



Gloucester County College

LEARNING FOR REAL LIFE

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Title GCC SCHOLAR SELECTED COCA-COLA WINNER

Deptford Twp. – It was a coke and a smile kind of day for Donna DiBuonaventura of Mickleton, when she received the good news that she was Gloucester County College’s Coca-Cola scholarship winner.

DiBuonaventura was among 400 recipients nationwide this fall to be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship for her commitment to academics and the community by the Coca-Cola Two-Year Colleges Scholarship Program. One of the most recognized and respected corporate-sponsored scholarships in America, recipients are required to demonstrate academic success and participate in community service within the past 12 months. The scholarship is made possible by funding from the Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation, one of the original bottlers of Coca-Cola.

“I was really excited and surprised,” said DiBuonaventura, who submitted her scholarship application in May. “I want students to recognize that scholarships are out there and it is well worth the effort to apply for them.”

DiBuonaventura is the third GCC student in the college’s history to receive the Coca-Cola award. The money can be used towards tuition, books and educational supplies.

A second-year education major with a 4.0 grade-point-average, DiBuonaventura is a member of Phi Theta Kappa— the National Honor Society for two-year colleges— and has earned GCC President’s and Dean’s Lists status. While attending college, caring

for a family, and working part-time are in itself demanding, the mother of an active 13-year-old daughter still finds time to volunteer. At the Kingsway Baptist Church in Mickleton, she directs the children's choir and joins members of the adult choir in song.

“Donna’s academic achievements and service to the community serve as an example to other GCC students,” said Dr. Russell A. Davis, acting president. “We are all proud of Donna and the fact that her hard work has been recognized nationally by Coca-Cola.”

DiBuonaventura is also the recipient of this year’s Advancement Scholarship distributed by the GCC Foundation. The two-year academic scholarship provides \$3,000 annually to support student goals. Following her graduation from GCC in May, she plans to study English at Thomas Edison State College in Trenton.

The GCC campus is on Tanyard Road, Deptford, just off Exit 56 of Route 55.

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