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**ENTREPRENEUR AND FOUNDER OF JET BLUE DAVID NEELEMAN TO GIVE ONLINE LECTURE IN SUPPORT OF NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE FOUNDATION**

*On Thursday, February 25th, from 7:00pm to 8:30pm through Zoom, David Neeleman will present "State of the Airline Industry in 2021; My Journey from Overcoming Educational Challenges to Airline Entrepreneur." The event is sponsored by DR Bank and GE Capital Aviation Services. Proceeds from this exclusive online lecture will support student success at Norwalk Community College. Tickets are available to purchase at: [ncc-foundation.org/speakers](http://ncc-foundation.org/speakers).*

**NORWALK, CT, January 27 2021**—With hope on the horizon for travel to safely resume again, the NCC Foundation is proud to host a special lecture from David Neeleman, who has founded four successful, independent airlines. Jet Blue was the first airline to earn \$100 million annually within five years and became world renowned for its low fares and exceptional customer service. This year, David will launch Breeze Airways, which will fly non-stop service between places currently without meaningful or affordable service, and aims to be "the world's nicest airline."

Besides sharing his insider knowledge on the future of the travel industry, David will speak about his inspiring path to success in the business world. As a student, he struggled with academics, but now credits the challenges he faced with making him a better business owner.

Anyone interested in travel, entrepreneurship or business, will be sure to enjoy this one-time online event, all in support of students in our community.

At NCC the pandemic has had a disproportionate impact on the student population. Many students live paycheck to paycheck, in multi-generational homes in which they are responsible for the care of relatives, and work part-time or full-time in addition to studying. NCC students and their immediate family members often work in customer or patient facing roles and have faced exposure to COVID-19 while the crisis has grown.

Throughout the crisis, the NCC Foundation has worked to keep students on track towards graduation and ready to enter the workplace. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, students have received laptops, food assistance, emergency support and special remote learning kits for departments such as nursing, physical therapy and respiratory care.

**About the Norwalk Community College Foundation**

The Norwalk Community College Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that supports expanding access to affordable, quality higher education, the development of a productive workforce, and contributing to the knowledge and well-being of our community by raising funds for Norwalk Community College.

The Foundation works with individuals, major corporations and local organizations to develop new initiatives and educational partnerships to inspire and engage our community to share talents and resources. With assistance from generous donors, the NCC Foundation provides \$3 million annually in scholarships, faculty and program support, and student success initiatives.

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