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BUSINESS MONDAY

HOLYOKE

HCC culinary arts gets Patrick Prize

The Boston Foundation selected Holyoke Community College as the winner of the 2018 Deval Patrick Prize for Community Colleges. The college won the \$50,000 prize in recognition of its expanded culinary arts and hospitality programs.

The prize honors the college's opening of the HCC MGM Institute for Culinary Arts in downtown Holyoke. First awarded in 2015, the Patrick Prize is designed to recognize community colleges that do an outstanding job of partnering with employers to build effective career pathways for their students.

"In this economy, postsecondary education opens doors for graduates to succeed that would remain locked," said Paul S. Grogan, president and CEO of the Boston Foundation. "What Holyoke Community College has done with this partnership is take an already strong program to the next level."

Grogan said the program "leverages a shared interest between Holyoke Community College and local employers like MGM - and does it in a student-focused way that makes it a win-win-win - for the college, the employers and most importantly, for the students who set out from the program into careers with promise and potential."

"We are proud to be honored with the Patrick Prize today," said HCC president Christina Royal. "It is recognition of the hard work and thoughtful process we have been able to undertake with

our business and community partners to identify and meet the needs of both the hospitality industry and our students - by giving an ever-wider pool of students the skills and experience to set them up for jobs and careers."

The culinary arts programs currently enroll more than 200 students, and enrollment is expected to grow to more than 300 students as a result of the expansion.