

BEOC TODAY

SUNY BROOKLYN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER

www.sunybeoc.org

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THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Dear BEOC Community,

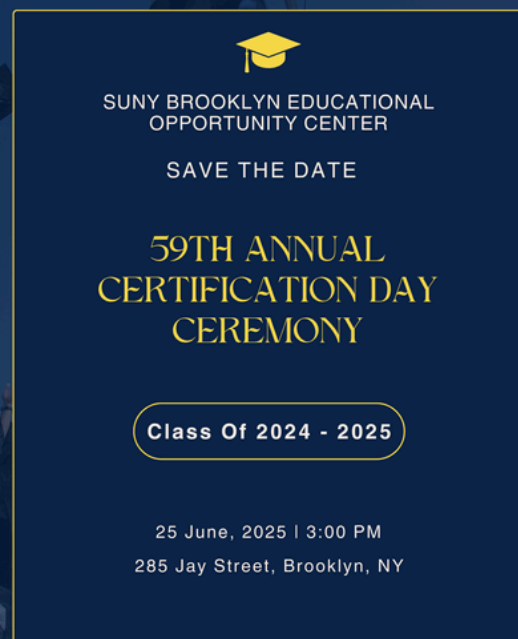
April recap - April was a month of energy, connection, and forward momentum at BEOC! On April 25, we were proud to welcome **Assembly Member Michael Novakhov (District 45)** to our campus, where he visited classrooms, spoke with students, and saw firsthand the life-changing work we do every day. *"This is exactly the kind of community partnership we need more of."* he said—and we couldn't agree more. We're excited to explore ways to collaborate and serve his district through education, career training, and outreach.

We've also made some incredible additions to our team: please join me in welcoming **Mary Sumaya** as our new Testing Coordinator and **Chantay Reaves** as our new Admissions Coordinator. Thanks to all of your hard work, our student retention rate has reached 70%—well above our 60% goal—and we've already completed 30% of our annual target, with more students on track to complete by June. We're currently serving 1,012 students, or 63% of our 1,615 enrollment goal, and I'm proud to say we're pacing ahead of last year. Our College Connections team is supporting 350 students toward college—125 from the broader community and 225 from our current enrollment—and Career Services has helped secure 27 job placements so far.

Additionally, I hosted a fireside chat with students, and their feedback is already shaping our next steps. *"It means a lot to be heard"*, one student shared—and that message rings true across all we do. We also acknowledge that April is National Second Chance Month, also known as Reentry Awareness Month. This national observance highlights the need to support individuals returning to their communities after incarceration and to break down the barriers they face. At BEOC, we believe in second chances—and in the role education plays in creating them. April was also **Denim Day**, an annual global campaign held on the last Wednesday during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. On this day, people wear denim to challenge harmful stereotypes, raise awareness about sexual violence, and show solidarity with survivors. It's a visible statement against victim-blaming, and a reminder that we stand together for justice, healing, and equity. The finish line is near, and together, we are making it count.

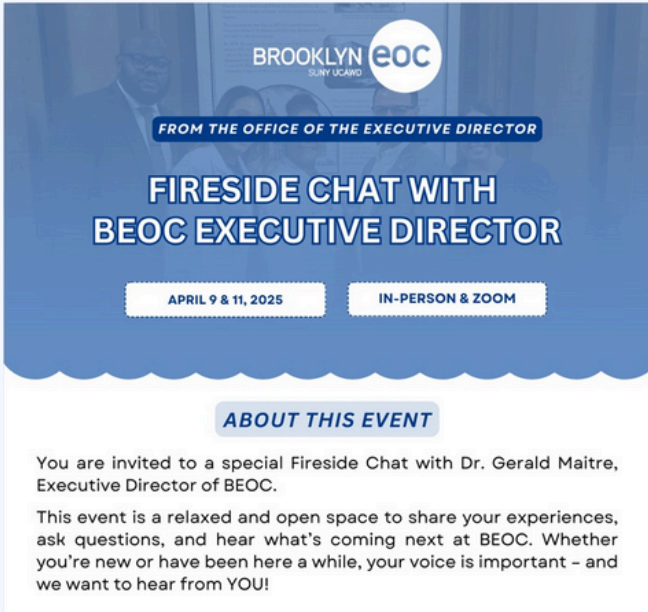


A Message from the
Executive Director
Dr. Gerald Maitre



DEPARTMENT NEWS

Executive Director's Fireside Chat



The poster features the Brooklyn EOC logo at the top, with the text "FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR" below it. The main title "FIRESIDE CHAT WITH BEOC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR" is prominently displayed. Below the title, it specifies the dates "APRIL 9 & 11, 2025" and the format "IN-PERSON & ZOOM". A section titled "ABOUT THIS EVENT" describes the invitation to a special chat with Dr. Gerald Maitre, Executive Director of BEOC, and mentions that the event is a relaxed space for sharing experiences and asking questions.

BROOKLYN EOC
BUNY UCAWD

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**FIRESIDE CHAT WITH
BEOC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

APRIL 9 & 11, 2025 IN-PERSON & ZOOM

ABOUT THIS EVENT

You are invited to a special Fireside Chat with Dr. Gerald Maitre, Executive Director of BEOC.

This event is a relaxed and open space to share your experiences, ask questions, and hear what's coming next at BEOC. Whether you're new or have been here a while, your voice is important – and we want to hear from YOU!

April 9 - Executive Director, Dr. Gerald Maitre hosted his first in-person Fireside Chat with BEOC students (and faculty). He discussed the importance of open dialog and communication among students, faculty, and staff. Light refreshments were served while students engaged in a hearty discussion with Dr. Maitre.

Students came prepared with their questions and concerns, while Dr. Maitre responded open and honestly. In all, it was a productive session with students leaving feeling they were heard and Dr. Maitre armed with the mission to create strategies to improve processes throughout BEOC.

April 11 - Dr. Maitre hosted the second Fireside Chat session via zoom. Again, students came prepared with their questions and concerns and Dr. Maitre did an excellent job leaning in and learning more about student needs.

Dr. Maitre plans to continue with the fireside chat series and looks forward to more engagement in the BEOC community.



DEPARTMENT NEWS

ADVISEMENT

Wall of Fame

BEOC Advisement Center is always on board with engaging students in activities that build self-esteem and pride.

In April, Advisement created the **Wall of Fame**, which is a space that features the names of students who receive their GED, NHA, or Microsoft Office certifications. Kudos to the Advisors for fostering a positive environment and good luck to the students receiving their certifications!

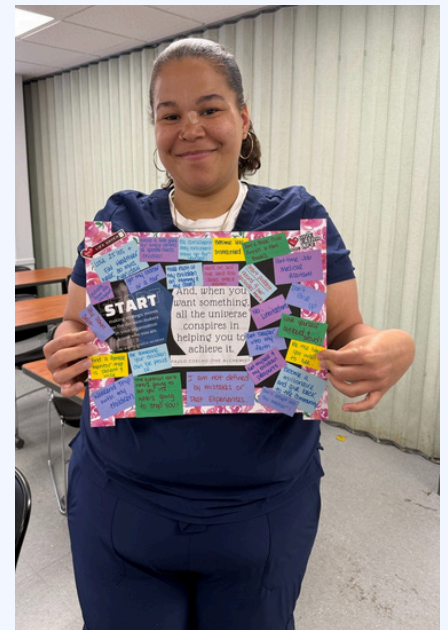


ADVISEMENT

Vision Board Session

BEOC Advisement Center strikes again with another engaging and creative way to connect with students. On April 30, Advisement hosted a **Creating Vision Board** event.

This event featured creative instruction by Donna Holloway, Director of Enrollment & Student Services, who guided students through their creative process of vision boarding. Light refreshments were served in a calm and welcoming environment.



DEPARTMENT NEWS



CAREER SERVICES

Security Guard Training Informational

On May 6, One Brooklyn Health conducted an information session for BEOC's security guard students where they provided information on potential job opportunities in the hospitals that they serve.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Stephanie Quoichil Bernard
Medical Assisting Program

Congratulations Stephanie!

BEOC continuously encourages students to be the best they can be. So, when we discover their talents are recognized outside of the BEOC community, we feel compelled to share.

Medical Assisting student, **Stephanie Quoichil Bernard** has proudly been accepted to the Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC)!

Stephanie shares: "I would like to express my deep gratitude to BEOC, especially to College Connections advisement, for the invaluable support they provided during my college admission process. Thanks for the guidance, insightful advice, and availability. I was able to navigate this sometimes, complex process with confidence.

BEOC's commitment and kindness have been essential in helping me take this important step in my academic journey. I truly appreciate the opportunity to benefit from your expertise and assistance, and I wish to extend my most sincere thanks.

I am now excited to embark on this new college adventure in BMCC, and I hope to, in turn, pass on the values of support and generosity that you manifest so well.

Once again, thank you for your invaluable help."

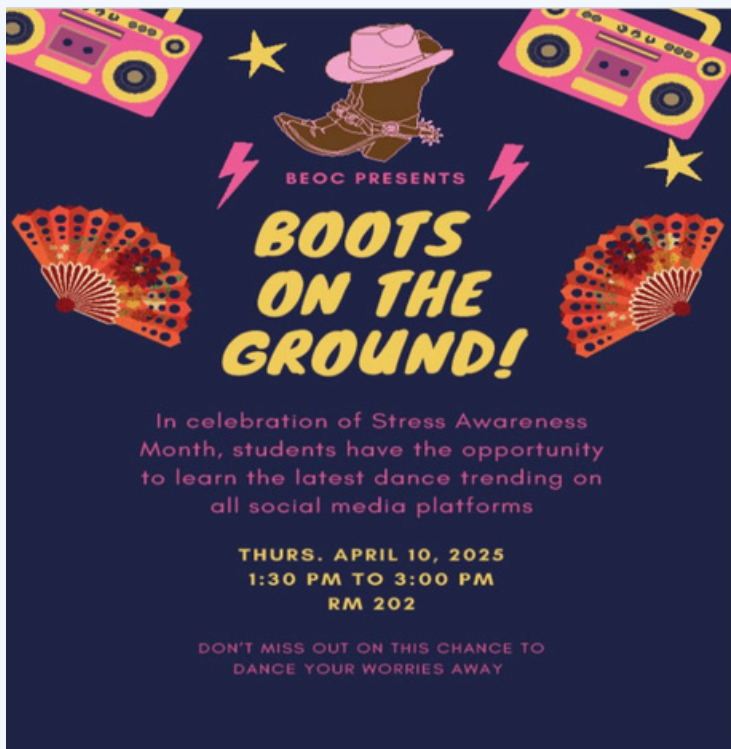
DEPARTMENT NEWS

ADVISEMENT

Where them fans at?!!!

BEOC Advisement Center hosted another engaging event for students, faculty, and staff. In celebration of Stress Awareness Month, Advisement hosted **Boots on the Ground** on April 10.

This event featured music and dance instruction by our newest employee Chantay Reeves. We were also joined by one of College Connections partners from Monroe University, Nasiyah Wallace. BEOC students and staff put their **boots on the ground** for a great cause!



BEOC CONNECTIONS

Assembly Member Michael Novakhov (District 45)
Visits BEOC

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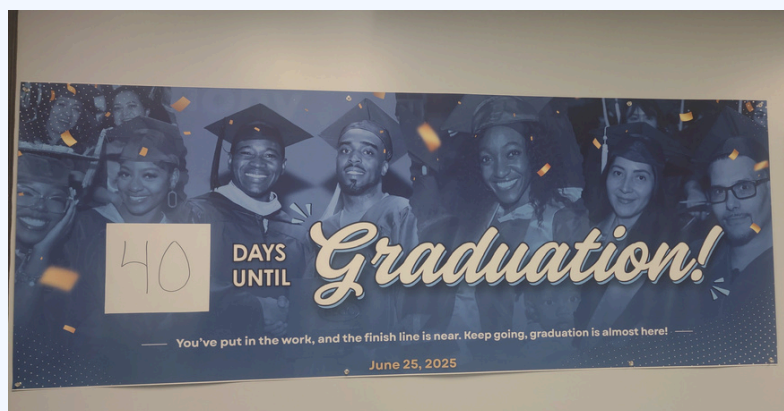


BEOC UPCOMING EVENTS & NOTICES

Student Services Activities Calendar

May 2025

Date	Time	Activity/Event	Additional Notes
May 6	3:00 PM	Nailing the Interview: Confidence, Questions, and First Impressions	In Person
May 12	3:00 PM	Your Network is Your Net worth: Building Connections that Count	In Person
May 12	3:00PM	What's NEXT for Me? (Medical Asst – 1 st term)	ZOOM
May 13	TBD	Career Fair Confidence: Stand out and Get Hired	In Person
May 13	3:00 PM	Emotional Intelligence	Via ZOOM
May 14	12-5pm	Career Fair	In Person
May 15	3:00PM	What's NEXT for Me (Medical Asst – 2 nd Term)	ZOOM
May 19	3:00PM	What's NEXT for Me (Medical Billing)	ZOOM



COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT

Graduation Countdown

Thanks to our talented Communications & Multimedia Coordinator, Chinyere Rhoad, we have a countdown to graduation signage on our second and third floors.

Just an exciting reminder to students that they are on their way to the finish line!



CONNECT WITH US!



Facebook
Brooklyn Educational Opportunity Center

Instagram
@suny_beoc

TikTok
@sunybeoc

YouTube
@sunybeoc

LOOKING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR PROGRAMS?

[Website](http://www.sunybeoc.org)

[Email](mailto:admissions@beoc.cuny.edu)

RENOVATION UPDATE

After many years, we are finally getting a new entrance foyer to our first floor at the Boreum Street entrance. The foyer has been completely removed, and a new one will be installed this summer. We are looking forward to reopening this entrance.



Before



In progress