



For Immediate Release

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BridgeValley Celebrates 5 Years of Advanced Technology Center's Success

The workforce training center houses both college programs and community events

South Charleston, WV - BridgeValley Community and Technical College celebrated five years of successful partnership and innovation in its Advanced Technology Center (ATC) on December 3 with a holiday event that boasted more than 60 attendees.

The ATC is BridgeValley's workforce training center, housing laboratories and training rooms for programs like gas measurement, advanced manufacturing technology, utility linemen, home inspection, CDL and HVAC.

Over the last five years, the ATC has hosted nearly 1,000 training sessions, meetings, and events including career fairs, robotics teams, maker camps, and professional surveying seminars. Additionally it has housed career-exploration opportunities like STEAM Camp, Raspberry Pi Camp, Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day, Manufacturing Day, STEMersion, and Vex Robotics Competition.

The anniversary event featured a keynote address from J. Craig McAtee, Executive Director and CEO of National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers (NCATC), as well as an address from Chris T. Beam, President and CEO of Appalachian Power. BridgeValley President Dr. Eunice Bellinger and Senior Vice President Jeff Wyco shared the storied success of the center as well as plans for the future - including upcoming program offerings for 2020.

"We are so proud of the impact that the Advanced Technology Center has made not only at BridgeValley, but also in our community," said Heather Williamson, BridgeValley Workforce Operations Coordinator. "The future, specifically the upcoming year, will feature more opportunity to develop the workforce for the benefit of West Virginia."

Not only a celebration of the ATC's success, the event also applauded collaboration. A time of networking allowed attendees to experience the broad reach of the ATC's partners, including:

- Toyota Moto Manufacturing WV
- American Electric Power
- WVDOH
- Kanawha County Emergency Services
- West Virginia Foreign Language Teacher Assoc.
- CAMC
- Omega
- Winup
- Orders Construction
- Kanawha County Schools
- Senator Manchin's Office
- KISRA
- State Electric
- Forberg Scientific
- WR Grace
- Chemical Alliance Zone
- MATRIC
- WV Corrosion Control Coordinating Committee
- WV4C
- Erie Insurance
- Charleston Health Department
- West Virginia Development Office
- WV Department of Education
- West Virginia Community & Technical College System
- Rockwell Automation
- Generation West Virginia
- AEP
- Covestro
- West Virginia's Manufacturer's Association
- TechConnect
- 304 Geek Squad
- City of South Charleston
- Dow Chemical
- Green Mining
- Charleston Rotary Club
- Ashrea Energy
- Kureha
- Office of Technology
- Advantage Technology
- Casto Technical Services
- Nichols Construction
- Valtronics
- Mountaineer Gas
- WV American Water

- TC Energy

To learn more about the Advanced Technology Center, contact Jeff Wyco, senior vice president of the Workforce and Economic Development Division and Advanced Technology Center Operations at jeff.wyco@bridgevalley.edu or (304) 205-6691.





About BridgeValley Community and Technical College

BridgeValley Community and Technical College promotes student success, prepares a skilled workforce, and builds tomorrow's leaders by providing access to quality higher education. BridgeValley Community and Technical College will be the college of opportunity for a diverse learner population, offering leading-edge technology, innovative ideas, and dynamic service to our students and our communities. BridgeValley Community and Technical College serves a six-county region including Fayette, Raleigh, Nicholas, Clay, Putnam and Kanawha counties. The college operates two campuses in Montgomery and South Charleston, along with the addition of the new Advanced Technology Center. BridgeValley Community and Technical College is a public institution of higher education independently accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges and a member of the Community and Technical College System of West Virginia.

For more information about BridgeValley Community and Technical College financial aid opportunities, programs of study, workforce training and community education and events, call (304) 205-6600 or; or check the College's website:

<http://www.bridgvalley.edu>



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