

BFCC MAGPIE

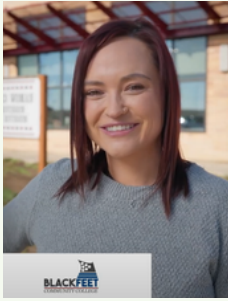


AUGUST 2026

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FROM VALEDICTORIAN TO REGISTERED NURSE: DANI HAMANN ACHIEVES ANOTHER MILESTONE

Just months after serving as Blackfeet Community College's 2026 Valedictorian, Dani Hamann has reached another remarkable milestone in her educational journey by officially passing the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) and becoming a Registered Nurse (RN).



Many in the BFCC community will also recognize Dani as one of the featured students in Season 15 of The College Tour, which showcases Blackfeet Community College on Amazon Prime Video. Throughout her time at BFCC, Dani exemplified academic excellence, leadership, and determination—qualities that have continued to guide her into the nursing profession.

For Dani, learning she had passed the NCLEX was a moment she will never forget.

"Finding out I passed the NCLEX was one of the most surreal moments of my life," she said. "It was a mixture of relief, excitement, and gratitude all at once. Nursing school is filled with long hours, sacrifices, and moments where you question yourself, so seeing that I had officially become a Registered Nurse made every challenge worth it. It was a dream that had been years in the making, and it still feels incredible to finally say, 'I'm a nurse.'"

Reflecting on her time at Blackfeet Community College, Dani credits the faculty, her classmates, and the supportive learning environment for helping prepare her for the challenges ahead.



"I want to say thank you to Blackfeet Community College for providing such an encouraging and supportive learning environment," she shared.

"The faculty genuinely care about their students, and I will always be grateful for the education, mentorship, and friendships I gained during my time there."

Being named Valedictorian was one of the proudest moments of her academic career, but Dani says the journey itself means even more.

"I'm most proud of proving to myself that I could accomplish something that once felt impossible," she said. "Nursing school challenged me academically, emotionally, and personally, but I never gave up. Being named valedictorian was an incredible honor, but what means even more to me is knowing I earned it through hard work, perseverance, and determination while staying true to who I am."

Now beginning her professional career, Dani plans to continue working in pediatrics, where she has found a passion for caring for children and supporting their families. She hopes to continue growing as a nurse while always providing compassionate, patient-centered care.

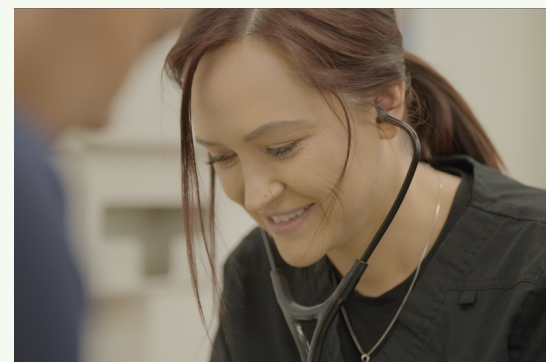
"No matter where my career takes me, I want to be the kind of nurse who makes patients and families feel heard, respected, and cared for," she said. Dani also encourages current BFCC students to believe in themselves, even when the path feels difficult.

"There will be moments when you're overwhelmed, exhausted, and questioning whether you're capable," she said. "Keep showing up. Success isn't about being perfect—it's about being persistent. Don't be afraid to ask for help, lean on your classmates, and take advantage of the amazing instructors who genuinely want to see you succeed."

As she reflects on her journey, Dani is quick to recognize those who stood beside her every step of the way.

"I'm incredibly thankful for the nursing faculty at BFCC for believing in me, encouraging me, and preparing me to become a safe and compassionate nurse," she said. "I also couldn't have done this without my family, friends, and my husband, Justin, whose love, patience, and unwavering support carried me through every challenge." Growing up as a fifth-generation rancher from Cascade, Montana, Dani says becoming a Registered Nurse represents far more than earning a title. "It represents resilience, compassion, and the fulfillment of a lifelong dream," she said. "I look forward to serving my community, advocating for my patients, and making a positive difference in the lives of others every single day."

Blackfeet Community College proudly congratulates Dani Hamann on this outstanding achievement. From excelling in the classroom and representing BFCC on The College Tour to earning her RN license, Dani continues to demonstrate what is possible through hard work, perseverance, and a passion for serving others. We wish her continued success as she begins this exciting new chapter in her nursing career.



BFCC MAGPIE



AUGUST 2026

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GROWING MY GARDEN: HOW THE BFCC USDA EXTENSION PROGRAM HELPED ONE FIRST-TIME GARDENER THRIVE

When Ali Smith, Admissions Director at Blackfeet Community College, decided to plant her first garden, she wasn't sure where to begin. Thanks to the guidance and resources provided by the Blackfeet Community College USDA Extension Program and FAST Blackfeet's Growing Health Program, what started as a small raised garden became a summer filled with learning, growth, and an abundant harvest.

The BFCC USDA Extension Program helped lay the foundation for Ali's success by hosting a community soils workshop, providing nutrient-rich soil amendments, and supplying healthy vegetable starts. Through these educational opportunities and hands-on resources, participants gain practical knowledge that makes gardening more accessible and rewarding. FAST Blackfeet's Growing Health Program complemented those efforts by providing tools to help Ali build a 3' x 6' raised garden bed, giving her the confidence to begin growing her own food.

Over the course of the summer, Ali successfully grew 12 varieties of vegetables, fruits, and herbs, including strawberries, radishes, broccoli, tomatoes, peppers, cabbage, cilantro, dill, parsley, chives, and sweet peas. Harvesting fresh produce she had grown herself quickly became one of the most rewarding parts of the experience.

While the USDA Extension Program provided the tools to get started, Ali embraced the learning process every step of the way. She researched Montana's growing conditions, learned how to harden seedlings before transplanting, explored companion planting, planned each plant's placement based on sunlight, and developed routines for fertilizing, watering, and harvesting. Every challenge became an opportunity to build new skills.

Montana's spring weather brought its own challenges. After planting on May 9, Ali protected her garden from strong winds and cold temperatures by covering it throughout the month of May. The extra care paid off. Despite the unpredictable weather, she lost only one plant, a basil starter that blew away in the wind, while everything else flourished.

As the season progressed, Ali continued learning through hands-on experience. She installed copper supports for climbing plants, used natural remedies such as cinnamon and cayenne pepper to manage ants, and maintained a consistent watering schedule that helped her garden thrive.

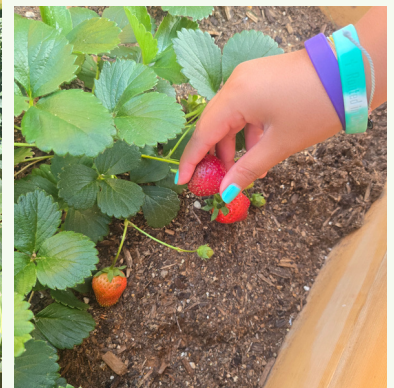
Reflecting on her first gardening season, Ali credits the BFCC USDA Extension Program for providing not only the supplies to begin, but also the education and encouragement that gave her the confidence to succeed.

"Without the support of the Blackfeet Community College USDA Extension Program and FAST Blackfeet, I probably never would have started my first garden,"

Ali said. "They invested in our community by providing the knowledge, resources, and encouragement to grow our own food. The lessons I learned this season will stay with me for years to come."

The BFCC USDA Extension Program continues to empower students, employees, and community members through educational workshops, gardening resources, and hands-on learning opportunities that promote healthy living, self-sufficiency, and sustainable food practices.

Whether you're planting your first seed or expanding an existing garden, the BFCC USDA Extension Program offers resources and support to help you grow with confidence. For more information on the program, contact Felix Nez felix.n@bfcc.edu or Chelsea Pree 23chelsea.p@bfcc.edu



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY ALI SMITH

BFCC MAGPIE



AUGUST 2026

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WELLNESS ROOM NOW AVAILABLE AT BLACKFEET COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Research shows that the demands of daily responsibilities, workplace pressures, and deadlines can take a significant toll on both physical and mental well-being. These challenges can directly impact performance, productivity, and overall success.

To help support the health and well-being of our campus community, Blackfeet Community College has created a Wellness Room—a dedicated space designed to provide a private, individual self-care experience where employees can relax, recharge, and reduce stress. The Wellness Room features calming visuals, soothing audio, and adjustable lighting to create a peaceful environment. Whether you choose to enjoy the massage chair or simply take a few moments to sit quietly and unwind, this space is available to help restore your energy, improve focus, and enhance overall well-being.

Location:

Beaver Painted Lodge – Student Success Center
(Across the hall from the Health & Wellness Office -Toni Running Fisher)

Hours:

Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Wellness Room Guidelines:

- Maximum session length: 30 minutes (supervisor approval required during work hours)
- Sign-in and completion of a brief survey are required for each visit.
- Instructions for using the Wellness Room equipment are available on site.

We encourage you to take advantage of this valuable resource and make time for your well-being. A few minutes of self-care can make a meaningful difference in your day.

The room was created with the help of students who recognized the importance of supporting not only mental health, but overall physical well-being.



BNACTEP PROGRAM APPROVED FOR YEAR 6 – APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

We are extremely proud to announce that the Blackfeet Native American Career and Technical Education Program (BNACTEP) has been approved for Year 6, continuing its commitment to supporting student success and workforce development.

Students enrolled in Criminal Justice, Blackfeet Legal Studies, or Hydrology are encouraged to stop by and pick up an application to learn more about the opportunities available through the program.

The BNACTEP Program helps students and community members build the skills, knowledge, and support needed to achieve their educational and career goals. The program currently serves students in three focus areas:

With the listed programs below we will be adding in a new program starting in October 2026, where we will be able to assist with direct assistance for the medical students (careers).

- Criminal Justice
- Blackfeet Legal Studies
- Hydrology

Visit the BNACTEP Career Center

As part of the BNACTEP Program, the Career Center at Blackfeet Community College is available to students, alumni, and community members seeking career guidance, employment resources, and educational support.

The Career Center offers a variety of free services, including:

- Computer and internet access
- Printing services
- Scholarship assistance
- Help completing job and college applications
- Resume and cover letter development
- Career and job search assistance
- College transfer assistance
- Montana Career Information System (MCIS) resources
- Employment readiness workshops
- Annual Job & Career Fair

Whether you're preparing for your first job, planning to transfer to another institution, or exploring career opportunities, the BNACTEP Career Center is here to help you succeed.

For more information or to apply, please contact Rachel Wells-Hoyt, BNACTEP-Stem Program Director, at rachel.wh@bfcc.edu

BFCC MAGPIE



AUGUST 2026

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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT OPENS DOORS TO NEW CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The Workforce Development Division at Blackfeet Community College is committed to preparing students with the skills, knowledge, and hands-on experience needed to succeed in today's workforce. Through flexible training opportunities, the division helps students build meaningful careers while supporting the workforce needs of the Blackfeet Nation and surrounding communities.

Students can choose from One-Year Certificates, Certificates of Completion, and short-term training programs in high-demand fields such as Industry Trades, Commercial Truck Driving, and Solar Installation. Many programs also include apprenticeships and work-based learning experiences that provide valuable real-world skills and industry connections. New Meat Processing Certificate Program

One of the newest additions to the division is the One-Year Meat Processing Certificate Program, designed to prepare students for careers in Montana's growing meat processing industry.

Students receive hands-on training in meat cutting, grinding, packaging, sanitation, quality grading, safety practices, and meat cut identification. The program also incorporates Piikani history, culture, language, and traditional knowledge, creating a unique learning experience that blends technical skills with cultural education.

HiSET and Career Support

The Workforce Development Division also offers the HiSET (High School Equivalency Test) Program, providing individuals with the opportunity to earn a credential equivalent to a high school diploma. Students receive personalized instruction and are encouraged to transition into certificate programs, industry training, or apprenticeship opportunities offered through the division.

In addition, the Career Center provides students, alumni, and community members with valuable employment resources, including résumé assistance, job search support, scholarship guidance, computer access, workshops, and college transfer assistance.

By responding to local workforce needs and offering practical, career-focused education, the Workforce Development Division continues to create pathways to employment, lifelong learning, and economic growth throughout the Blackfeet Nation.

For more information about the Meat Processing Certificate Program, contact:

Cheryl Madman

☎ (406) 338-5441 ext. 2305

✉ cmadman@bfcc.edu

LIBERAL STUDIES OFFERS CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES THIS FALL

The Liberal Studies Program at BFCC is excited to offer a variety of courses this fall that encourage creativity, critical thinking, cultural expression, and meaningful discussion. From creative writing and popular culture to Indigenous media and music, students have opportunities to explore their interests while earning college credit.

CRWR 102: Introduction to Creative Writing welcomes students of all experience levels to explore poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction. Students will develop their own writing voices through original work, read works by Indigenous and other accomplished authors, and may contribute to the course's year-end anthology celebrating Blackfeet voices and storytelling.

For students interested in media and popular culture, POPC 280: Women Detectives & the Female Gaze examines women detectives across television, film, books, comics, and graphic novels. Students will explore themes of gender, power, and representation while examining how women detectives continue to resonate with audiences. The course meets once a week over Zoom, with students voting on the meeting day and time.

New this fall, the Visual Sovereignty Endorsement Program expands opportunities in filmmaking, screenwriting, photography, and media production. Grounded in Indigenous knowledge systems, ethics, and cultural protocols, the program emphasizes Indigenous storytelling and the importance of Indigenous people controlling their own representation. Students will explore documentary and narrative filmmaking, story development, and visual storytelling while creating projects that can preserve family histories, language, traditions, and lived experiences.

Two Visual Sovereignty courses offered this fall are VISV 101: Introduction to Visual Sovereignty & Indigenous Media, which explores Indigenous media history, representation, and Visual Sovereignty, and VISV 210: Story Development & Screenwriting for Indigenous Media, which focuses on Indigenous storytelling, scriptwriting, and documentary and narrative story development.

Students can also explore their musical creativity through MUS 103: Rock Band, offered in both fall and spring. Students will learn music fundamentals, improvisation, collaboration, and songwriting through hands-on practice and jam sessions. No previous experience is required.

With offerings spanning writing, popular culture, Indigenous media, filmmaking, and music, the Liberal Studies Program provides students with opportunities to create, explore, and share their voices this fall.

For more information about Liberal Studies courses, contact Jim Petersen at jim_petersen@bfcc.edu.

BFCC MAGPIE



AUGUST 2026

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BFCC FACULTY MEMBER SABINE BRIGETTE SELECTED AS AWP TRIBAL COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES FACULTY FELLOW

We would proudly like to congratulate Sabine Brigette, Liberal Studies faculty member, on being selected as a 2027 Tribal Colleges & Universities Faculty Fellow by the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP).

The AWP Tribal Colleges & Universities Fellowship Program recognizes outstanding Indigenous writers, educators, and students from Tribal Colleges and Universities across North America. The fellowship is designed to amplify Indigenous voices, support literary excellence, and create opportunities for fellows to engage with the national writing community through AWP's annual conference and professional development opportunities.

Sabine was selected in recognition of her dedication to teaching, writing, and uplifting Indigenous storytelling. A writer, educator, and core faculty member at Blackfeet Community College, she has spent more than fifteen years helping students discover and strengthen their own voices while creating space for stories that have too often been overlooked.

An MFA graduate of Bennington College and former Gilman Scholar at Oxford, Sabine's work centers on decolonizing literary landscapes and amplifying Indigenous perspectives. Her poetry and prose draw inspiration from the landscapes of northwest Montana while exploring themes of identity, place, and care. Guided by Toni Morrison's belief that,

**"If there's a book you really want to
read but it hasn't been written yet,
then you must write it."**

— Toni Morrison

Sabine encourages students to tell their own stories through their lived experiences, cultural knowledge, and grandmother tongues.

At Blackfeet Community College, Sabine continues to inspire students through courses such as Introduction to Creative Writing (CRWR 102), where students develop their own creative voices while reading works by Indigenous and other accomplished authors.

Her selection as an AWP Tribal Colleges & Universities Faculty Fellow reflects not only her accomplishments as a writer and educator, but also Blackfeet Community College's commitment to supporting Indigenous scholarship, storytelling, and educational excellence.

Please join us in congratulating Sabine Brigette on this well-deserved national recognition.

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT UPDATE

The Human Resources Department is excited to welcome everyone back for another academic year! We remain committed to supporting our employees from recruitment through retirement by providing resources, professional development opportunities, and a positive workplace that supports the well-being of our employees and our students.

At Blackfeet Community College, employment is more than just a job—it's an opportunity to make a lasting impact on our students, our community, and the Blackfeet Nation.

Employee Benefits & Resources

- Retirement Planning through Corebridge Financial to help employees prepare for their future.
- Voluntary Benefits available through Aflac, LegalShield, and United Heritage.
- Paid Time Off (PTO) and leave accrual to support work-life balance.
- Tuition Waiver Program for eligible employees pursuing their educational goals.
- Professional Development opportunities through BFCC and Lifelong Learning to encourage career growth and continuing education.
- Mental Health Support with access to our campus Mental Health Specialist for employee wellness and support.
- Employee Wellness Room available for employees who need a quiet space to recharge during the workday.
- Campus Fitness Center available to encourage healthy lifestyles and employee wellness.
- Meaningful Work serving our students, preserving Blackfeet culture, and making a positive difference in our community.
- Supportive Work Environment that values collaboration, cultural awareness, and employee success.

Benefits Information Days

Representatives will be on campus September 16-17 to meet with employees and answer questions about available benefits.

- Corebridge Financial (Retirement Planning)
- Aflac
- LegalShield

Employees are encouraged to stop by, review their current benefit options, and learn about additional voluntary benefits available through BFCC.

Join Our Team!

We currently have multiple employment opportunities available. We are looking for individuals who are passionate about education, student success, and serving the Blackfeet Nation. Working at BFCC means becoming part of a community that values education, culture, service, and lifelong learning. Whether you are just beginning your career or bringing years of experience, there is an opportunity to make a meaningful impact every day. The Human Resources Department looks forward to welcoming everyone back for another successful academic year! Visit www.bfcc.edu/humanresource for more information!

BFCC MAGPIE



AUGUST 2026

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BLACK TIE & BLUE JEANS RETURNS SEPTEMBER 12 TO SUPPORT BFCC STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

We are excited to welcome the community back for Black Tie & Blue Jeans on Saturday, September 12, 2026, at the historic East Glacier Park Lodge.

Revived in 2025 after being absent for approximately a decade, Black Tie & Blue Jeans brings together students, families, community members, supporters, and friends of BFCC for an evening of good food, music, entertainment, and fundraising. Most importantly, the event provides an opportunity for our community to come together in support of BFCC student scholarships.

Guests are invited to dress up for an elegant evening while enjoying a seated dinner and live music from the Clint Reimann Band. The evening will also feature live and silent auctions, money games, raffle items, and other opportunities to support BFCC students.

This year's event will be held in the event area at East Glacier Park Lodge, 499 MT-49, East Glacier, MT 59434. A block of rooms has been reserved for Black Tie & Blue Jeans attendees. Guests wishing to stay at the lodge can contact East Glacier Park Lodge and mention that they are attending the Black Tie & Blue Jeans event when making their reservation. Rooms are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The event is an important fundraiser for BFCC, with proceeds supporting student scholarships that increase access, retention, and student success. Following last year's \$20,000 fundraising goal, BFCC has set a goal of \$25,000 this year. Every ticket purchased, auction item donated, and contribution made helps provide students with additional support as they pursue their educational goals.

Event Information

September 12, 2026 | East Glacier Park Lodge, Montana
For VIP table reservations and table sponsorship opportunities, contact Tiffany Sellars at (406) 338-5441 ext. 2260 or tiffany.s@bfcc.edu. For single or couple tickets, contact Christie Farmer at (406) 338-5421 ext. 2205 or christie.f@bfcc.edu. Tickets are also available online at www.bfcc.edu/magpie. Interested in donating a live or silent auction item? Contact Chelsea Pree at 23chelsea.p@bfcc.edu or (406) 338-5441 ext. 2201.

Can't attend the event? Donations are still welcome and deeply appreciated. Contributions can be made at www.givebutter.com/blackfeet-community-college or mailed to Blackfeet Community College, P.O. Box 819, Browning, MT 59417.

By joining us for dinner and music, participating in the auctions and games, donating an item, or making a contribution, your support directly impacts BFCC students. Join us for an unforgettable evening and help us reach our \$25,000 scholarship fundraising goal!

WIN THE VACATION OF A LIFETIME WHILE SUPPORTING BFCC STUDENTS

What if supporting a BFCC student scholarship could also give you the chance to win the vacation of a lifetime?

BFCC is continuing its 2026 Scholarship Travel Raffle, giving one lucky winner the opportunity to choose from four incredible destinations for two, while helping support student scholarships at BFCC.

The winner will be able to choose from:

Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Enjoy a 3-night stay for two at Alpine House, daily breakfast, roundtrip economy airfare for two, and a \$1,000 American Express gift card that can be used toward skiing and snowboarding adventures.

Kauai, Hawaii

Enjoy a 4-night stay for two at Kauai Beach Resort & Spa, beachfront sunrise yoga, a traditional Hawaiian luau with dinner and lei greeting, and roundtrip economy airfare for two.

Cancun, Mexico

Enjoy a 4-night all-inclusive stay for two at either Hyatt Zilara Cancun or Hyatt Ziva Cancun, including accommodations, food, beverages, entertainment, and roundtrip economy airfare.

Lake Tahoe, Nevada

Enjoy a 3-night stay for two at Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe Resort, Spa and Casino, roundtrip economy airfare for two, and a \$300 American Express gift card that can be used toward skiing or snowboarding at Diamond Peak Ski Resort.

All four packages include Winspire booking and concierge services.

The winner will be drawn at Black Tie & Blue Jeans

The raffle drawing will take place September 12, 2026, during BFCC's Black Tie & Blue Jeans event at East Glacier Park Lodge. You do not need to be present to win.

Travel packages are provided through Winspire and are subject to availability, blackout dates, and additional terms and conditions. Reservations must be booked at least 60 days in advance. Travel must be booked within one year and completed within two years of the raffle date. Airfare taxes, processing fees, and some resort fees may apply.

Every raffle ticket directly supports BFCC student scholarships. Your participation helps students pursue higher education, career opportunities, and their educational goals.

For raffle tickets or more information, contact Ashlynn Marasco ashlynn.m@bfcc.edu | (406) 338-5441 ext. 2856.

You can also find the full destination packages, raffle details, and terms at www.bfcc.edu/magpie

Support a student. Enter for your chance to win a getaway vacation!



BFCC MAGPIE



AUGUST 2026

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BFCC INVESTS \$884,764 IN EMPLOYEES THROUGH MACKENZIE SCOTT GIFT

BFCC is investing in the people who make its mission possible every day. On June 25, 2026, the BFCC Board of Trustees approved an investment of \$884,764.44 from the philanthropic gift received from MacKenzie Scott to support the college's employees and help address rising cost-of-living challenges facing working families throughout the Blackfeet Nation and surrounding region.

Faculty, staff, and administrators play an essential role in providing educational opportunities, workforce development, cultural preservation, and community services that strengthen the Blackfeet Nation and serve BFCC's broader "Universal Community."

"Our faculty and staff are the heart of Blackfeet Community College," said BFCC Board of Trustees Chair Dana Pemberton. "By dedicating these funds to employee support, we are investing directly in the mission, values, and future of the institution and ensuring that our employees have the stability they need to continue serving our students and community."

Like many rural and tribal communities, the Blackfeet Reservation continues to experience increasing costs for housing, food, transportation, utilities, and other essential expenses. This investment allows BFCC to provide meaningful support to its workforce while strengthening the college's ability to attract and retain dedicated professionals committed to serving its students and community.

"An institution is only as strong as its people," said BFCC President Brad Hall. "This generous investment recognizes the contributions of our employees and provides meaningful support during a time when many families are facing increased financial pressures. By investing in our workforce, we are investing in student success, institutional stability, and the future of the Blackfeet Nation."

The investment also supports BFCC's ongoing efforts to strengthen institutional capacity, improve employee retention, and create a workplace environment that values and supports those who serve the college's students and community. College leadership has worked closely with employee governance bodies and investment professionals to ensure the unrestricted funds are used responsibly and in a way that maximizes their impact for employees while supporting long-term sustainability.

The funds currently invested have been approved to provide support over a three-year period.

BFCC extends its sincere gratitude to MacKenzie Scott for recognizing the importance of investing in the people who advance the college's mission. This investment represents a meaningful commitment to the well-being of BFCC employees and, ultimately, to the students and communities they serve.

BFCC PRESIDENT DR. BRAD HALL APPOINTED TO AMERICAN INDIAN COLLEGE FUND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

With pride and gratitude, President Dr. Brad Hall has been appointed to the Board of Trustees of the American Indian College Fund for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2026.

The American Indian College Fund is a national organization that supports Native higher education by providing scholarships, student support, and programs to students and Tribal Colleges and Universities across the country. The organization has supported Native higher education for more than 37 years and provided more than \$23 million in scholarships and student support during the 2024-25 academic year.

Dr. Hall joins the College Fund's Board of Trustees alongside fellow Tribal College President Dr. Elmer J. Guy of Navajo Technical University and two private-sector professionals. Two student representatives were also selected to serve on the board.

A Blackfeet educational leader, historian, and researcher, Dr. Hall has served as President of Blackfeet Community College since October 2022. Raised on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation on his family's ranch, he brings extensive experience in higher education, institutional research, community leadership, and culturally based education.

Before becoming president, Dr. Hall served as an institutional researcher at BFCC from 2013 to 2019, focusing on institutional effectiveness. He also served as chair of the Blackfeet Nation Institutional Review Board from 2017 to 2023 and previously worked as Tribal Outreach Specialist at the University of Montana, helping connect Native students with four-year degree opportunities through partnerships with Montana Tribal Colleges and high schools.

His appointment to the College Fund's Board of Trustees provides an opportunity for BFCC's perspective and the experiences of its students and community to be represented at a national level within Native higher education.

BFCC congratulates President Hall on this important appointment and looks forward to the continued leadership and representation he will bring to the national Tribal College and University community.

About the American Indian College Fund

The American Indian College Fund supports Native higher education through scholarships, programs, and support for students and Tribal Colleges and Universities. Since its founding in 1989, the organization has provided more than \$391 million in scholarships, programs, community, and Tribal College support.

BFCC MAGPIE



AUGUST 2026

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CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY AT SOUTH WIND LODGE

If you've noticed construction activity around South Wind Lodge, there's good reason! BFCC is currently making improvements to the South Wind Lodge parking lot as part of ongoing efforts to improve campus facilities and create a more welcoming environment for students, employees, and visitors.

Construction on the South Wind Lodge Parking Lot Project began on June 22, 2026, with Swank Construction serving as the contractor. The project is expected to be completed in mid-September.

The parking lot project is funded through the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Program, Tribal College Initiative, FY 2020 and FY 2021, as well as funding from the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) Facilities, Infrastructure, & Renovation (FI&R) program.

The project is part of BFCC's continued investment in campus infrastructure. In addition to the parking lot improvements, the college will also be updating building signage around campus and the exterior siding of campus buildings as part of an ongoing campus beautification effort. These improvements will help enhance the appearance, functionality, and overall experience of the BFCC campus while supporting the college's continued growth and commitment to providing a welcoming environment for students, employees, and visitors.

BFCC would like to recognize Maintenance Director Ronald "Ron" Lahr for his work in helping coordinate and support the South Wind Lodge Parking Lot Project. We also extend our appreciation to Swank Construction and the funding partners who have helped make these improvements possible.

We appreciate everyone's patience and understanding while construction is underway and look forward to seeing these improvements come together this fall!



IMPORTANT DATES

- **AUGUST 3-17** - CAMPUS CLOSED (LIBRARY DATES DIFFER)
- **AUGUST 4:** SUMMER READING - COLLECTING STORIES - 10:00AM - 3:00PM - MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY
- **AUGUST 6-7:** MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY CLOSED
- **AUGUST 4:** SUMMER READING - TELLING YOUR STORY - 10:00AM - 3:00PM - MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY
- **AUGUST 13-14:** MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY CLOSED
- **AUGUST 18-20:**
 - NEW STUDENT ASSESSMENTS
 - NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION
- **AUGUST 21:** CAMPUS CLOSED - ALL CAMPUS MEETING
- **AUGUST 24-26:** NURSING BOOT CAMP
- **AUGUST 24-28:** FALL 2026 REGISTRATION
- **AUGUST 25:** HOOF CARE WORKSHOP - 9:00AM - 4:00PM - AGRICULTURE BUILDING (EAST CAMPUS)
- **AUGUST 27:** BOOK CLUB - BAD INDIANS BOOK CLUB - 4:30PM - 6:00PM - MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY
- **AUGUST 31:** FIRST DAY OF CLASS
- **SEPTEMBER 1:** AUTHOR READING - KIRBY LAMBERT - 11:30AM - 1:00PM - MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY

MEDICINE SPRING LIBRARY & GLACIER COUNTY LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAM

The Medicine Spring Library continues its Summer Reading Program in August with opportunities for community members of all ages to read, learn, and share their stories. The program features hands-on activities and engaging opportunities designed to encourage literacy and lifelong learning throughout the summer.

August activities include "Collecting Stories" and "Telling Your Story" on August 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Medicine Spring Library. The library will also host a Bad Indians Book Club discussion on August 27 from 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Participants can continue signing up, attending activities, and submitting reading reports for entries into the end-of-summer prize drawing. Whether you're a young reader, an adult, or simply enjoy a good story, the Summer Reading Program offers a great way to stay connected with books and learning during the summer.

For the complete Summer Reading Calendar, including activity dates, times, and library closures, please visit the [Medicine Spring Library webpage](#) or scan the QR code. Library hours and closures may differ from the main campus.

