



**QUOTE  
OF THE  
MONTH**

“If you are not willing to risk the usual, you will have to settle for the ordinary.”

- Jim Rohn



*Inside this issue:*

KEEPING YOU UPDATED	1
STUDENT OF THE MONTH	2
USE OF TECHNOLOGY AWARD FROM THE JCR	2
WORD OF THE DAY	3
APRIL EVALUATIONS	3
CCR STUDENTS AT THE NCRA CONVENTION	4
INSTRUCTOR SPOTLIGHT	5
JOB OPENINGS	5
MAY CALENDAR	6

# THE GUARDIAN

**College of Court Reporting**  
May 2017

Issue 5

(continued on pg. 2)

## KEEPING YOU UPDATED!

CCR graduate Angela McCullough in the center of the room taking down a Senate hearing! Angel currently resides in Virginia and works for Alderson Reporting.

Our grads go places!



**2017 NCRA CONVENTION & EXPO**

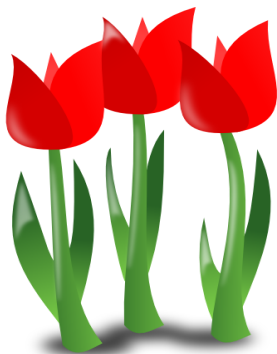
**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Aug. 10-13**  
Las Vegas, Nevada  
Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino

## Student of the Month

### Stephanie McGinnis

One of Stephanie's instructors had this to say about her, "Stephanie is willing to do whatever it takes to get those last few tests! She is writing up anything and everything she takes down. She is seeking advice and challenging herself every day."

You're going to be an excellent reporter, Stephanie!



## Jay Vettickal, CRI, received the Use of Technology award from the JCR!



College of Court Reporting's campaign to recruit new students this fall had significant impact on enrollment. CCR created its #PlusOne campaign in an effort to promote the profession of court reporting and captioning careers. The objectives included increasing public awareness and interest, as well as having more students take the first step toward entering one of the professions. The goal of the promotion was to have those working in the profession reach out to prospective students and get them to just try it. CCR took the first step by offering a free five-week online introductory course, "Hooked on Court Reporting," for almost 60 students. The goal is to introduce prospective students to the professions and the opportunities related to court reporting.

CCR launched the #PlusOne campaign using social media and email marketing to garner the support of all working professionals. Here is how it worked: CCR emailed more than 35,000 working court reporting and firm owners asking them to help promote court reporting to the people they already knew. They were further asked to explain "Hooked on Court Reporting" to those same people and asked them to participate in the program's free course in order to learn more about what it is like to become a court reporter.

The program's strategic partnerships with working court reporters, professionals, and employers amplified its efforts by tapping into word-of-mouth marketing. The #PlusOne campaign was designed to challenge all court reporters and those affiliated with the professions to help one student start at an NCRA-certified program. "The truth is, the faster we familiarize the public about these amazing and important professions related to court reporting, the more people we will have to fill those vacancies," said Vettickal of the program. CCR's social media efforts increased lead generation by more than 40 percent, and the responses to email blasts allowed more than 60 court reporting students to participate in the "Hooked on Court Reporting" course. Ultimately, CCR was able to start more than 30 percent more students in the fall of 2016 as compared to the fall of 2015.

# Word of the Day

## Acerbic

[a·cer·bic] *adj.*

Sharp or biting, as in character or expression.

“The director occasionally allowed an *acerbic* tone to an otherwise subtle dialogue.”



## April Evaluations Passed

*These students have all passed one or more SAP evaluations during the month of April.*

### ONE SAP

Marisa Martinez  
Melissa Hicking  
Angela Viray  
Daisy Corpus  
Kimberly Wilkerso  
Jamie Bleicher  
Michael Roberts  
Amanda Vernon  
Jamie Johnson  
Ashley Kramer  
Holly McKay  
Shannon Gallo  
Shaylene Mofle  
Summer Vaughan  
Sara Vaughn  
Kelly Garland  
Linda Day  
Brian Nelson  
Katie Buckner  
Taisha Herr  
Karina Hannah  
Lisa Jay  
Kolby Garrison  
Michelle McClean  
Kate Bush-McKee  
Nicole Cramer  
Carrie Johnson  
Debra Selsavage  
Hannah Wilson  
Kayde Rieken  
Shaylene Mofle

### TWO SAPS

Lauren Reichenbach  
Kathleen Gravedoni  
Kevin Martin  
Nicole Wicks  
Vanessa Machado  
Laura Kannry  
Ashley Guillermo  
Amanda Vernon  
Jennifer Wesner  
Mackenzie Smith  
Stephanie McGinnis  
Kodey Knauss  
Sindee Baum  
Katie Buckner  
Andrea Burris  
Kristine Rebar  
Brittney Vance  
Kate Hargis  
Cynthia Shellum  
Donna Capolongo  
Kevin Martin  
Shana Jones  
Megan Bowman  
Kendall Willis  
Geneva Wildcat  
Ashley Privett

### THREE SAPS

Jennifer Laursen  
Erin Ramsey  
Darcus Goslin  
Mary Cruz Hawkins  
Kristi Perkins  
Jazmine Kersey  
Rhonda Wentzell  
Jennifer Hall  
Oanh Dang  
Ashley Castillo  
Jessica Goodwin  
Treshanna Robinzine  
Stephen Brown  
Stephanie Garcia  
Yvette Granados  
Keely Nelsen  
Erin Alajoki  
Yvette Granados  
FOUR SAPS  
Jacqlyn Garcia  
Elizabeth Awbrey  
Carolyn Collins  
Carrie Johnson  
Jennifer Rotstein  
Jessica Williams  
Barbara Ufer  
Robin Willey  
Paige Eisenbeisz

### FIVE SAPS

Lovey Doume  
Brandon Herman  
Baley Moore  
Emily Senesac  
Kathleen Steadman  
Monet Henderson  
Christine Saylor  
Veronica Sandbakken

### SIX SAPS

Taylor Luckey  
Sumaya Hussein  
Ericka Gibbs  
Camille Holmes  
Macy Thompson  
SEVEN SAPS  
Cheyenne Leneair  
Lori Ingram  
Morgan Maloney  
Dessalyn Kimbrough  
Adrianna Townsend

### DAPHNE TARDY

### EIGHT SAPS

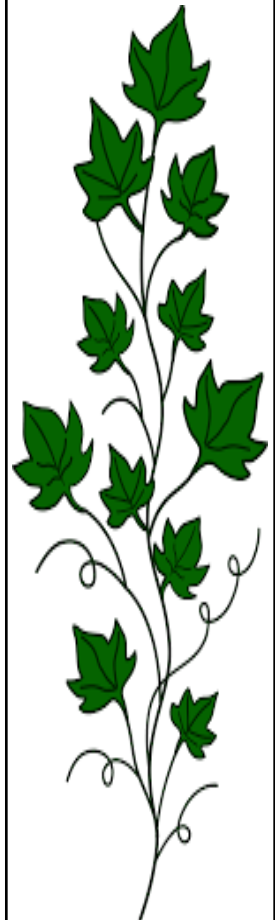
Erin DeLeon  
Eva Miller  
Ericka Gibbs

### TEN SAPS

Kyra Kustin

### ELEVEN SAPS

Rachel Schmidt



## CCR STUDENTS AT THE NCRA CONVENTION

Court reporting students agree: Meeting new people and learning new things are the best reasons to attend a conference like the NCRA Convention & Expo. Students who have attended one of the past Conventions share their advice for making the most out of the experience, just in time for the 2017 NCRA Convention & Expo, Aug. 10-13, at the Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Without a doubt, networking is one of the top reasons to attend a convention, and the Convention atmosphere itself helps. “Conventions are just a lot of fun. Reporters have a great time when they’re all together,” says Sarah Hamilton, a student at the College of Court Reporting in Valparaiso, Indiana.

The NCRA Convention & Expo is the largest gathering of court reporters and captioners in the country, so students have a good chance of meeting a wide range of working professionals, including people students may already be familiar with. “It’s great to put a face to a name,” said Hamilton.

Networking can be intimidating, but court reporting students have found a few strategies to help. Larona Cooper, a student at MacCormac College in Chicago, Illinois, suggests being proactive and introducing yourself to other court reporters. She also suggests “preparing a couple of questions in advance to ask other court reporters to assist you in your career choice” as an icebreaker.

A few of the scheduled events can help with networking. Shaunise Day, a student at West Valley College in Saratoga, California, says, “Attend the Awards Luncheon and sit at a table where you don’t know anyone. You will walk away feeling proud and inspired.” Jessica Frizzell, a student at College of Court Reporting in Valparaiso, Indiana, recommends going to the president’s suite to meet the NCRA Board of Directors, which is part of the student track.

Feeling shy? Frizzell suggests wearing the student ribbon on your name badge — it will do the work for you. “I was a bit shy and nervous at first and didn’t know who to talk to or how to approach them,” she says. “If you wear that student ribbon, people will come to you!”

However a student chooses to network, the point is to use these conversations to your advantage. “You need to truly listen to what someone is telling you even if you think you’re years away from ever encountering such a thing,” says Hamilton. “Really be open-minded about the advice you receive and know that working reporters sincerely want to help you because they are so passionate about this profession.”

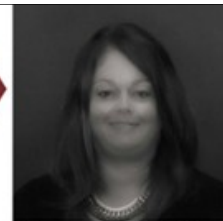
The Convention can also provide a boost in inspiration. “I enjoy my schooling and enjoy this profession, but the people I met and spoke with at Convention reminded me of why I’m working so hard and lit a fire in me to practice even harder so I can get out there and be a part of the working world,” says Frizzell.

Michael Roberts, a student at Brown College of Court Reporting in Atlanta, Georgia, attended a session entitled “Finishing your program: You can do this!” given by Eileen Beltz at the 2017 Convention in Chicago. “Hearing stories from others who have had the same struggles is encouraging because you find out you’re not the only one dealing with these conflicts,” he says.

## Instructor Spotlight

### CCR Instructor

*Lisa Morton*



**Q: When did you start teaching at CCR and what brought you here?**

I started off as a student at CCR back in 1998. I had been teaching middle school for several years. I quickly realized that my passion was still teaching. I took a full-time position with CCR in 2000 in the financial aid department and assisting in the night speedbuilding program. From there, I began to help in the classroom and I eventually starting teaching an SH level online. I started off working with students at the 140-160 level. Since that time, I have worked with several different levels of students.

Presently, I am assisting our new transfer students with an introduction to our technologies and philosophies.

**Q: What is your favorite thing about teaching?**

My absolute favorite thing about teaching is watching students reach their educational goals and become working reporters. When a student finds their GRIT, the sky is the limit. This is a great career, and I believe daily practice of pushing for speed, slowing down for accuracy, reading and correcting steno notes, and drilling to correct writing errors is key. But, most of all, students must believe in their own abilities. Teachers are here to guide students in the right direction.

**Q: What is the best advice you ever received as a student?**

Trust the process. It is tried and true.

**Q: What do you want people to know about Court Reporting?**

A successful court reporter is a well-rounded reporter. Your end product, the transcript, is important. But you must be on time to each job, prepared for the job, up-to-date with technology, exude professionalism, and realize you are the face of the agency that you will be working for. Honesty, professionalism, and integrity go a long way in this career. Remember, you are the guardian of the record. You are the one running the show! :)

If you would like more information about any of these positions, please contact  
[Natalie.Kijurna@ccr.edu](mailto:Natalie.Kijurna@ccr.edu)

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ccr\_rocks

*Birthdays are in bold print! Happy birthday, CCR students and faculty!*

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

	1 Vanessa Machado	2	3 Sumaya Hussein	4	5 Cinco de Mayo 	6
7	8	9 National Teachers Day Nicole Wix	10 Kate Hargis	11 Kathleen Gravedoni	12 Jessica Frizzell Madeline Lauer	13 Coree Brooks
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Jamielyn Bleicher	26	27
28 Kimberly Wilkerson	29 Memorial Day	30	31			