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Party switch controversy

RFK Jr. takes on both parties with independent bid for presidency in the 2024 presidential election.

By Theresa Velazquez
Editor-in-Chief

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. kicked off his first "Independent Tour" campaign trail in Texas at Dallas College North Lake Campus on Oct 11.

U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy's son Kennedy Jr., also known as RFK Jr. and Bobby Jr., announced his presidential party switch from a Democrat to an Independent just two days before arriving at NLC.

"It became clear to us that the Democratic Party and its corporate donors were not going to actually let me participate in a fair fight," Kennedy Jr. said. "Americans out there are tired, want to real solutions, and solutions that are not part of the tribal ideology of both parties."

NLC student Erika Greear had no idea about the rally happening in the school's gym until a classmate informed her of it.

She was not previously aware of his running for presi-



Robert F. Kennedy Jr. speaks to the community inside the North Lake campus gym, during his presidential campaign. News-Register | Faith Lungu

ency nor his exact relation to President John F. Kennedy, but she decided to attend the rally anyway.

"He actually brought up a lot

of points that I definitely agree with," Greear said. "Talking about major corporations owning a lot in the US like Black Rock, for example, it's not

something you hear politicians talk about."

Many critics are calling Kennedy Jr.'s run for presidency a spoiler candidacy - mean-

ing a candidate that will lose the election and affect President

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NLC hosts annual drive-thru pantry



Student athlete Ethan Fancher loads groceries into community members cars during food pantry drive. News-Register | Faith Lungu

By Faith Lungu
Contributing Writer

Every year, North Lake Campus hosts a Drive-Thru Pantry Day to help and give back to the community. It's open to all in need of a bit of support. This year's Drive was nothing short of a success.

Kim McNeal, Resource Lead Coordinator for Basic Needs and Community Connection, coordinated the Drive on Sept. 20. The turnout was the biggest one this campus has had.

From 9 a.m. to noon, McNeal, student-athletes, athletics staff members and volunteers were out running the food

drive in the parking lot. The Drive was broken into four lines which started in front of the tennis courts and went as far as Walnut Hill Lane.

Student Care Coordinator Carrie Kenner said, "This is double what we normally have, but we should have expected the turnout due to inflation hitting everyone's pocketbooks." Families are still recovering from COVID-19 and dealing with inflation, and the drive is helping to provide.

"This event is student and community-centered," McNeal said. "Everything we do is to benefit the students and the community as a whole. Many parts are involved in getting a food drive together."

McNeal said there are many operation logistics from collaborating with other campuses, notifying with her director and the associate dean, as well as contacting the police department. "We have to ensure it goes along with the North Texas Food Bank and that the Drive is convenient for the drivers with the time of day," McNeal said. "Coach Sommers was also essential in creating a successful food drive. And they did an amazing job."

Students and faculty got involved by signing up through the Student Care Network,

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The Art Institute schools permanently close doors

Dallas College welcomes Art Institute students to register for classes after student closure of institution.

By Theresa Velazquez
Editor-in-Chief

As of Sept. 30, all of The Art Institute schools have closed nationwide, including the last ones located in Dallas, Houston, Austin and San Antonio.

Dallas College is working with the institute to assist former students in continuing their education at Dallas College arts and humanities program.

"The School of Creative Arts, Entertainment and Design would be a great alternative for former Art Institute students looking to start a creative career," Pathway Specialist Marie Ramirez said. These include degrees in digital arts and design, video technology and fashion.

She said they have been collaborating with faculty, chairs

and the dean to send information out to former Art Institute students by email and looking over transcripts and degree plans to determine how Ai courses can work with Dallas College's degrees.

The institute sent an email to former students saying, "We are hopeful that the colleges and universities in each of the Art Institute markets

"An increase of enrollment could help campuses offer more courses because the class schedules are developed based on student demand."

— Giraud Polite
Dean of Academic affairs, Arts & Humanities

will assist students and allow them to transfer their credits and complete their program of study."

Dallas College will only accept applicable coursework from the Art Institute. To receive a degree or certificate, 25% of credit hours need to be completed at Dallas College.

The closing of the school came as a shock to its students, despite the institute's prior

closing of 44 schools in 2019 or earlier.

According to a CNBC short documentary titled "Why More and More Colleges Are Closing Down Across America," schools have been closing or merging with other schools since 2016 and is more common now after the COVID-19 pandemic.

In higher education, public colleges are less likely to close in comparison to private non-profit schools.

In contrast, private for-profit schools are the most in danger of closing. The Art Institute was a private for-profit school.

Seven colleges within Dallas College Community Colleges District merged into one public college, forming Dallas College mid-2020.

Giraud Polite, dean of academic affairs in the Arts & Humanities department, said his program has worked these past few years to rebuild the community lost in part of COVID-19.

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Ranzan Sigdel, a News-Register editor, listens to the rules for the live news competition at the Texas Community College of Journalism Association convention Oct. 6 in Beaumont, Texas. News-Register | Theresa Velazquez

NLC student journalists win 29 awards at TCCJA

By Theresa Velazquez
Editor-in-Chief

Student journalists from the News-Register, Dallas College North Lake Campus newspaper, won 29 awards at the annual Texas Community College of Journalism Association convention Oct. 6.

NLC students Faith Lungu, Vidhi Bhakta, Ranzan Sigdel, Ti-Ying Li and Theresa Velazquez traveled to Lamar University located in the historical oil city of Beaumont,

Texas, for TCCJA.

Twenty-seven awards were won by NLC students who had participated in the print issues during the past two semesters.

Under the Division II category, Velazquez won first places for News Photo, News Writing and Critical Review contests; Isaac Molina won first place for Sports Feature Writing; Heather Sherrill won first place for Non-Journalism Story; and Joanna Mikolajczyk won first place for Environment Portrait.

The other two awards were

from the live news competition, where traveling NLC students competed against seven other community college journalism teams to create a multimedia story package incorporating headlines, writing, video, pictures and an alternative story format. Velazquez won first place for multimedia, and Li won third place for headline.

The event kicked off Friday night with a barbecue wel-

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