Jocelyn Rainey has come a long way since attending Wayne County Community College District (WCCCD) back in the 1990’s while she was working on her Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree at Wayne State University. She went on to earn a Master’s of Arts at WSU, and today she is the Chair of the Art Department at WCCCD. But that only begins to tell the story of her contributions to the Detroit Metropolitan Area not only in the arts but in her other community service endeavors. Ms. Rainey is first and foremost a teacher of the visual arts, “I focus on the development of my students’ understanding the importance of art and culture in their lives. They discover that through their creative skills, they increase opportunities for themselves and further their educational goals. The arts provide a multitude of resources and enriching experiences.”

After having taught high school for ten years, Rainey founded the non-profit youth travel and study group, “Finding Mona Lisa,” where urban students become global scholars. She has led study groups of urban students throughout the world. In 2007 they traveled to Paris, France, in 2008 they traveled to Barcelona, Spain, in 2009 the traveled to Tokyo, Japan; and in 2010 Rainey will lead students to Cairo, Egypt.

As an artist, Jocelyn Rainey has been included in several corporate and private collections, in museums;
and has exhibited locally, nationally, and internationally. Her artwork is represented by the national conference of artists (Michigan Chapter), the Danny Simmons Corridor Gallery (Brooklyn, N.Y.), and the Jackson Fine Art Gallery (Washington, D.C.). She also has several of her works displayed at Cobo Hall and at Children’s Museum. Additional local efforts include serving as the curator for the Juanita Ford Gallery at WCCCD’s here at the Downtown Campus. She also collaborates with the Detroit Institute of Arts to organize an Arts and Humanities field trip for WCCCD students to the DIA.

Rainey states that her art reveals past, present and future influences that are social, political, religious, and moral. “The formal structure of my painting is based on texture, color, and light.” Her art consists of bright cadmium colors and familiar shapes that create exhilaration. She uses agitated, textured brush strokes to yield sculptural surfaces for her creations. Jocelyn also has a passion about the health of her community. She has helped to provide preventive solutions and counseling for Aids/HIV awareness, and has helped form a joint venture between Wayne County Community College District and the Detroit Health and Wellness Department. She has helped to organize Black Aids Awareness Month and World Aids Day at WCCCD.

Special Events

Symbolic Language
April 14 through June 1, 2011
Monday – Thursday 9 am – 6 pm
Friday 9 am - 4 pm
BROWN AND JUANNITA C. FORD ART GALLERYY
Location: Downtown Campus
Experience the way artists express their views and philosophy in relation to the environment, social and political issues.

“The 4th Annual Reading Carnival
May 21, 2011
11 am - 2 pm
Location: Downtown Campus

The 4th Annual Reading Carnival is open to pre-k through 6th grade students and their parents/caregivers and teachers, and is designed to promote literacy. The program will offer a wide variety of educational games and extracurricular activities. The keynote speaker will discuss the importance of reading.

“Get Fit”
June 16, 2011
1 am - 3 pm
Location: Downtown Campus
This event will give participants information about nutrition, exercise and a healthy life style. A variety of fitness programs will be displayed or demonstrated to encourage participants in adopting a healthy life style.

“Project Seed”
June 27 thru July 22, 2011
9 am - 12 pm
Locations – Downtown Campus
This is a summer program for community youths in which certified math instructors help students understand the importance of being skilled at mathematics. Students who are enrolled in the program will learn advanced mathematics and will enhance their individual mathematic skill level.