

MCCC's Best-Kept Secrets

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You have a class schedule and books in hand, figured out where to eat lunch, and even scoped out some parking spots.

But have you looked at what can enliven your time at Montgomery County Community College so it amounts to more than just classrooms and commuting? Read further and find out about the college's best-kept secrets.

Sports

MCCC supports intercollegiate teams in men's soccer, basketball and baseball and women's soccer, basketball, softball and volleyball and intramural sports from bench press to table tennis. This past year, 59 intercollegiate student athletes transferred into 45 different colleges nationwide. So sports can provide a way to bump up the scholastic game, too.

Music

For just the cost of a one-credit course, you can study either guitar or piano in four different levels. Small class sizes ensure good face time with the instructor, and piano labs allow him or her to listen to a student over a headset while the rest of the class is doing its own thing or out loud so everyone can hear. Jazz bands and classical ensembles also offer a chance to play with others and enjoy the art of public performance.

Laptops

Desktop computers found throughout the two campuses symbolize the college's reputation for excellence in technology.

But not all students know that

the school libraries provide free loaner laptops. There, with a student ID, a laptop can be loaned out for four hours, with the option of one renewal. Of course, students can always check into one of the computer labs, but just know that there are laptops when you just need them.

Group Study

Speaking of schoolwork, another best-kept secret can be found in the brand-spanking new library. Yes, there's the coffee shop, beautiful new work stations and stacks. But tucked away on the top floor, though, are gems not everyone knows about: group study rooms. With a little planning and foresight – at least 12 hours in advance – you and your friends can reserve a collaborative workspace. Book early, though, as these rooms tend to fill up around exam time.

Game Room

All work and no play can make us boring – not to mention stressed out. So when you need to blow off a little steam, check out the game room. You can almost always find someone to take you up on a game of pool in surprisingly chic surroundings, or you can hook up a gaming console to a flat screen TV. Oh, and if you took us up on the music lesson advice, check out the baby grand across the hall and play us a tune while you're at it.

Let us know which best-kept secrets we've missed. We don't want to crowd your scene, but some secrets are all the better for sharing.

Singing...



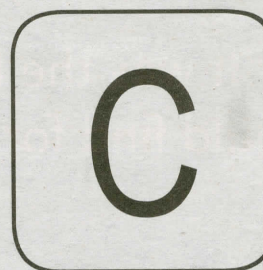
It's not just for the shower anymore.

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Mr. Ryan
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