

**From:** [MC Communications](#)  
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November 4, 2024

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Hello, Raptors! November brings exciting events and opportunities to MC! We're thrilled to be hosting the 2024 National Junior College Athletics Association (NJCAA) Region 20 men's and women's soccer and volleyball tournaments. You can attend these [games](#) in person or catch them on [livestream](#). Alongside athletics, this week is packed with distance learning events, a Mobile Market, and celebrations for first-generation college students—all reflecting MC's commitment to student-centered transformation.

**Cybersecurity Dreams Realized: *Bow Tie Chats* Debuts with an Inspiring Journey**

I am excited to debut *Bow Tie Chats*, a new segment in our *Bow Ties and Backpacks* video series. These conversations feature sit-downs with special guests for heart-to-heart discussions on dreams, personal journeys, and the exciting innovations taking place at MC. As a bow tie represents a personal expression, each chat is an opportunity to share stories about individuality meeting inspiration. In recognition of Cybersecurity Month, [our first episode](#) features a conversation with Tamila Urumbaeva, an MC alum now completing her bachelor's in cybersecurity at UMGC. Her journey highlights the lasting impact of MC's hands-on learning and the creativity of our faculty, which continues to shape her career in cybersecurity.



### **Creating a Sense of Belonging for Everyone at the College**

This Friday, join us at [Raptor Central](#) on any campus or at the East County Education Center for snacks and MC swag for our [First-Generation College Student Day](#). Raising awareness of their experiences is part of a national effort to highlight the resilience and success of these trailblazers. Also, join us for a Cafecito gathering Wednesday on the Germantown Campus, geared toward [Spanish-speaking students](#) and their families. And while you're there, check out the [Mobile Market](#) to pick up some fresh goods! Finally, if you have not yet voted, please cast your ballot tomorrow.

### **Learning without Limits: Celebrate Distance Learning Week**

Did you know that MC offers 39 fully online degrees and certificates? Today marks the start of National Distance Learning Week, a time to recognize how online education at MC meets students where they are. With 476 faculty members teaching online or remote courses, our virtual community is strong. This week's activities bring awareness to the accomplishments being made in distance education and recognizes faculty and staff who give our students the best learning experience in virtual environments. Faculty and staff can find professional development workshops this week on digital tools, accessibility, and teaching innovation, in addition to stories from our faculty members sharing their journeys in online education.

With Raptor Regards,

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams  
President  
[@DrWilliams\\_MC](#)