

By Jeanette Pizarro-Ahumada

Peter Murr believes in his students.

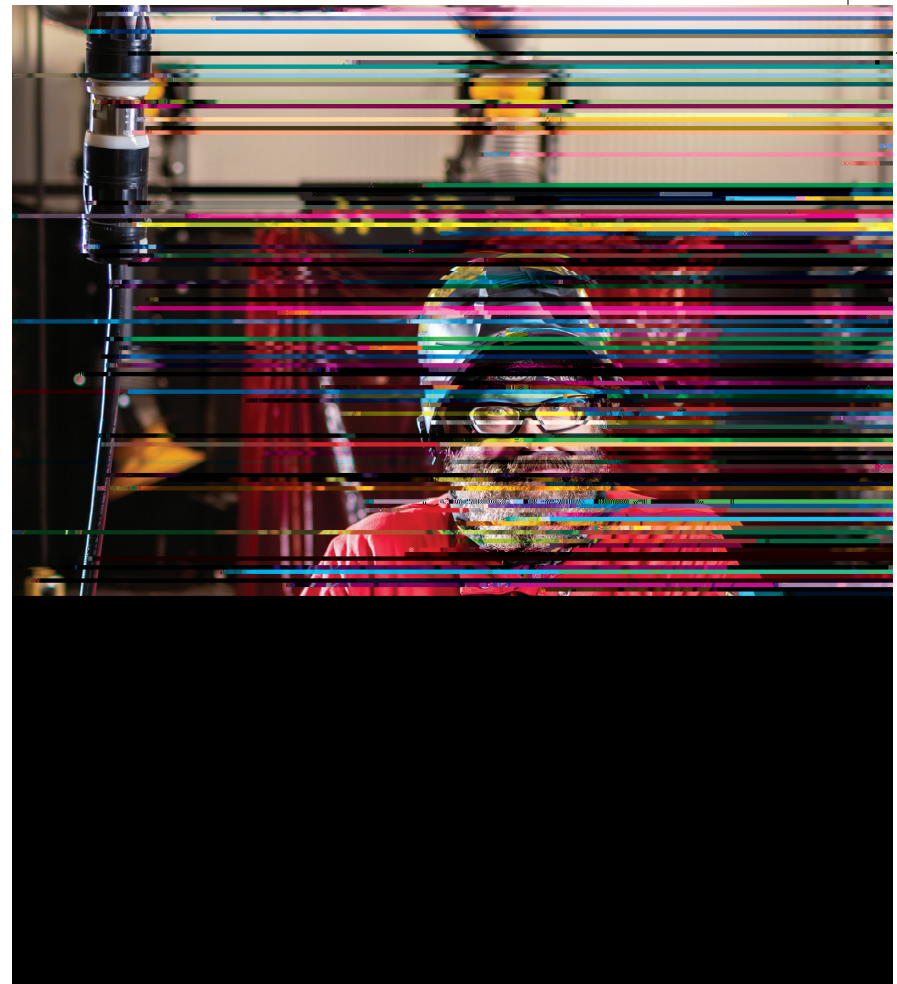
Just a little over a year into his career as a full-time Industrial Technology Instructor at Montcalm Community College, Murr said he has enjoyed getting to see his students gain knowledge in welding and the welding field. His love for welding and the trades is evident as he passionately teaches his courses at MCC's Greenville campus.

"I teach because I love seeing the 'aha' moment when a student understands and can apply their knowledge," Murr said. "I love watching them learn a concept and apply it."

Before joining the MCC family, Murr worked at a variety of companies as a welding engineer, robotics programmer and welding trainer. This well-rounded experience in welding and robotics helps him identify student needs and provide the training needed to support them in their coursework.

Murr, who earned an associate degree in Applied Science Welding Technology from Grand Rapids Community College, teaches various welding classes, as well as a class in metallurgy and basic robotics. In these classes, students are taught not only how to weld, but how to weld with precision.

Murr said one of the most valuable skills he teaches is how to spot a defective weld and how to avoid making them. He said most students enter his classes with little knowledge about welding but leave as high-quality welders.



"My core philosophy is anyone can do anything if they put the time into it," Murr said.

Alongside his associate degree, Murr has certifications as a welding inspector and educator from the American Welding Society. He also has a certification in basic operations, arc tool and maintenance from FANUC North America.

"Each day, my goal is to get the students who need more help, the help that they need and get them to where they need to be," Murr said. "My goals for students are performance based, which is passing a standardized American Welding Society qualification test. This credential is industry-recognized proof of their welding skills to support them as they enter the job market." n

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