

From: [Ridgewater Alumni](#)
To:
Subject: Did you know February is...



Black History Month

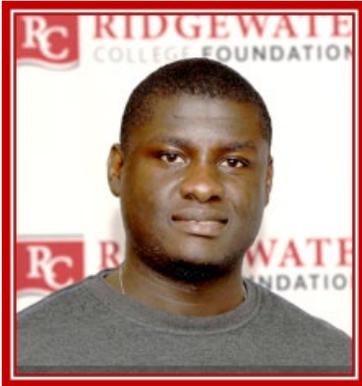
FEBRUARY 2021

Black History Month is an annual celebration in the month of February to recognize and celebrate African American contributions and accomplishments. This year's theme for Black History Month is "**Black Family: Representation, Identity and Diversity.**" [Learn More...](#)

When you were a student at Ridgewater College, you likely had groceries to buy, rent to pay, and countless other things to worry about. You may remember the

REGINO MOISE

Computer Systems Technology Student & Ridgewater Scholarship Recipient



"Growing up in a poor foreign country has not only offered financial and academic challenges but has also helped me realize the value of a college education. Financing my education is a heavy weight on me and I was getting worried of not being able to continue to afford the tuition. Thank you so much for your generous support of my education at Ridgewater college."

stress you experienced when unexpected expenses arose.

If anyone would understand the impact that a little bit of financial support can have on a student at Ridgewater College, it's you. And right now, there are more ways than ever before to support Ridgewater College students and help them succeed.

[Give to Ridgewater Students](#)



Are there ways Ridgewater has helped you achieve your goals? Where are you living, what are you doing, and what is life like for you now?

Tell us about yourself and your journey with Ridgewater College! These stories are an inspiration for current students, prospective students, Ridgewater employees, and fellow Ridgewater alum.

[Share Your Story](#)

FEATURED ALUMNI STORY



MOHAMED HASSAN

Current Occupation:
Cost Accountant

Ridgewater Program:
Liberal Arts (Generals)

"I have so many days to celebrate, you know? Is it the day that I got my dream job? Is it the day that I married my beautiful wife? Is it the day that I got this beautiful son? Is it the day I became a U.S.

citizen? The day that I came to the United States? There are so many days that I can say because all of them really changed my life..."

[View the full story...](#)



Just Art - Challenging Racism and Promoting Social Justice

Art takes many forms. Paintings, drawings, and sculptures... Art also includes other forms of expression. Art can be music, drama, and writing. It can be photography, videos, and dance. In short, art allows us to express ourselves through many different formats and media.

With this in mind, Ridgewater created the Just Art project as way for our students, faculty, staff, Alumni and community to express their feelings regarding social justice and racism.

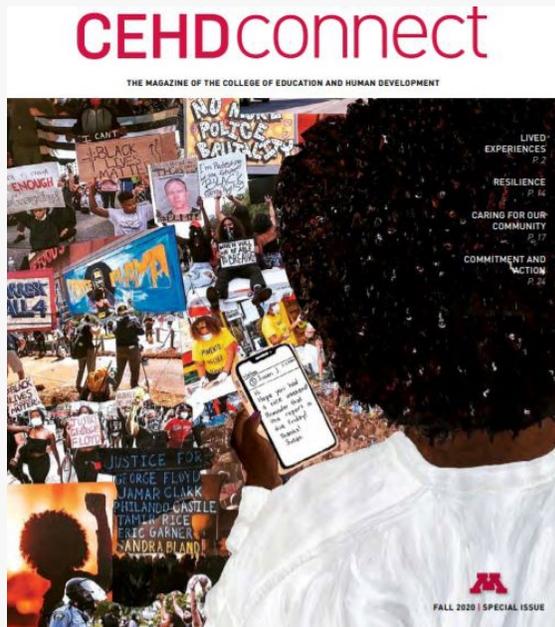
Just Art is a community Facebook page where you're invited to submit your art as we move forward and come together. [View and/or contribute...](#)

From President Johnson

As part of our ongoing college commitment to combat racism and promote equity, inclusion and social justice, I would like to share an internet resource for individual reading to increase understanding of the personal impact of racism, inequity and related social issues in our nation.

I am sharing a link to an issue of [Connect](#), a magazine published by the University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development. It is a special issue from Fall 2020 with a series of personal reflections and commentaries that focus on racism, equity and social justice. Please make time to read the essays – I recommend reading them one at a time to allow space to reflect on the messages, rather than reading through the entire issue in an extended session. I think you will find a lot to think about that can help many of us better understand the issues and challenges faced by many people in our state, region and local communities – and on our campuses.

- Craig Johnson
President, Ridgewater College



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Events, Updates & Opportunities



Student Massage Center

The Student Massage Center will be open as of Saturday, January 23. This is our **public clinic** that gives our massage therapy students opportunities to work on clients from our community.

Current pricing is:

- \$30 for a 60 minute massage (either relaxation or therapeutic)
- \$25 for a 40 minute massage (either relaxation or therapeutic)
- Upgrade either of the above massages with hot stones for an additional \$3
- \$15 for a 20 minute seated chair massage

Face masks and submission of an online screening form are required for anyone who comes to campus. If you are interested in scheduling an appointment, you can call our appointment line at 320-222-7565.

[More information...](#)



Preventive Veterinary Care at Paws & Claws

Starting Tuesday, January 19, 2021, the **Ridgewater College Veterinary Technology Department** will be open for CURBSIDE Preventive Veterinary Well Care appointments on the Willmar campus.

In compliance with COVID-19 recommendations, Paws and Claws will only be open for CURBSIDE preventive veterinary care appointments. The clinic will be open during the following:

Clinic Hours:

Mondays: 12 pm – 3:30 pm
Tuesdays: 8 am – 3:30 pm
Fridays: 8 am – 12 pm

Curbside appointments mean that owners will remain in their vehicle throughout the duration of the appointment. To make an appointment, please call the clinic at 320.222.8269

[More information...](#)



Free Webinar

Join us for "The Introverted Leader" - a free webinar on Thursday, February 11 from 11:00am-12:00pm. This is an online event in collaboration with Dakota County Technical College and six additional Minnesota State colleges, including Ridgewater.

Introverts ARE leaders. In this session, you will hear inspirational and practical tips for how introverts can use their quiet strengths to conquer leadership challenges.

[Learn More...](#)

[Register Now](#)



Agriculture Excellence, Today and Tomorrow

Ag Expansions: New Poultry and Ag Power & Equipment Technician Program

In Fall 2020, Ridgewater started a new [Poultry Management](#) certificate. Developed in partnership with industry leaders and the University of Minnesota, the Ridgewater 20-credit certificate provides a solid foundation for potential advanced education and a strong base knowledge needed to be successful in the poultry industry. In addition to the new Poultry program, just two years ago, Ridgewater added an [Ag Power and Equipment Technician](#) program to meet the critical

need for repair and maintenance of farm equipment and machinery.

Farm Business Management (FBM) Changes Under Discussion; Willmar Campus Ag Programs Will Continue

As announced in a recent press release, Ridgewater College is exploring the possibility of transferring its off-

campus Farm Business Management (FBM) program (which serves working farmers in the region with their business needs) to Central Lakes College and Minnesota West Community and Technical College. If the transfer is approved, FBM students would continue to receive FBM education locally, but through other institutions.

Ridgewater's on-campus post-secondary Ag programs based on the Willmar Campus will **not** be impacted by the proposed change to FBM and will continue as normal. These on-campus programs include Agri-business, Agronomy Technology, Ag Power and Equipment Technician, Dairy Management, Farm Operations and Management, GPS/GIS Information Systems Technology, and Poultry Management.

RIDGEWATER IN THE NEWS



When excellence and affordability collide, it's reason to celebrate! Congrats to our growing online Computer-Aided Drafting and Design program and faculty for recently receiving national recognition from BestValueSchools.org. No. 3 best CADD certificate program in the US - not too shabby! (Of course, we also offer degrees and diplomas.) [Read full press release...](#)



Congrats to Ridgewater's Jacob Albers, Machine Tool Technology, for maximizing his SciTecMN internship experience at Hutchinson's 3-D CNC, Inc. with both know-how and ambition! What an inspiring Warrior story! [Read the article...](#)

BLAST FROM THE PAST



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