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# The Columbia West College Student Newsletter

A free newsletter for the students, alumni, and friends of Columbia West College!  
Volume 1, Issue 1 – November 2011

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## Columbia West College November 2011 Activities List!

- ✓ Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> – CWC Happy Hour! (6pm, Cafe Bleu)
- ✓ Wednesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> – CWC Annual Thanksgiving Party! (1pm – 4pm, Mijoo Peace Church)
- ✓ Wednesday, November 30<sup>th</sup> – CWC Monthly Social! (12:45pm, CWC)



## Quote of the Month

*"No matter how good teaching may be, each student must take the responsibility for his own education."*

- John Carolus S. J.



## Columbia West College Grows Through Our Happy, Successful, and Referring Students!

If you feel your English improving, if you're enjoying your classes, our activities, your teachers, and your overall experience here at CWC, then the best way you can say "thank you" to us is to talk to your friends about Columbia West College!

So who is the next friend or family member you know who would benefit from attending Columbia West College? Introduce them to us and we promise to take good care of them!

Have them call 213-368-3900 (and make sure they tell our staff that YOU referred them!) or better yet, bring them with you to school!

Once they sign up please let Chief Marketing Officer James Lee know that you referred a student so we can thank you properly!

### This Month Columbia West College Wants to Thank You for Your Referrals!

**Nattapol ("Doggy") Saikhum**  
**Arianna Masiero**  
**Jieun Lee**



**Thanks for talking to your friends about  
Columbia West College!**

### Everyday English - Slang Phrase of the Month!

Every month we'll introduce you to an American word or phrase you can start using immediately in your everyday conversation!  
This month?

#### "Blown Away"

**Definition** – greatly impressed!

**Examples** –

"I was blown away by the special effects in the movie!"

"The food at the restaurant blew me away..."

"Hearing the band live is going to blow you away!"



## CWC November 2011 Announcements!

### Referral Contest!

Until the end of the term on December 16<sup>th</sup> Columbia West College will be having a Referral Contest! Here's what this means.

If you refer a friend and they become a student at Columbia West College then we will write your name on a ticket and put it in our drawing box. If you refer 10 friends we will write your name on 10 different tickets and put them in our drawing box.

By the end of the term, hopefully, we'll have a box filled with referrals! And at our big CWC Holiday Party (lottery style) we will choose a Grand Prize Winner, a 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner, a 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner, a 4<sup>th</sup> Place Winner, and a 5<sup>th</sup> Place Winner! We can't give you money, but here are the prizes:

*Grand Prize – \$100 gift card to whatever store you choose!*

*2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – is a \$50 gift card to whatever store you choose!*

*3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – is a \$25 gift card to whatever store you choose!*

*4<sup>th</sup> Prize – is a \$10 gift card to whatever store you choose!*

*5<sup>th</sup> Prize – is a \$5 gift card to whatever store you choose!*



If you want an Apple Ipad, we'll give you a gift card for the Apple Store! If you want your gift card to be applied to your next term's tuition, we'll do that for you! If you want a Starbucks gift certificate, we can do that for you too! So start talking to your friends about Columbia West College right now! And be sure to let the front desk know when you've referred a friend!

### Overnight Trips Now Available!

Thank you for filling out the Student Activity Survey last month!

According to your feedback you wanted more opportunities to visit places like The Grand Canyon, Las Vegas, San Diego, Disneyland, and even Hawaii. So Columbia West College has partnered with California Tour to make this possible!

Go to [www.California-Tour.com](http://www.California-Tour.com)  
or call (877) 338-3883 for more info.

Use code **CWC** when you sign up for your next trip and get a big discount for being a student at Columbia West College!

Plus you can pick up flyers and brochures in the lounge area. Go experience American culture – comfortably and affordably!





# The Meaning of Thanksgiving



**By: Martin Mazloom**  
**Level 3 Teacher**

In 1620, English immigrants known as “Pilgrims” came to North America and landed in what is now Massachusetts.

The Pilgrims’ first years in the New World were very difficult.

The winters were very cold, and the Pilgrims had very little food. Over half of them died from hunger and disease that first winter.

But with the help of friendly Native Americans like Squanto, a member of the Patuxet tribe, and Massasoit, the chief of the Wampanoag tribe, the Pilgrims were able to survive.

In 1621, to celebrate their first successful corn harvest, the Pilgrims invited their new Native American friends and held the first Thanksgiving celebration.



However, Thanksgiving did not become a national American holiday until 1863, during the Civil War, when President Abraham Lincoln declared the last Thursday in November to be Thanksgiving Day.

On Thanksgiving Day, millions of Americans celebrate by spending time with their families and eating a meal that usually includes turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie and more.

On this day, we give thanks as a nation for all we have.



**By: James Lee**  
**Chief Marketing Officer**

## 3 Reasons Why the Recent Changes at CWC Benefit YOU!



Change is in the air at Columbia West College. Your classes are getting more focused, the attendance policy is getting stricter, and there are new teachers and staff roaming the halls.

If you’re a little nervous about these changes, there’s no reason to worry. In this article, I’m going to show you how these changes actually improve your life.

You should know that Columbia West College wants to be the best possible school for you, and part of that goal is getting accredited. Accreditation means that Columbia West College has met all the standards of quality by an accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Getting accredited is tough, and very few schools have this recognition. Also, President Obama signed a new law last year that requires all language schools in the United States to be accredited by 2013 or lose their ability to issue student visas. That’s why it’s important for you to attend a school that’s seeking accreditation or is already accredited. You don’t want to get stuck at a school that’s not serious about your education.

So how exactly does accreditation benefit our students? Here are 3 reasons:

1. **Higher Educational Standards** – What this means for you is that your classes and programs at Columbia West College will be more organized, interactive and rewarding (chances are you’ve already noticed this). The goal is for you to learn English more quickly and efficiently.
2. **Higher Profile and Recognition** – Getting accredited is no easy task. But as an accredited English language school, Columbia West College will be a much more recognized and prestigious place to learn English. You can feel confident that we are pushing for excellence, and feel proud that you are a student here!
3. **Improved Student Services and Extracurricular Programs** – To give you a fuller and more complete American cultural experience here at Columbia West College, we are incorporating more school activities, get-togethers, and field trips. And as part of our commitment to our students, we will continue to introduce new student services and extracurricular programs that are both helpful and fun.



I hope this information helps you to understand how the changes taking place at Columbia West College actually benefit you. If you have any further questions, you can always come see me in my office, or email me at [james@columbiawestcollege.com](mailto:james@columbiawestcollege.com).



*Student of the Month  
Oh Nam Baek (Level 3)*



*Congratulations to Ehab's Level 5 class  
for winning the Pumpkin Carving Contest!  
Hope you enjoyed your pizza party!*



*Field trip to LACMA  
to see the Tim Burton exhibit!*

### October Student Birthdays

**Columbia West College says "Happy Birthday!" to all our students born in October!**

- Level 2:** Ara Shim (10/19)
- Level 3:** Eun Sook Choi (10/7), Pill Her (10/9)
- Level 4:** Genie Oh (10/27), Mira Yang (10/20),  
Veronika Gafarova (10/29),  
Milly Chotika (10/10)
- Level 5 (Mark):** Ji-Hun Baek (10/19)
- Level 5 (Ehab):** Hye-Jin Lee (10/14),  
Angelo Immacolato (10/14),  
Jung-yell Lee (10/17)
- TOEFL:** Hanna Jeong (10/4),  
Mineko Yoshida (10/16)



Check out our Facebook page and keep up to date with what's going on at Columbia West College! And be sure to give us a "Like!" - <http://tinyurl.com/8xjv9k9>

