



DUSTIN CANADY, ANAS TAHA ALSLMI RECEIVE \$250 SCHOLARSHIP EACH THROUGH RCC FUNDRAISER

Dustin Canady and Anas Taha Alslmi had never met each other prior to today, but a project they worked on during the fall semester, brought them both together this Tuesday.

The two were presented with a \$250 scholarship from the RCC Foundation.

The scholarship was earned through the RCC Ornament Fundraiser sale held in December that raised \$500. It was a project that they both played a pivotal role in as students at Robeson Community College, but on opposite ends of the spectrum. Dustin helped craft the ornaments, creating the plasma and design, and Anas was part of a group of students who painted the embellishments of the logo, green and blue.

The ornaments were an instant hit, as previously reported, with 50 being sold in just a matter of days. Students, faculty, staff, and community members used the ornaments as holiday decor to showcase their RCC spirit and could be seen on display in households all across Robeson County and beyond.



Dustin Canady

Canady, 29, is a student studying mechatronics engineering at Robeson Community College. He is set to graduate this May and has already found employment using his degree.

"I'm the shop manager at MKS Construction Group in St. Pauls," Dustin proudly said. "We do fabrication design, solid work design, order jet cuts, and just about anything industrial."

Canady says the mechatronics program, particularly the fabrication class, helped him in obtaining the role he is currently in, crediting his instructor, Heath Worriax.

"The class taught me how to draw solid works and convert that into automated equipment such as water jets, CNC, and that's really how I landed the job, that with my past experience, and my degree," Canady said. "With Heath, it's a different class with the way he teaches... he'll put you in real-world situations, you'll get that feeling of being challenged and being pushed and stretched to the next level, it's perfect preparation because now in the workplace instead of me feeling hopeless in the same exact situation, I know what to do and where to go."

With gaining hands-on training in the classroom, Canady says that the program helped him transition into the workforce, allowing him to thrive.

"The program has really given me the experience needed in the industry," Canady adds. "It's not just pen and paper, some of these things you can't experience until you get in the real world, but Mr. Heath and his team do a really good job of giving us those real-life examples."

Which is why the ornament project was so relevant for Canady and his class.

"That was automated fabrication," Canady said. "That was a fun project that we got to do."

And about the scholarship he received, Dustin says, "I'm excited, super excited. I've been paying everything out of pocket. I got a child and everything, so it's been kind of rough on me, but I'm finally starting to see some sun, so I really appreciate it."



Anas Taha Alslmi

Anas, 20, is a university transfer student pursuing an associate of science degree. He is set to graduate this May. Originally from Yemen, Anas and his family first moved to Texas, which is where he learned how to speak English. He now calls Robeson County home and is a graduate of Lumberton High School.

"We've been here for almost two years," Anas said. "It's beautiful here. I love America so much, so it's a lot different, but I love it... This is a beautiful school, and I've learned a lot. The school is perfect, I didn't have any trouble with a teacher or assignments or anything."

As part of his course requirements, he enrolled in Art Appreciation, an elective where he was able to explore art history and different periods of time from the Renaissance to the Modern Era and even get some hands-on experience with painting, using different tools and substrates in creating works of art.

When Scotty Thompson, his instructor, announced the ornament project, Anas jumped at the opportunity to help.

"It was kind of new to me, but I enjoyed it," Anas said.

With earning a \$250 scholarship, Anas says he learned a valuable lesson.

"When you work hard at something, you're going to see it's worth it," Anas said. "It lets you see that what you did matters."

"I'm so thankful for this scholarship, it was a surprise," said Anas. "This is great, I thank all of you, everyone at the school, especially Mr. Thompson, he was really there for me since the beginning."

Anas hopes to transfer to the University of North Carolina at Pembroke and has hopes of becoming an aviator someday.

"It was my dream to be a pilot since I was young," he said.

Below are photos of some of the ornaments purchased and on display during the 2024 holiday season around homes in Robeson County.



Mary Ransom's Ornament

Sally Carr's Christmas Tree

Rose Avant's Christmas Tree

Ornament hanging from the Christmas tree in the President's Office

Jacquelyne Hill's Christmas tree

Mariah Graham, a nursing student, shared this photo of her Christmas tree with the RCC ornaments proudly on display.

Published on February 4, 2025 by Cheryl Hemric NEWS STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

<p>ROBESON COMMUNITY COLLEGE</p> <p>Mailing Address PO Box 1420 Lumberton, NC 28359</p> <p>Main Campus 5160 Fayetteville Road Lumberton, NC 28360 910-272-3700</p> <p>COMTech Site 124 Livermore Dr. Pembroke, NC 28372 910-272-3482</p> <p>A.S. Thomas Center 62 Union Chapel Road Pembroke, NC 28372 910-272-3611</p> <p>Emergency Training Grounds 5825 S. Roberts Avenue Lumberton, NC 28358 910-272-3330</p> <p>Maxton Site The Learning Academy 305 North Hooper Street</p> <p>Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8am - 5pm Friday 8am - 3pm Student Services Extended Hours</p> <p>Campus: Directory Map RCC App: Apple Android</p> <p></p>	<p>STUDENT RESOURCES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apprenticeships Bookstore Calendars - First Day Complete Career & College Promise Catalog & Handbook Counseling & Career Services Jobs for Students - College Central Network Disability Services Financial Aid Honors Program Online Learning Records & Registration Student Activities The Academic Success Center TimelyCare Transcript Request 	<p>CAMPUS RESOURCES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty & Staff Directory Human Resources Information Technology Library Tuition & Business Request Information Salon Services Available to Public Schedule a Visit <p>ABOUT RCC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> History Mission & Values Board of Trustees Foundation Employment Accreditation 	<p>PUBLIC DISCLOSURE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cares Act College Navigator COVID-19 updates Report a Concern Student Achievement Notice of Non-Discrimination <p>CAMPUS SECURITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Safety and Security Title IX <p>EVENT REGISTRATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Event Registration
--	---	---	---

WANT A BETTER FUTURE? BETTER SKILLS? BETTER JOBS?

CLICK HERE TO REQUEST INFORMATION

ROBESON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

YOU VOTED!

MEMBERS CHOICE AWARDS

2025

THIS IS THE PLACE WAY5

WWW.WAY5.COM

RCC IS THE WINNER!

BEST COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE CAPE FEAR REGION!

ROBESON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
FOUNDATION, INC.

41st Annual
CLIFFORD BULLARD MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

October 2, 2025
Rain Date: October 9, 2025

MORNING SHOTGUN: 8:30 A.M.
PINE CREST COUNTRY CLUB
110 NEELE ROAD, LUMBERTON, NC

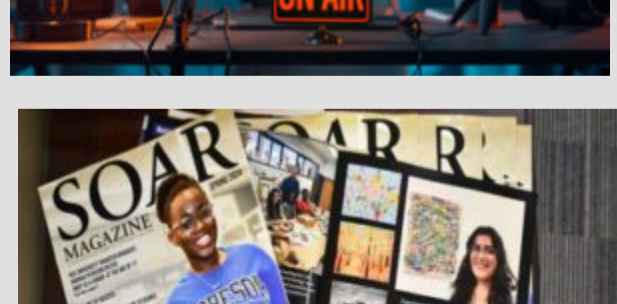
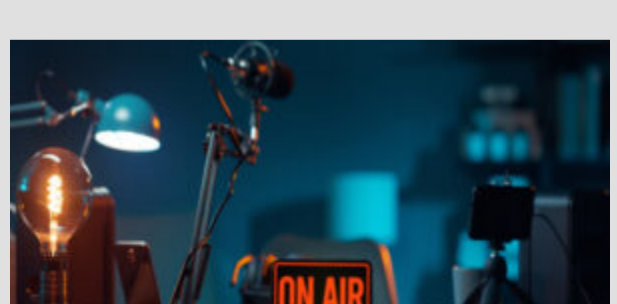
AFTERNOON SHOTGUN: 1:30 P.M.

HOLE IN ONE CONTEST & \$5,000 PUTTING CHALLENGE

MEMBERS ONLY
LUMBERTON, NC

ROBESON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION, INC.

RCC FOUNDATION
910-272-3236
FOUNDATION@ROBESON.EDU



Click to play Discover TV Series Click to listen to Radio Interviews Click to view Carolina Beat Segments Click to view copies of SOAR Magazine