

# CCDC MONTHLY

Official Newsletter of Columbia College (CCDC)



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**01**

**Open House at Centreville campus**  
Thursday, Jan 3 at 11am ~ 5pm

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**02**

**Open House at Silver Spring Campus**  
Tuesday, Jan 8 at 4pm ~ 4pm

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**03**

**Program Workshop at Tysons campus**  
Monday on Jan 7 at 1pm~3pm  
: ESL workshop  
Tuesday on Jan 8 at 1pm~3pm  
: DLT & CUA workshop  
Wednesday on Jan 9 at 1pm ~ 3pm  
: Associate degree program workshop

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**04**

**New student orientation**  
Thursday, Jan 17 at 10am ~ 12pm

## AGE IS NOTHING BUT A NUMBER

BY JONG HYUN KIM, ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVE

This expression has been seemingly overused in our society to a point where the actual meaning of it has lost its impact and value. However, this old cliché sort of regains its original meaning through the efforts of Ms. Rebeca Untiveros, who just like many of our hard-working ESL students comes to class every evening to make the best of her life in the United States. On paper, Rebeca, from Peru, is like many of other immigrants taking ESL classes to learn English in hopes to better their lives. Yet, there is something about Rebeca that stands out from the rest of the students in her classes or, better yet, in most classes. She turned 87 this past summer.

Getting ready and going to school has become a daily routine for Rebeca and Carmen, who is Rebeca's daughter. Carmen accompanies Rebeca to school every evening as she also pursues her own language learning endeavors. It is a simple act of going to school and learning, but sometimes it is the simplest things in life that are also the most inspirational. For Rebeca Untiveros, learning has never stopped, and she plans to continue to challenge herself to learn each and every day. Maybe that is something that we all could learn from Ms. Rebeca Untiveros.



# NEW YEAR, NEW START

BY JONG HYUN KIM, ADMISSIONS REPRESENTATIVE

The start of a new year is a welcoming change for many. People from all cultures and regions usually have a way of welcoming in the new year by celebrating the accomplishments of the past year and setting new goals and resolutions for the coming year. This ritual is synonymous to the lives of Columbia College ESL students as they have settled in a new country to pursue their dreams and new opportunities. It is a brand-new start filled with high hopes and high energy, which certainly can be seen in the eyes of Columbia College ESL students.

What do I wish to become? That is the question on the minds of many as they start on their journey in the ESL program. Language is omnipresent, meaning it isn't just in the books or the classrooms. It breathes everywhere and is embedded in the cultures of the world. Keeping this in mind, the ESL program at Columbia College is built to provide learning in all facets. Along with the traditional Grammar and Reading classes, Job Success classes aim to train students in the job specific language and expressions to facilitate natural transition into their new work environments. Also, English in American Culture sorts out the difficulties of the cultural aspect of the American English that isn't included in grammar books or traditional textbooks. On top of that, nothing is complete without a little fun. Beyond the walls of the classrooms, students take annual spring trips to Washington, D.C. to take in the sights, and occasional trips to the local library and restaurants engage language learning in actual practical settings.

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