

HOLYOKE

HCC plans Women's Leadership Series

By **CHRIS YURKO**

Special to The Republican

Holyoke Community College will begin its fall Women's Leadership Series on Sept. 21, with presenter Trayce Whitfield, executive director of the Coalition for an Equitable



**TRAYCE
WHITFIELD**

Economy, leading a discussion titled "Leaning Into the Positive."

Whitfield will be followed in subsequent months by Michelle Lemoi, chief

operating officer of Zora Builders in Newton; Christina Royal, president of HCC; and Suzanne Blake, a career coach and consultant based in Medfield.

All sessions run from noon to 1 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month over Zoom.

During each session, participants will join prominent women leaders for discussions on relevant topics and ideas to help their leadership development. They will also have the opportunity to form a supportive network to help navigate their own careers.

"This will be the sixth semester HCC has offered this lunchtime series over Zoom, allowing women the opportunity for connection, networking, and professional development at a time and place that is convenient for them," said

Michele Cabral, an adjunct professor of business and organizer of HCC's Women's Leadership Series.

Whitfield, the first guest presenter, is the former director of contract sales for HCC's division of business and community services. In 2020, she was honored by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women as a 2020 Commonwealth Heroine.

The complete fall 2022 HCC Women's Leadership Luncheon Series includes:

■ **Sept. 21:** "Leaning into the Positive" — Trayce Whitfield, executive director, Coalition for an Equitable Economy

■ **Oct. 19:** "How claiming 'I don't know' opens us up opportunities to bolster confidence!" — Michelle Lemoi, chief operating officer, Zora Builders

■ **Nov. 16:** "Growth Mindset" — Christina Royal, president, Holyoke Community College

■ **Dec. 21:** "Ask for It and Get It" — Suzanne Blake, executive coach

The cost of each session is \$25, and the full four-session series can be purchased for \$75. Contact Lanre Ajayi, HCC's executive director of education and corporate learning, at lajayi@hcc.edu if pricing is an issue.

Registration will soon open online at hcc.edu/womens-leadership.

Space is limited, so advance registration is required.