

Business Monday

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MICHELE CABRAL, HCC'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS, CORPORATE AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

HOLYOKE

Women's leadership training program slated

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Success with its Women's Leadership Luncheon Series has motivated Holyoke Community College to launch a new training program for future women leaders.

The eight-week program is designed for women seeking to develop and enhance their leadership skills. “Women Leaning Into Leadership 2021: Empowering Your Voice,” is being offered over Zoom in two separate eight-week sessions.

The first will meet on Wednesdays, Jan. 6 through Feb. 24, 6:30 to 8 p.m. The

other will run on Thursdays, Jan. 7 through Feb. 25, noon to 1:30 p.m.

The interactive workshops will be facilitated by Annie Shibata, owner of Growth Mindset Leadership and Communication Coaching.

Enrollment is limited by design. In addition to weekly 90-minute group seminars, each participant can schedule a private, 30-minute session of personalized coaching with the



ANNIE SHIBATA

instructor.

The limited class size speaks to the goal of personalized instruction.

“One critical component that makes this training special is the one-to-one coaching that each participant receives,” said Michele Cabral, the college's executive director of business, corporate and professional development.

“The small group nature of the classes will allow plenty of weekly individual attention, in addition to the private sessions. This is really a wonderful way for women to invest in themselves and their futures in a small, mentored group

environment,” Cabral said.

Participants will learn to evaluate their communication skills and apply new communication techniques. They will also hone the power of mindfulness, distinguish forms of influence and persuasion to create powerful messages, assess their own leadership strengths; and create short and long-term plans for career development.

Shibata was the featured presenter during the November session of the college's 2020 Women's Leadership Luncheon Series. That series will be ongoing and its 2021 schedule is currently being

organized.

“HCC started the Women's Leadership Series with the goal of creating small group discussions for women as they navigate their careers. The series meets monthly over Zoom at lunchtime as a way to offer networking and mentoring to women at all levels,” Cabral said.

“The ‘Women Leaning Into Leadership’ course takes that concept to the next level.”

To register for the Wednesday luncheon program, go online to hcc.edu/women-2021-1; to register for the Thursday program, visit hcc.edu/women-2021-2