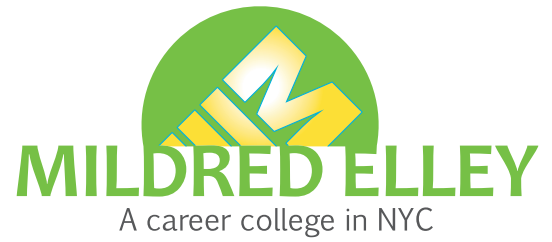


The Augusta

Newsletter



Letter from the Dean

Dear Mildred Elley Community,

The Thanksgiving holiday prompts me to reflect on things to be grateful for and ways to give back in a sea of challenges.

I am grateful for you, our beloved students, who continue your studies in an ever-challenging landscape.

I continue to be grateful for the creativity and dedication of the faculty and staff who are committed to offering an outstanding education. I admire the teamwork and resilience you demonstrate on a daily basis.

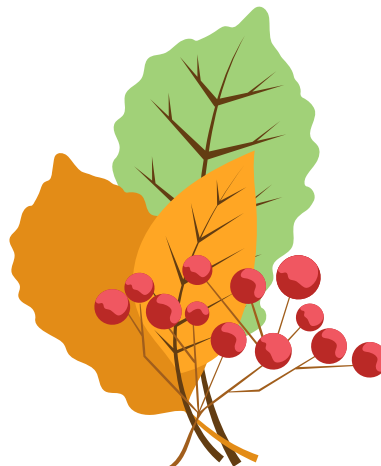
None of us thought the pandemic would last this long, but we keep doing what we need to do for this college we love.

For all these reasons, I am grateful.

In this edition of *The Augusta*, I invite you to read about the many

accomplishments of the Mildred Elley family. I wish you and your loved ones a peaceful and safe Thanksgiving.

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“Whatever happened over this past year, *be thankful* for where it brought you. Where you are is where you’re meant to be!” -Mandy Hale

“Develop an *attitude of gratitude*, and give thanks for everything that happens to you, knowing that every step forward is a step toward achieving something bigger and better than your current situation.” -Brian Tracy

Be Inspired



Student Spotlights



Rhonda Love

Rhonda Love always knew she wanted to help people. She became an emergency medical technician and during this time saw many people end up in an ambulance that did not need to be there. She thought that if she became a nurse she could educate people on how to take better care of themselves.

Commuting home from the job she had out grown, Rhonda looked up and saw a sign that said, ***"You have the Power to Change Your Life."***

"I called Mildred Elley immediately. The next day I sat with an admissions representative to learn more about the LPN Program. I was 47 years old when I started. I was the oldest person in both the day and evening cohorts. I never let my age stop me from doing what I needed to do. I mentored some of the younger students in my classes. I always encourage everyone to be their best.

I had some major personal setbacks during my time at the college. On November 26th I found my mother dead on the floor and we buried her on December 8th. My mother-in-law died December 9th, the same day as the LPN Pinning Ceremony. I was not going to attend the ceremony but Dean Braun encouraged me to come and to not give up. I attended and was so glad I did. I realized I had to focus on everything good that was happening in my life at Mildred Elley and try to get over my personal grief. I found out I passed the NCLEX exam on December 23rd, my mom's birthday. This made the achievement even more profound.

Lisa Rini in Career Services helped me get a job immediately. I started, but I was not emotionally ready. After nine days I walked out. Lisa called to find out what happened. I felt vulnerable, but I told her the whole truth. I thought she would yell at me. Lisa had the exact opposite response. She started telling me about losing her brother and how much she understood pain and grief. She told me how I feel at this moment will not be how I feel forever. We talked a long time and she gave me her personal cell phone and told me to call her at any time. Lisa said she had many



Top Photo & Bottom: (Lt to Rt) Lisa Rini (Student Services Coordinator) and Rhonda Love (Graduate)

opportunities for job placements but wanted me to feel ready. After that conversation we became friends. From time to time, I would call her and she would call me just to check in.

Lisa was right. I started to feel better and feel ready to work again. Lisa helped me prepare for an interview at Essen Health Care. I landed the job. As the only LPN at that location, I had to carve out my way. It was a tremendously positive experience. I achieved work life balance and I got to use my scope of practice. From there, Lisa helped me move on to Mount Saini which provided a higher salary and greater responsibility.

Mount Sinai encouraged me to go back to school. I am starting an RN program in the Spring. ***One of the greatest things about Mildred Elley is the care they give to their graduates. Even though I am an alum, I still check in with Lisa to talk about life and my future career and all the challenges and treasures that will follow."***



Dr. Ramona Santiago and Nichole Labib

Nichole Labib

From the time I was born, I knew I wanted to be in the Medical Field. Coming to this college was the best decision I ever made.

The first class I took, Medical Terminology, was in Room 1651. It was like learning another language. I carried my flashcards with me everywhere and practiced the new words on the subway or when I was waiting in line at the store. In no time, I had learned so many new words.

My real inspiration for continuing my education was my family. I have two children, Natalie who is fourteen and Johnny who is five. We would study together and as I became a good student, they improved as well. I have been on the President's list ten times! I decorate my walls with the certificates and it motivates my kids to try harder in school.

Now that I have graduated with my A.O.S Degree in Medical Assisting, I will further my education by going to sonography school.



President Price and Amanda Rodriguez

Amanda Rodriguez

I worked in the fashion industry for twelve years producing clothes. When the pandemic hit, Tahari, the company I worked for started laying people off. I had a choice to stay there and wait to be laid off or to follow my dream of working in the medical field. Everyone in my family works in health care. My sister-in-law studies at Mildred Elley. She told me what a great college this is so I enrolled.

My goal is to become a nurse. I study Medical Assisting and plan to take the TEAS in August. *I cannot wait to join this great profession.*

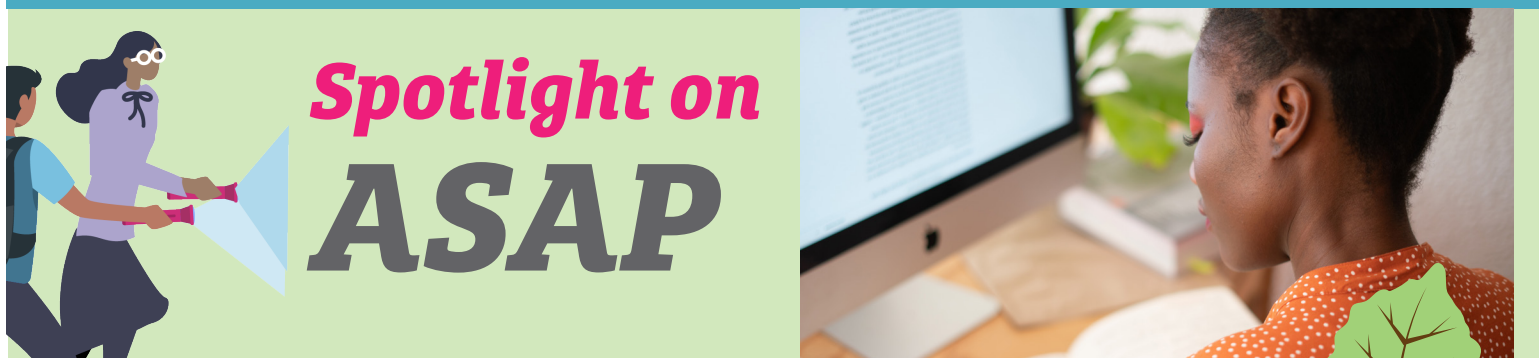


Keston Esor

The Delta State of Nigeria was recognized on August 27, 1991. Keston Esor grew up on its oil and agricultural rich land. It was here he earned a BA in Communications from Edo State Polytechnic. After graduating, he shadowed a journalist for the Uruhobo Voice. The internship was exciting. Keston loved covering the news and probably would have become a reporter, but an opportunity arose to come to America and Keston seized it.

American life was different, but for the most part, he had good experiences. In the States, journalism no longer seemed like a plausible profession; English is not Keston's first language and he had no connections in the field. He looked around and weighed his options. Healthcare jobs are abundant, so he decided to become a nurse.

In October of 2019, Keston enrolled in the Medical Assisting A.O.S. Degree Program at Mildred Elley. Out of the gate, he was a straight "A" student. After Keston graduates, he plans to enter the Practical Nursing Certificate Program. **His ultimate dream is to become a nurse and financially help his family in Nigeria.**



Tutoring Incentive

We've made it easy to schedule a tutoring appointment on the scheduling page on our website:

mildred-elley.edu/student-portal/tutor-scheduling

and because we are so proud of our tutoring services and want you to see how helpful it can be, we're offering Dunkin' Gift Cards to those who attend!

How it works: Attend 2 tutoring sessions in a given sit to receive a \$5 Dunkin' Gift Card.

Attend 3 tutoring sessions in a given module to receive \$10 in Dunkin' Gift Cards.

Attend 5 or more tutoring sessions in a given module to receive \$15 in Dunkin' Gift Cards.

**This offer applies to tutoring for Paralegal, Medical Assisting, and Massage students only. Each session attended must be at least 45 minutes long. If you cannot make your scheduled appointment, please give at least 24-hours notice. Gift cards will be emailed to student's Mildred Elley email address at the end of the module.*

You can also schedule a session by emailing ASAPTutoring@mildred-elley.edu.

ASAP Counseling

Our students have the benefit of multiple options for counseling to assist with both personal and school-related stresses.

To make an appointment for individual counseling session, please email: ASAPcounseling@mildred-elley.edu.

Virtual Group counseling occurs every **Monday at 12pm** on Teams.

You can find links for joining this session, counseling hours, and other helpful resources for students at

mildred-elley.edu/student-portal

Fall 2 Meet and Greet

When: December 2, 12-1pm

Where: Microsoft Teams

Come meet Mildred Elley's counselors and learn how to best use them as a resource! There will be fun activities that will help students become familiar with Mildred Elley's many avenues of academic support.

Check your email for a meeting invitation!