STUDENT TO STUDENT

**Congratulations to ECforME for the 2012 Maine State Merit Award**
New England Board of Higher Education
http://www.nfibhe.org/events/excellence2012/

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**NMCC Student’s Advice**

“They’re not going to hold your hand like in high school,” notes 2011 Wisdom High School graduate **Kurtis Gagnon**. An electrical construction and maintenance major at Northern Maine Community College, Gagnon made Dean’s List his first semester.

His advice? “Go to class. Do your homework. Put in the effort. I’m paying to go to college,” he continues, “I need to get my money’s worth!”

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**YCCC Student Earns Honors All 3 Semesters**

“Without Early College for ME, it would have been nearly impossible for me to succeed,” said **Nicole Dunton**, a 2010 graduate of Marshwood High School and a liberal studies major at York County Community College.

Dunton has earned Honors each semester. Her second-semester 4.0 put her on the President’s List. She plans to transfer to a four-year institution, is considering teaching, and may eventually go on for a master’s. As the first person in her family to attend college, Dunton credits ECforME’s “efficient and experienced support system” with helping her transition to college and adjust to college life.

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**CMCC Student Senate Has Free Pizza?**

**Garrett Crawford**, Edward Little High School, 2011, is secretary of the Student Senate at Central Maine Community College. “I decided to become part of the Student Senate for two reasons,” he says. “Reason one, they were offering free pizza that day. Reason two, I would have the ability to make changes in my college.” And, he added, “I gained new connections and friends.”

Crawford is a liberal studies major. He also does community theatre. His most recent role was as Linus in the musical “Charlie Brown,” put on by the Monmouth Community Players.

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**Student at KVCC “Ideal ECforME Candidate”**

Lisa Hallen, guidance director at Messalonskee High School, describes **Cecelia Berryman**, a 2010 Messalonskee graduate, as “a quiet, determined student with concrete goals, who wanted to be the first in her family to attend college and complete a postsecondary degree.” Said Berryman, “Early College for ME helped me get into college and stay in college.” She’s majoring in liberal studies at KVCC; belongs to Phi Theta Kappa, the national honor society for the two-year college; is a KV Ambassador, a work-study student, and tutor. After finishing her associate degree, she plans to go on for a degree in engineering.

Hallen credits ECforME for providing the opportunities for Berryman to succeed: a college course as a high school senior, orientation to college and its expectations, financial support through the scholarship, and personal support from ECforME staff.

“CeCe is a fantastic example of an ECforME student,” adds Hallen, “and the ECforME program is an equally fantastic model that fosters high school and college collaboration, support, and most importantly, postsecondary success for first-generation students.”

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For more student stories, go to www.earlycollege.me.edu
I would not have been ready for the huge step-up from high school.” —Derick Belanger (Buckfield’11)

“The Maine Community College System is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and employer. For more information, please call 207-629-4000.

“Had I not done ECforME, I would not have been ready for the huge step-up from high school.” —Derick Belanger (Buckfield’11)

“ECforME is a great opportunity. Make sure you go to the meetings.” —BobieLynn Fisher (South Portland’10) Liberal Studies SMCC

“[ECforME] made college less intimidating.” —Aaron Paradis (SJVTC/Fort Kent’10) Welding EMCC

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