

To: Montgomery College Community
From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President
Subject: **Humanities Week, Budget Forums, COVID Testing (Update #102)**
Date: October 26, 2020

Good afternoon, Raptors.

I hope you had a restful weekend. Early voting begins in Montgomery County today! If you have not yet voted, the county has posted information with voting [locations and hours](#).

As we head into another full week, I want to draw your attention to several events. First, this is our annual week for [Humanities Days](#), meaning that every day this week has special engagements with art, literature, politics, public health, and racial justice, among other topics. I am thrilled that social justice is an integral part of many of these workshops and presentations—a true sign of how deeply this value is embedded in our culture.

Montgomery County health officials are urging all residents [to get tested for COVID-19](#) and will provide free walk-in and drive-thru testing at multiple sites this week. Testing is important for everyone so that health officials can track the spread of COVID-19 in the community. Some individuals with COVID-19 can be asymptomatic and spread the disease to vulnerable groups, including the elderly.

Testing clinics are free, and no doctor's orders or appointments are required. Residents who are experiencing symptoms should call the Testing Helpline at 240-777-1755 before visiting for a test. The county's [home-based testing](#) and human services screening is also available for eligible residents.

I want to remind you that this week we'll be [hosting budget forums](#) on Thursday and Friday. Thanks to everyone who sent in questions. Although the questions box has closed, we are still accepting suggestions and commentary at budgetforums@montgomerycollege.edu.

Have a wonderful week!