



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **355 set to graduate from GCC on May 17**

Guam Community College will confer 388 degrees, certificates, and/or diplomas upon 355 graduates at the University of Guam Field House at 6 pm on Friday, May 17, 2013.\*

GCC's Most Distinguished Graduate for 2013 is Colin Salanio Herring, 20, from Mangilao, who is graduating with an Associate of Science in Criminal Justice, with concentration in Law Enforcement Administration.

"My time here at GCC has prepared me for a successful career by providing me with the proper knowledge and skills for a bright future," said Herring, who is a 2010 graduate of Harvest Christian Academy. He plans to continue his education and then enter the workforce as a law enforcement officer.

Graduating as Distinguished Graduate in GCC's class of 2013 with an Associate of Science in Early Childhood Education is Iva Kazuma Ngirarois, 29, from Yigo. A 2002 graduate of John F. Kennedy High School, Ngirarois now plans to pursue her bachelor's and master's degrees in Education at the University of Guam.

With the news that Guam's private sector gained 1,000 jobs over the past year, President Dr. Mary Okada says GCC graduates are prepared to make their mark on Guam's workforce. "We are proud of all that our graduates have accomplished during their time at GCC. We especially thank our community and business partners that helped mentor our students in their chosen professions. We are confident that they will continue to be productive members of our community," Okada said.

The Commencement Speaker for the graduation ceremony is Dr. Leon Richards, Chancellor at Kapi'olani Community College and the executive director for International Education at Kapi'olani. Dr. Richards is responsible for the close and growing partnership Kapi'olani has developed with the East-West Center's Asian Studies Development Program, and has developed and implemented active institutional agreements with more than two dozen East and Southeast Asian universities. He has also served as a principal investigator for U.S. Department of Education Title III and VI grants and has maintained an impressive record of sustaining innovation in academic excellence at Kapi'olani.

The number of graduates in each degree category is as follows\*:

Apprentice Completers	56
Associate degrees	130
Certificate	68
Adult High School Diploma	16
GED® Diploma	118
Total by degree	388

\*Please note that some graduates have earned more than one degree or certificate, which is why the total number of graduates by degree exceeds the total number of actual graduates.

Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services please contact 735-5597.  
For more information, contact the Office of the President at 735-5700 or email [jayne.flores@guamcc.edu](mailto:jayne.flores@guamcc.edu).