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Heartland Student Entrepreneurship Conference to help young learners aim big

OMAHA, Neb. — The third annual Heartland Student Entrepreneurship Conference will take place Friday, April 18, 8:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. at Metropolitan Community College's Fort Omaha Campus, 30th and Fort streets. More than 200 middle school, high school and college students will be on-hand to feed their entrepreneurial appetites at the event hosted by MCC.

This year's conference will give students the opportunity to participate in workshops and competitions while hearing national and local success stories throughout the day. Competitions include an essay contest summarizing the student's entrepreneurial ideas as well as an elevator pitch portion where students will have two minutes to present their concepts to a panel of judges.

Giving insight on entrepreneurial goals and aspirations are entrepreneurs Beka Doolittle, owner of thepinkstore.com; Willy Chyr, artist and video game developer of "Relativity"; Andrew and Abigail Vrbas, founders of Pacha Soap Company, a nonprofit organization that works in underdeveloped nations around the world; Angela Galloway, development consultant at OPPD; Rita Rocker, owner of Transformations Academy; and Gregg Christensen, career education specialist from the Nebraska Department of Education.

For more information, visit mccneb.edu/entr/conference.asp.

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Metropolitan Community College, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, is a comprehensive, public community college that offers affordable and quality education to all residents of Dodge, Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties. Founded

in 1974, MCC has the largest enrollment out of six community colleges in Nebraska and is the second largest postsecondary institution in the state. MCC serves more than 40,000 students annually.