned her high school equivalency.

"I pretty much taught myself English," said Djunga, who became a naturalized citizen in 2016. "I just kept going to the library. I'd spend hours and hours reading. I had my own dictionary."

## A Personal Tribute

# After Becoming a Mom, Djunga Continues Forward to Honor Hers

Djunga first learned about Sandburg when she saw a flyer for a class at the library. She had gone to nursing school in Congo before coming to the US, but she still questioned her readiness for college here and thought her accent would make it difficult for others to communicate with her. That changed when her daughter, Therena, was born in 2016.

"I was scared. I wasn't sure if I could do it," Djunga said. "But I couldn't support myself for long doing the kinds of jobs I did. I said, 'I went to school back home in the Congo. Why can't I empower myself and go to school and at least get a certificate?' I decided to better myself. I just didn't want to stay home and do nothing."

She signed up for a certified nursing assistant course that fall and soon had a job working in a nursing home as a CNA. But she didn't stop there. She kept attending Sandburg, this time in the medical assisting program. She credited academic advisors Vicki McMullin and Jennifer Holmes for helping guide her, and she worked with a tutor in the Tutoring Center.

"To see that I was surrounded by positive people really helped," Djunga said. "When I try, I really don't like to fail. I'm really hard on myself when it comes to school. The Tutoring Center was there for me. I just had a great support system."





Her hard work has paid off. Djunga has made the Dean's List or Honors List for seven consecutive semesters and graduated with her medical assisting certificate last fall. The only thing missing from that moment of celebration was her mother, Therese, who died of cancer in June 2019.

"I wanted my mom to see me wearing that gown and take pictures with her," Djunga said, tearing up at the thought. "I'm still emotional because I wish my mom was here to see it. Graduating, it's a big thing."

Djunga works as a medical assistant at OSF PromptCare in Galesburg, but she has her sights set on a new goal. With financial assistance from the Carl Sandburg College Foundation's Discover Scholarship, which is offered to nontraditional students who enroll in certain academic programs, Djunga continues to take classes at Sandburg and plans to apply for the College's licensed practical nurse (LPN) program followed by its associate degree nursing (ADN) program.

"I kept going because that was my mother's wish before she passed away. She told me she really wants me to be a nurse in America," Djunga said. "That moment will mean a lot. I'm really going to dedicate that moment to my mom, and I'm also going to try to help out young mothers like me, because I will have been there and done it. I want my daughter to know that everything is possible if you put your mind to it. Everything is possible."

Sandburg has been her vehicle to make that possibility a reality.

"Without Sandburg, I would have been like this," Djunga said, pointing her thumb down. "I would have been pretty much a nobody without Sandburg. Carl Sandburg College is a life-changer. It's just been an amazing place to be."



**66** I kept going because that was my mother's wish before she passed away. She told me she really wants me to be a nurse in America.

## **Turning to Teaching** an 'Amazing Opportunity' for Seifert

eaching was something Josh Seifert had planned to do at some point in his professional career. He just didn't expect it to be at

"I had a professor at my alma mater, Culver-Stockton College, Jim Cosgrove, who inspired and encouraged me. I thought I'd love to do the same for others someday. Work for 20, 30 years in the corporate world and then start teaching," Seifert said. "But my career jumped 25 years ahead, and I couldn't be happier it did."

Before coming to Carl Sandburg College last summer as a business and economics instructor, Seifert spent nearly a decade in the private sector. He worked his way up the corporate ladder at his last stop, Burger King, at one point overseeing the marketing and brand initiatives for more than 1,500 restaurants throughout the Midwest. Then the fast-food chain presented him with the chance to move into a new role at its corporate headquarters in Miami. The offer came with plenty of financial opportunity, not to mention the appeal of living in a warm-weather city by the ocean. But it also meant longer days, more travel and he and his wife moving away from their roots in Illinois as they planned to start a family.

"Most people on my career path would have taken that job in Miami," Seifert said. "We just decided that wasn't the life we wanted to live."

That set in motion the chain of events that led Seifert to Sandburg. After leaving Burger King, Seifert turned to teaching and was hired as a marketing and business professor at MacMurray College in his hometown of Jacksonville.

"That changed my career path," Seifert said. "I loved it. Absolutely loved it."

But when MacMurray closed at the end of the 2019-20 school year because of financial concerns, Seifert was left looking for another job. He found a faculty opening at Sandburg, and as a bonus it was close



to the family of his wife Ashley, who grew up in Cameron and graduated from United High School. Seifert was offered the position last June, and six weeks later they had moved to Knox County.

"It's been a whirlwind, but I get to keep doing something that I truly enjoy," Seifert said. "I've had some jobs I didn't necessarily love, that I had taken because it was going to move my career path forward. Now I'm not just proud of what I do, I'm also happy. Who could ask for more than that?"

One of Seifert's favorite parts from his experience in the private sector was coaching and developing young professionals. He got satisfaction from seeing employees fresh from college who were full of work ethic and untapped

**L** It's been a whirlwind, but I get to keep doing something that I truly enjoy.

potential turn into excellent employees and eventually great leaders. Teaching, he said, shares many of those same

"That was something that I found out really early on that I loved, and that's what I get to do here," Seifert said. "I get to train and develop the students here, and I think that's an amazing opportunity."

In addition to explaining the ins and outs of the business world, Seifert challenges his students to understand why what they're learning is important and to develop a methodology to their problem-solving. He also likes to share his personal experiences in the workforce and relate them to what his students are learning during the course of the semester.

"I've experienced many things in my career, so when I get into the classroom, those are the things I talk about," Seifert said. "They're things that have helped me find success in life, that will hopefully help them find success as well."



## Welding a 'Peaceful' Profession for New Instructor Milligan

or a trade that features sparks flying, metal grinding and hammers banging, Ian Milligan has an unconventional way to describe welding.

"It's just peaceful, really," Milligan said. "It's really relaxing because you get into a rhythm. You have to be really relaxed and comfortable to do it. It's kind of like an art because you have to be steady and calm, controlling of the pedal."

Now Milligan is trying help others to find that peace and relaxation as Carl Sandburg College's newest full-time welding instructor. Milligan was hired for the position last summer but is no stranger to Sandburg's welding program. A 2013 Galesburg High School graduate, he first got interested in welding during his senior year of high school while shadowing his older brother Jacob, who was taking welding classes at Sandburg.

"I thought it looked interesting, and I didn't really have a plan for what I was going to do in my life, so I figured this would be a start," Milligan said. "And then I pretty much fell in love with it."

He came to Sandburg that fall and graduated in 2014, earning four different welding certificates under the tutelage of former longtime instructor Craig Johnson. After graduating, he was hired as a production welder at CNH Industrial in Burlington, Iowa, where he helped built combine heads and backhoes. Milligan said his experience at Sandburg made him feel "more than ready" for his first full-time job.

"I treat it kind of like a sport. You push yourself to do better every time you come in and do it," Milligan said. "Make it like a competition and be better every day. I took that mentality to where I worked pretty much every day."

Milligan spent six years at CNH Industrial and continued working there after he joined Sandburg in the 2019 fall semester as an adjunct faculty member.

"I tried to make it feel more like a job than a classroom and to get along with everyone so that they all felt comfortable to come to me with anything," Milligan said. "It's laid back, but we're there for one purpose: To learn how to weld."

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median annual pay for welders in 2019 was \$42,490 (\$20.43 per hour), and

the industry is projected to add 14,500 new welders from 2018-2028. Having that educational background, Milligan said, can be the thing that puts an applicant over the top.

"If you put a stack of papers on a desk for applications, yours will be on top to be reviewed because it has that certificate with it," Milligan said.



"It will open the hiree's eyes to say, 'Hey, this person has the credentials for it.' I'm looking forward to pushing the students to do their best and hopefully fall in love with something and find a career in it."

To learn more about Sandburg's welding programs, contact the Welcome Center at 309.345.3500 or welcomecenter@sandburg.edu.

## Shark Dissection

A Jaw-Dropping Experience for UBMS Students



hen Kayla Pinedo's mother asked her about the large package that unexpectedly arrived at their house, she wasn't quite sure how to respond.

"I didn't know how to say, 'Mom, it's a baby shark' in Spanish," Pinedo said, laughing. "It was a strange experience."

Pinedo and other students in Carl Sandburg College's TRIO Upward Bound Math-Science (UBMS) program received such a package last October as they dissected a dogfish shark in their homes. For Pinedo's mom, it took seeing it to believe it.

"I opened the box in front of her just to prove it," said Pinedo, a senior at Monmouth-Roseville High School. "She was terrified, but she also saw it as a really cool opportunity. Actually taking the shark out of the bag, I think, was one of the coolest experiences."

The dissection was a group activity for students in UBMS, a federally funded program that assists high school students in achieving academic success, developing them into well-rounded citizens and helping them transition into college. Sandburg's UBMS program serves select students at Abingdon-Avon, Galesburg, Knoxville, Monmouth-Roseville and ROWVA high schools.

The group typically meets in person one Saturday a month for a collaborative activity, college visit or informational presentation on a topic to prepare them for college. Those opportunities had been limited for the past year because of COVID-19 until Sandburg UBMS program director Stephanie Woodard discovered this exercise through OSF Jump Simulation in Peoria. The group met on Zoom while students followed a guided video to dissect the shark from the confines of their homes.

"It was something that we wanted to do to give the students a hands-on opportunity where we could all still do something together," Woodard said, "even if we weren't physically together."

Each kit included a shark that was about 2-3 feet long, a mat to rest it on, an apron, tweezers, scissors and pins to hold the shark's skin to the mat. Max Martinez, a sophomore at Galesburg High School who plans to study biology and go to medical school, said the project was "right up my alley." It also helped fill in something that he had been missing through remote learning.

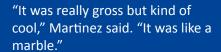
"One thing I've really missed about my science classes is we don't have labs or anything like that. We just watched the teacher do it, so we never get a hands-on experience," Martinez said. "This was really cool because it was the first time in a while I got to do something like this."

At one point, students were instructed to remove one of the shark's eyes. When Martinez went to scoop out his, it popped out and rolled under his stove.

66 Actually taking the shark out of the bag, I think, was one of the coolest experiences.







Students measured the shark from nose to fin, cut the sides of

the jaw of to inspect the mouth and teeth, then worked their way down the belly. Some even pulled fish skeletons out of the stomach of their shark.

"My friends that are not in UBMS were absolutely jealous," Pinedo said. "They actually wanted to come over during the dissection process, and I had to tell them, 'No, trust me. You do not want to come to my house right now. It smells absolutely horrid."

Despite the fumes of formalin, some students had family members in the house who wanted to take part — or at least view from a distance. Martinez noted his younger sisters, ages 8 and 5, wanted to touch the shark and feel how slimy it was. Others had their cats jump up on the table to see what the fuss (or perhaps just the smell) was about.

"To be able to hear somebody's little sibling come in and say, 'What are you doing?' and then you hear the student trying to explain it to their sibling, that was really cool," Woodard said.

Pinedo, who plans to attend Sandburg this fall and go into nursing, said it was an experience that will stick with her — for more reasons than her mom refusing to use the dining room table for three days after the dissection.

"I love being able to see the anatomy of animals and humans, and it was really cool to think that I'm getting a head start, I'm able to do something that other students also pursuing nursing wouldn't normally be able to do," Pinedo said. "I had a lot of fun, and it's definitely a memory of (UBMS) that I'll remember for quite a while."

To learn more about Sandburg's TRIO Upward Bound Math-Science program, call 309.341.5228 or visit sandburg.edu/UBMS.







## A Transformational Gift

## Sandburg Alumna, Husband Create 'Lasting Legacy' With Largest Pledge in College's History

racey Moore Baker didn't grow up dreaming of becoming a nurse. She simply wanted to find a way to support herself without having to rely on anyone else.

"Somehow I got interested in the nursing program and applied and finished up at Carl Sandburg College with an associate degree in nursing," said Tracey, a 1985 graduate. "It just changed my life. It honestly changed my life."

Now Tracey and her husband, Mark Baker, are planning to change the lives of other Sandburg students in a monumental way. The couple has pledged a seven-figure estate gift to Sandburg and intends to make other contributions in the coming years to support the College. All told, their donation will amount to the largest gift in the history of Carl Sandburg College and one of the biggest ever to any community college in Illinois.

"She figured out how to go through college and be successful," Mark said, "but it's a lasting legacy if we can help students like her in upcoming generations so that they don't have to struggle and scrimp and get by in order to get that education."

Their estate gift will include an endowed scholarship, and additional contributions will go toward endowed faculty positions, recruitment of faculty, building expansion and other campus improvements.

"Mark and Tracey's gift is, quite simply, transformational," Sandburg President Dr. Seamus Reilly said. "At a period in our world of great uncertainty, this gift enables the College to envision life decades from now. While the original founders of the College imagined what Carl Sandburg College might become, Tracey and Mark's gift allows us to plan confidently for the future and will help thousands of students achieve their own educational goals."

Emily Webel, director of advancement for the Carl Sandburg College Foundation, nearly dropped her phone in shock when Mark called to tell her the news about the gift.

"A gift this size is what you dream about as an advancement professional, especially when it's a planned gift. We can celebrate with Tracey and Mark and continue to get to know

#### DONATING TO SANDBURG

To learn more about how you can make a planned gift to Carl Sandburg College, contact the Carl Sandburg College Foundation at 309.341.5349 or foundation@sandburg.edu.



them better for years to come." Webel said. "This is a lifechanging gift for the College and our students that will impact our campus community. For them to feel comfortable making a contribution of this size speaks volumes about the type of people that Tracey and Mark are and about the lasting impact her experience at Sandburg had on her."

Tracey grew up behind Churchill Junior High on North Academy Street in Galesburg and attended St. Joseph's Academy, Bateman School, Gale Middle School and Churchill before graduating from Galesburg High School in 1978. She got her start in the health care industry as a candy striper at St. Mary Hospital and later as a nurse's aide at the Galesburg Clinic.

Tracey spent a year at Western Illinois University after high school but couldn't afford to continue. She came back home to Galesburg and enrolled at Sandburg thanks to a Pell Grant, a small student loan and the determination to find her future. She discovered it in Sandburg's nursing program.

"I didn't have any money, I didn't have any help and my folks didn't have the resources for that," Tracey said. "Nursing opens a lot of doors where there's so many things you can do. Being a staff nurse is great. Lots of people do it for 30 years. For me, I took different paths all along the way. I could not have done it if I had not chosen that path with Carl Sandburg College and was able to be at home and live inexpensively."

At her capping ceremony, she wore a nurse uniform that her dad, Frank Moore, bought from the JCPenney at Sandburg Mall. When Tracey completed Sandburg's nursing program, she became the first college graduate in her family.

"God, I'm so proud. It was a big deal," Tracey said, tearing up at the memory. "It was unbelievable. I didn't know that that could happen. I found what I needed to find through Carl Sandburg."

A little over a year later, while visiting a cousin in Cincinnati, Tracey responded to a newspaper advertisement for nursing positions at University Hospital (now University of Cincinnati Medical Center). She was hired as an otolaryngology (ears, nose and throat) nurse within a day and moved to Ohio two weeks later. Because she worked at the hospital as a license registered

When I looked at it, the real impetus, the real journey began at Carl Sandburg College.

nurse, she could attend UC for free and went on to earn her Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Similar to their commitment to Sandburg, Tracey and Mark have made a seven-figure pledge to support UC's nursing program.

Tracey went on to assist with conducting clinical research trials in UC's General Clinical Research Center, then specialized in female health at the university's Center for Reproductive Health. From there, she moved away from nursing and worked in pharmaceutical sales, medical device sales, medical device reporting to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and as a medical device clinical consultant.



"I've gone places, done things and worked in different fields of the medical community that I never thought were possible," Tracey said. "A lot of different things opened a lot of different doors."

A new door in her life opened when she met Mark two years ago at a party while they were both living in Denver.

"I wasn't looking for anybody and she wasn't really looking necessarily, but we ran into each other and we hit it off," Mark said. "We just palled around for a while, and it didn't



take long before it was a lot more than just palling around."

Mark proposed to Tracey at the Packinghouse while on a trip to Galesburg in 2019 for her nephew's wedding. During that same visit, she gave him a tour of her hometown and drove him around Sandburg's Main Campus, the place where she found her footing in nursing. The impact it had on her, Mark said, was evident.

"I knew that she had to work really, really hard to get through her associate degree and then to get her bachelor's," Mark said. "As I learned about her career, I saw all the things that she was able to do from that humble beginning, but it hit me more when I actually went to Galesburg and saw this little town, saw every parking lot."

When the couple, who wed last August and now live in Knoxville, Tenn., started to put together their estate plans, it was Mark who came up with the idea to give back to the places that helped launch Tracey's career.

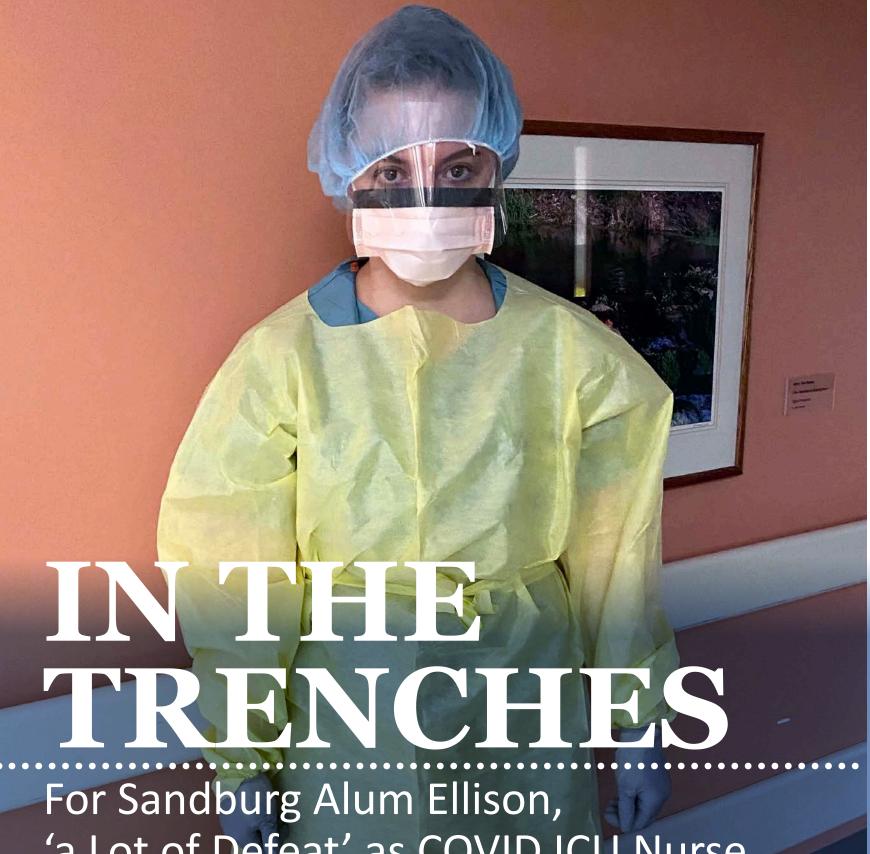
"When I looked at it, the real impetus, the real journey began at Carl Sandburg College, and I didn't want in any way to understate the importance of that step," Mark said. "Nothing changes the world more, nothing empowers people more, nothing helps them move from one difficult or challenging or not-perfect situation to a much better place in the world than in education. Setting up this scholarship fund as a perpetual gift will literally change the world for generations."

Tracey said she hopes their decision will help inspire others to consider donating to Sandburg or including it in their estate plans.

"Universities have a bigger base of people that can provide this kind of funding, these kinds of resources, and community colleges I don't think have that," Tracey said. "I know what Carl Sandburg College is still doing is astonishing, and we just want to be a part of that. I never want to see it ever go away. The people that go there, especially in the nursing program, they're going to take care of this nation, so we have to support this to keep it going."

Although she hasn't lived in Galesburg for nearly 35 years, Tracey continued to refer to it as her home for decades. Her hometown has always remained with her, and now Tracey and Mark will leave an indelible mark on it.

"Without the skills and education I got, I don't know what I'd be doing," Tracey said. "Galesburg is a wonderful place, but I don't know what I'd be doing if I hadn't been able to go to Carl Sandburg College. It was a life-changer for me."



'a Lot of Defeat' as COVID ICU Nurse

here have been times in the past year when Cassandra Ellison left work for the night, got into her car and was ready to break down in tears.

For Ellison, a 2016 Carl Sandburg College graduate, seeing the effects of COVID-19 up close and personal as a nurse in COVID intensive care units has taken a toll on her physically and mentally.

"Any ICU nurse will tell you it's stressful, but COVID has put a different perspective on everybody," Ellison said. "For me, it's been way more bad days than good days. The hardest thing with COVID, especially when they get in the ICU setting, is we're not seeing a lot of people getting better. It's a lot of defeat. I feel defeated."

That's been especially painful to process for Ellison, who got into nursing because she wanted to help sick and injured people recover. It was a life-saving moment while she was a student at Sandburg that led her to that discovery. Ellison was attending an open gym for the Chargers men's basketball team in 2015 when one of the players, Jordan Tribbet, went into sudden cardiac arrest. Ellison jumped into action right away and performed CPR until first responders arrived on the scene. Her quick thinking helped Tribbet make a complete recovery.

"That was like my yep-that's-what-you're-supposed-to-do moment," said Ellison, who attended United High School. "After that, there was no turning back, no second-guessing. ICU was like my direct calling. I really want the sick ones, I want to see them get better," I want to help them get better."

After graduating from Sandburg with her Associate in Science in 2016, Ellison went on to Quincy University, where she earned her bachelor's in nursing in 2019. She worked for a year and a half in the intensive care unit at Mercy Hospital in Springfield, Mo., which transitioned into a COVID unit after the pandemic started. In October, she and her boyfriend, De'Andre Alexander — also a Sandburg alumnus — moved to Gainesville, Fla., where Ellison works in the COVID ICU at UF Health Shands Hospital.

Too many times over the course of the pandemic, Ellison has seen patients fail to improve like she had dreamed of when she decided to become a nurse. Instead, she's had to ask if there's anyone they want to call before being intubated, knowing it may be their last chance to speak with them. Moments like that, she said, are the most demoralizing.

"Come sit in my shoes for a day and witness what I witness," Ellison said. "I've never experienced something more devastating to a person or my heart than watching family members say goodbye to their loved ones before we intubate them. It's so sad. It just makes it so real."

Ellison tried to stay positive in the early stages of the pandemic, but her patience grew thin as the virus spread and she continued to see people in public places ignore steps that can minimize spread of the virus, like social distancing and wearing masks. She recalled one occasion at a restaurant where she saw the bartender not wearing a mask and touching their face.

## Any ICU nurse will tell you it's stressful, but COVID has put a different perspective on everybody.

"I was very, I don't want to say rude, but I was very realistic," Ellison said. "It's just something so simple, and so when I feel like I'm giving my heart and soul 24-7, working nights, 12-hour shifts, picking up extra shifts to help care for these people in their last seconds of life, to see people walk around so lackadaisical about a disease that's killing that many people a day, it's just very hard."

As more people begin to get vaccinated, Ellison is thankful to finally see a light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel. More promising days, she said, can't come soon enough.

"Positivity is going to be so nice to have around again. You try to carry it even through this disease, but seeing people actually get better instead of continuously getting worse is going to be beyond amazing," Ellison said. "I know that there are a lot of misconceptions (about COVID-19 vaccines) and a lot of people are like, 'Oh, what if it's not good?' and 'I don't want it.' ... The bottom line is, it's proving to be beneficial, it's proving to help save lives. You have to be willing to give something a shot, or we're going to be in this a lot longer than we want it to be."



## Simulator Donation Allows Chargers Golf Teams to Work on Game Year-Round



hen snow and frigid temperatures blanket the Midwest, members of the Carl Sandburg College men's and women's golf teams will be able to play 18 holes under clear skies and sunshine.

And they won't even have to leave campus to do it.

Thanks to a donation from Mark and Jeannette Kleine, owners and operators of Kleine Companies in Galesburg, Sandburg received an aboutGOLF simulator that will allow Chargers golfers to test their game on dozens of courses around the country and hone their skills with video analysis. The simulator had been located in the Players' Lounge at Iron Spike Brewing Company in Galesburg.

"We're very grateful to the Kleine family for reaching out to support our golf programs with this generous donation," Sandburg President Dr. Seamus Reilly said. "Our coaches were incredibly excited when they heard the news about it, and it will be a great addition and resource for both of our teams."

The simulator will be set up on Sandburg's Main Campus, just a short walk away from the gymnasium. Players hit off a mat and into a large projection screen using real clubs and golf balls while a computer diagnoses their swing speed, path and impact to simulate where their shot would land on the course.

"This is a huge addition for our program," Chargers women's golf coach Gail Hannam said. "We don't have to worry about not being able to practice for a few days if it's rainy or too cold out, and it gives us a way to work on things in the winter as well. This allows us to turn golf from an eight- or nine-month sport into a year-round sport, and it's right here for us to use whenever we need it."

Another feature of the simulator is that it has cameras that can record a player's swing. Afterward, they can go back to review the video and make adjustments.

"It's one thing for us to be able to play anytime we want, but the video component means it can also be a great teaching tool for us," Hannam said. "It's going to be really valuable for our players to see their swing path and look at things that they're doing right and for ways they can improve."

Sandburg plans to make the simulator available for use through its Corporate & Leisure College as well so that it can be available to the greater community in addition to its athletes. The system will be yet another strong selling point to recruits for Sandburg's golf teams, which have combined for seven NJCAA national tournament appearances since 2010.

"This is something that very few other colleges — whether it's community colleges or four-year schools — have such great access to," Sandburg men's golf coach Ryan Twaddle said. "For us to have something like this right at our fingertips really sets us apart from a lot of other programs."

For the latest Chargers scores and news, follow Carl Sandburg
College Athletics on Facebook (/SandburgAthletics)
and Twitter (@SandburgNJCAA).

## **Keeping Up ..... With Accreditation**

AS WE CLOSE in on the end of the academic year, Carl Sandburg College is also closing in on completing its reaccreditation process through the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). What does that mean, and how does it affect you? To answer those questions, we spoke with Michelle Johnson, Sandburg's dean of institutional planning and accreditation liaison officer.

### What is accreditation?

Accreditation is a process Sandburg and other colleges have to go through every 10 years. Being accredited allows class credits earned at Sandburg to transfer to other institutions. It also gives students access to federal financial aid funds to pay for classes here, and it keeps us in compliance with the US Department of Education. Accreditation also allows for students in our career/technical and health professions programs to sit for their licensure and credential exams.

## What is the process like for a college to remain accredited?

Sandburg goes through a three-step process to remain accredited through HLC. The first step is called a continuous quality initiative. The institution has to select an area that needs improvement, implement steps to improve that process and report its findings.

The second step is to write what's called an assurance argument. HLC gives criteria for accreditation that a school has to follow. The assurance argument is where a college provides evidence of that in a written document.

The third step is a comprehensive visit where a trained peer reviewer who works in higher education comes to the institution and speaks with students, faculty and staff; reviews onsite documents; and discusses items of interest or concern with the college.

## Where is Sandburg at in this cycle now?

We're in the 10<sup>th</sup> year of the Open Pathway cycle. We've completed our quality initiative and assurance argument, and our comprehensive visit will take place in April. Because of the pandemic, the visit is actually going to be a virtual visit. We will have one peer reviewer onsite, and we will have four others that will be holding virtual meetings to review our documents.

## Why does accreditation matter to Sandburg's students?

It's important for Sandburg to maintain its accreditation so that when students transfer to another college or go to the workforce to achieve their licensure or certification, their credits from here count. Also, if students want to use federal financial aid like Pell Grants to take courses, the institution has to be accredited.

## For people who live in Sandburg's district but aren't students, why does accreditation matter to them?

It matters to them because HLC doesn't just focus on what the institution does for academics. The values that HLC adheres to involve collaboration with the community. Does the institution provide public good? Do we have strong partnerships with our employers, with our K-12 partners? In order to do that, we have to work hand-in-hand with the communities in our district. It also focuses on if we are using our resources, like taxpayer funds, wisely. What can we do to be more sustainable and lessen the burden on students? Following the guidelines for accreditation allows us think of how we can improve what we do at Sandburg.













## **PHIZZOGS**

## Student Literary Magazine

Published annually, Carl Sandburg College's literary magazine, "Phizzogs," features poetry, prose, artwork and photography from Sandburg students, as well as pieces from faculty and staff. This is a sampling of some of the pieces featured in the 2021 edition of "Phizzogs." To learn more, visit sandburg.edu/phizzogs.

## The Pandemic Garden by Brandon Fink

Essay written for English 101 proficiency exam, fall 2020

The current global pandemic has been felt in every corner of the world and has reshaped our lives in myriad ways. We continue to hope that our friends and loved ones are spared disease and suffering, and we seek out comfort and reassurance. After I was laid off from my job in March, I began to dream up a verdant vegetable garden filled with lushness and abundance. The course of the pandemic was beyond my control and comprehension, but, personally, my favorite spot during the pandemic was my vegetable garden: it supported a healthy lifestyle, calmed my anxious mind, and satisfied my intellectual

curiosity.

During the course of the



pandemic, our relationship with food changed, and my vegetable garden was a pivotal part of my healthy lifestyle. Thankfully, I was not among the millions of families who worried about affording groceries or food insecurity. I recognize that my hobby garden was a privilege: it was not born out of necessity. Yet, the vegetable garden was a focal point of my life. Over the course of this year, I have incorporated more vegetables and locally-sourced food into my diet. In addition to consuming my homegrown vegetables, the garden was a symbolic representation of the vitality I wanted for my life. In the face of a global health crisis, I spent many hours of physical labor tending my garden. I resolved that I could focus on improving my physical



and mental well-being with productive activities like gardening.

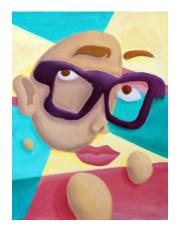
A pandemic causes many sources of stress and anxiety, but when I was working in my neat rows of vegetables, my mind was focused and calm. I will admit that I have always had a nervous disposition. Even as a child, I was weary and cautious of perceived dangers. Naturally, during a pandemic, my anxiety spiked when I fixated on the number of virus cases spreading across the globe. I consumed the data compulsively, because I somehow thought that this information would aid me. However, what truly helped my anxiety was busying myself in the garden. In many ways, it was easier to nurture the tender shoots of spinach and kale, and, engrossed in my efforts, my mind would settle. Instead of focusing on the unrelenting spread of the

virus, I researched, planned, planted, weeded, and devised how to keep marauding deer from eating my vegetables. The calming benefits of vegetable gardening were an added bonus to my initial objective of healthy eating.

In addition to the health benefits my garden afforded, it also satisfied my intellectual desire to learn new information and skills. Since it was my first attempt at vegetable gardening, I poured over information online long before my physical labors began. I enlisted the help of supportive friends: my friend Roger, a dedicated vegan, was happy to send some heirloom seeds to me. Once I was in possession of the seeds, I researched when and how I could plant my leafy greens during the cold, wet Spring. When I visited a local greenhouse, the ladies there were happy to share tips and knowledge. True, some of the







vegetables would feed my stomach, but there was also a sense of adventurous learning with my new hobby. Of course, not everything thrived in my vegetable garden. Despite my best efforts, there were cucumber tendrils that wilted and died, and the heads of cauliflower never matured. However, I learned a great deal of what to do and what to avoid.

Unfortunately, the pandemic is still part of reality, and my vegetable garden was a seasonal respite. The garden started as nothing more than an idea, but it took root and blossomed. When I reflect on how and where I spent my time during the pandemic, I fondly recall the time I spent gardening. It was my tiny corner of the world that I could control and manage when everything else was chaotic. My pandemic vegetable garden was an important part of my healthy lifestyle, it eased my worries and anxiety, and it provided the opportunity to make mistakes and learn. Years down the road, I am confident that I will still be proud of my vegetable garden. Until people are able to gather safely around the table, I will enjoy an extra helping of vegetables and try to treat my mind and body well.

## **The Tanker** by Lucas Dantas

8000 pigs per day
every second there is a pig in my face
the Chinese guy on my left side does it like he has done it for years
slice. slice. slice.
there is a whole system
the faster you do it, the more you can rest
the more you do it, the easier it gets





## Hopscotch by Khloe Trulson

The night it happened,
the campfire burned throughout the night
unattended,
flickered a few times,
smoked down into the logs
where it surely died among the embers,
only to flare up again within a moment's notice
like a dog waking from a nap.

It moved at random,
leaning right then left
then somewhere in between,
only to dip up and down
as if bobbing in the waters of the lake
just a mile away.
It rose high,
then low,

then simmered,
then burned,
then smoked.

All while the campers meant
to watch over its flickering heap
hopped in and out of reality
like children over chalk markings on the concrete,

like children over chalk markings on the concrete, smudging the colors with the undersides of their shoes and determined to find the best path of action through the patterns of hopscotch.





**Pre-pandemic**by Megan Reed

Before lockdown...

Before the required masks...

Before the looting and riots...

When thousands gathered at a concert without a worry...

Before weddings were called off...

Before my motivation died...

Attending in person classes was an everyday chore... (A chore I sincerely miss) ...

Having a normal sleeping schedule...

Traveling was common...

Amusement parks were open...

When you could watch your favorite team play from the sidelines....

When you could visit your grandparents...

When you could plan birthday parties...

When you could be absolutely carefree...

A midnight Walmart run with your best friends was a necessity.

Parades...

Airports were busy...

When nursing homes and hospitals looked a little different...

A new mother could be acquainted by her family members...

The economy was better...

Movie theaters, malls, and restaurants weren't considered a luxury...

When getting a mild illness was not a terrifying occurrence ...

When holidays felt a little different ...

I miss that life ...

The one I unknowingly took for granted . . .







Carl Sandburg College has welcomed several new full-time employees since last March, while others have announced their retirement.

#### **New Hires**

- Dylan Armstrong, public safety officer
- Jeremy Bohrer, mathematics instructor
- Tina Braun-Smith, associate degree nursing instructor
- Michelle Erickson, coordinator of veterans and military services/financial aid manager
- Jiyou Galloway, administrative assistant to the dean of career and technical education
- Lynette Mason, office assistant for math and natural sciences/academic support
- Ian Milligan, manufacturing technology instructor
- Sonrisa Nolan, speech instructor
- Mishelle Oaks, director of health professions operations
- Joshua Seifert, business and economics instructor
- Kassidy St. Clair, coordinator of scholarships and donor relations
- Emma Thompson, data/program assistant for TRIO Upward Bound

#### Retirees

- Gaila Crump, grant/accounting technician
- Jeffrey Lundeen, building maintenance
- Sherri Sharer, custodian
- Michael Neill, mathematics/ developmental mathematics faculty

#### **Arthur Named Staff Member of the Year**



Cindy Arthur, coordinator of instructional technology, was honored as Carl Sandburg College's 2020 Staff Member of the Year thanks to her efforts in helping numerous faculty and students with the transition to online education last spring.

"One of the best things about this staff member is that she never makes a person feel foolish for asking even the simplest of questions," wrote one of the people who nominated Arthur. "Most of all, she always

makes me feel like she wants to do everything in her power to make it possible for me to do my job the best I can do it, using all the technology we have available as effectively as possible. She cares about us as faculty, and she cares about the experience the students have in our classes, too."

## Choose Your Path to Success

### **General University Transfer Programs**

#### Associate in Arts (AA)

- **Broadcasting** Communications
- Creative Writing
- Education
  - Early Childhood
  - Secondary Education Special Education **Bilingual Education**
- English
- History Geography
- **Graphic Communication**
- Journalism
- Law Enforcement & Justice
  - Administration
- Liberal Arts
- Library Science
- Music
- Philosophy Political Science
- **Public Relations**
- Psychology
- Social Work
- Sociology
- **Speech Communication**
- Theater Arts

#### Associate in Science (AS)

- Accounting
- Architecture
- Athletic Training
- Biology
- Biochemistry
- **Business Administration**
- Chemistry
- Computer Science Dietetics
- **Economics**
- Engineering
- **Environmental Health**
- **Environmental Science**
- **Exercise Science**
- Forensic Chemistry
- **Health Sciences**
- Human Resource
- Management
- Management
- Mathematics
- Medicine
- Nursing **Physical Education**
- Pre-Physical/Occupational
  - Therapy

### **Specialized University** Transfer Programs

Associate in Fine Arts (AFA)

#### **General Degree Program**

(This degree is not transferable to a

college or university)

Associate in General Studies (AGS)

Individually Designed Degree

### Career Certificates, State Certification Courses, Associate in Applied Science (AAS) Degrees, Advanced Certificates

#### Certificates

- Accounting
- Administrative Office Assistant
- Agriculture
- American Welding Society-Level I
- **Automotive Technology**
- Basic Industrial & Manufacturing Maintenance
- **CISCO Networking**
- Computer Numeric Control Operator
- **Computer Support**
- Computer Technician
- Criminal Justice
- EMS Emergency Medical Services Paramedic
- Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management
- Industrial Mechanical Maintenance
- Medical Assisting
- Medical Office Assistant
- **Network Security**
- Practical Nursing (LPN)

#### **State Certification Courses**

- These are only courses that are offered. Upon
  - successful completion students are eligible to apply to become state certified.
- Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA)
- EMS Emergency Medical Services Emergency
  - Medical Technician (EMT)

#### Associate in Applied Science Degrees (AAS)

Accounting

Administrative Office Professional

**Business Administration** 

Criminal Justice

Dental Hygiene

EMS Emergency Medical Services-Paramedic

Information Technology & Cyber Security

LPN to RN Articulation

Medical Assistant

Medical Office Professional

Mortuary Science

Mortuary Science Accelerated Program

Nursing (RN)

**Process Maintenance Technology** 

Radiologic Technology

Surgical Technology (offered by ICC)

#### **Advanced Certificates**

Computed Tomography (CT)

Computer Numeric Control Programmer Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)

Please refer to the online catalog at http://catalog.sandburg.edu for a complete listing of all pertinent College information, including course descriptions, program requirements, College services and general information.

## Steps to Enroll

Submit an Application
Go to sandburg.edu/apply
and complete your free online application.

2 Apply for Financial Aid

Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at FAFSA.ed.gov. This will qualify you for federal and state aid (use Carl Sandburg College's code, 007265). Funding is need-based and awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. If possible, submit the FAFSA prior to Dec. 1 to ensure the aid you qualify for is available. There is a separate online scholarship application. For more information contact the Carl Sandburg College Foundation.

Request Official Transcripts

Request official final high school transcripts from your graduating high school. If you have attended multiple high schools, request official transcripts from all schools attended. If you took dual credit in high school, request transcripts from the college that awarded the credit. If you have completed a high school equivalency exam (GED, HiSet, etc.) request that your results be sent. Send all transcripts and exam results to Carl Sandburg College's Office of Admission.

**△** Placement Testing

Take the Accuplacer Placement Test — an untimed assessment test that covers reading and math — to determine the level of classes you may begin. Practice tests and sample questions are available on our website. To make an appointment at the Main Campus in Galesburg, register online or contact the Welcome Center. To make an appointment at the Branch Campus in Carthage, contact the Branch Campus directly. If you require reading assistance, contact Disability Support Services. ACT/ SAT scores may be used in lieu of a placement test. For more information, contact the Welcome Center at 309.345.3500 or welcomecenter@sandburg.edu.

Register for Classes

To schedule a registration appointment, contact Student Services at 309.341.5237 or studentservices@sandburg.edu. We must have scores from your placement test(s), valid ACT/ SAT scores or college transcripts on file prior to meeting with an advisor.

#### File Your FAFSA for Financial Aid

Have you filed your FAFSA? Students are encouraged to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible each year because some funding is awarded on a first-come, first-served basis. While state funding may already be exhausted, you can still apply for federal aid. Students filing the FAFSA for 2021-22 should use their 2019 tax information. When filling out your FAFSA, use Sandburg's college code, 007265. File the FAFSA online at www. fafsa.gov, and if you need assistance or have any questions about the FAFSA, call our Financial Aid Office at 309.341.5283.

## Scholarship Opportunities Through the Carl Sandburg College Foundation

Each year the Carl Sandburg College Foundation supplies thousands of dollars in scholarships to Sandburg students in need to help them achieve their dream of becoming a college graduate. While the deadline to apply for scholarships for the 2021-22 academic year has passed, scholarship applications for the following year will open Oct. 1. If you've already applied to Sandburg, just log in to mySandburg, go to "Student Apps" and click on the "Scholarship Application" button. For more information about scholarships through the Foundation, contact Kassidy St. Clair, coordinator of scholarships and donor relations, at 309.341.5215 or kstclair@sandburg.edu.

#### Important Dates for 2021 Summer Session and 2021-22 Academic Year

#### Summer Session '21 Fall Semester '21 Spring Semester '22 **Registration Begins** Available now! April 5, 2021 November 1, 2021 **Registration Ends** June 4, 2021 August 20, 2021 January 14, 2022 **Tuition Due** December 14, 2021 May 4, 2021 August 10, 2021 Class Begins June 7, 2021 August 23, 2021 January 18, 2022

## **FASFA & Scholarship Applications**

Open each year from October 1 - March 15

Interested in registering to take classes at Carl Sandburg College? Contact the Sandburg Welcome Center at 309.345.3500 or welcomecenter@sandburg.edu to begin the enrollment process.

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## See What's Ahead at Sandburg

## Industrial & Skilled Trades Career Expo

April 15, Carl Sandburg College CME, 2051 Tom L. Wilson Blvd

Employer expo: 4-6 p.m.

Tours & info sessions with Sandburg faculty: 6-8 p.m.



Social distancing enforced & masks required

More info: sandburg.edu/CareerExpo





## Varied Trades Career Expo



10 a.m.-noon April 23

Carl Sandburg
College Gym, 2400
Tom L. Wilson Blvd.

