

Community Support Continues to Make a Critical Difference

It is with great thanks to our community that I write this message. Over the past couple months, the community has come together to show overwhelming support of



Cuyahoga Community College through our 2009 Presidential Scholarship Luncheon and, most recently, in the passage of Issue 4—Tri-C's replacement levy which provides operating funds for the College. It is encouraging to see the community's response to these important initiatives—it is evidence that they see the value of Tri-C, especially in these trying economic times. So, I will take this opportunity to thank you for showing your support for the College and all it does for the communities of Northeast Ohio. Your support makes it possible for your family members, friends, neighbors and colleagues to better their own lives and our community as a whole. Thank you!

Jerry L. Kelsheimer, Chairperson
Tri-C Foundation

George Stephanopoulos Presents Keynote Speech at Scholarship Luncheon

The Tri-C Foundation welcomed ABC News chief Washington correspondent George Stephanopoulos as the keynote speaker of the 2009 Presidential Scholarship Luncheon. On October 13, the Luncheon drew a sell-out crowd of 1,100 to the Cleveland Renaissance Hotel and raised \$814,000 for student scholarships.

Stephanopoulos, an Orange High School graduate, shared tales about the beginning of his political career in Cleveland, and how it led him to where he is today. Stephanopoulos is currently the chief Washington correspondent for ABC News and host of ABC's Sunday morning political affairs program, *This Week with George Stephanopoulos*, where he oversees the network's coverage of Presidential and Congressional politics, and reports on political and policy stories for all ABC News platforms including *World News with Charles Gibson*, *Nightline*, *Good Morning America*, *ABCNews.com* and *ABC News Now*. He came into the national spotlight while working in the Clinton administration as senior advisor to the President for policy and strategy.



"It's great to be here to support Cuyahoga Community College, one of the premier assets and most prominent institutions in Northeast Ohio," said Mr. Stephanopoulos. "It comes at a time when I think we're all starting to realize, and policy makers in Washington are starting to realize, just how important, how critical, community colleges are to our economy. They are the lifeblood of our economy."

Thank You for Casting Your Vote of Confidence

The message is clear: Our community stands behind Cuyahoga Community College, recognizing the profound and positive effect the College has on our region. The passage of Issue 4 reflects the community's confidence in the College to provide quality and affordable education that prepares students of all ages to achieve goals both professional and personal. We thank the citizens of Cuyahoga County for once again casting their votes in favor of Tri-C. We are pleased to be our community's college, and we look forward to meeting and exceeding your expectations in the years to come.



Jerry Sue Thornton

Jerry Sue Thornton, Ph.D.

President

Cuyahoga Community College

Tri-C Completes First Successful Summer Pathways Program



Summer Pathways participant, Tavone Siggers (left), interacts with children at the Mount Pleasant Boys and Girls Club.

“Earning and learning” could have been the motto for over 410 Greater Cleveland youth this summer. The youth, ages 14 to 24, found summer jobs and possible future careers through Tri-C’s Summer Pathways Project. Tri-C’s Youth Technology Academy (YTA) operated Summer Pathways with support from the City of Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Workforce Investment Board using federal stimulus funds (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009), to provide both educational experiences and employment opportunities for eligible Cuyahoga County youth.

Participants were placed in various departments within the College, including Human Resources, Key Career Place, Customer Service, and Information Technology, while many others served as tutors for other youth and as junior camp counselors. Tri-C also relied on community partners like Cuyahoga County Employment and Family Services, the Cleveland Heights/ University Heights Library, Ford Motor Company, Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, Cleveland Public Power and several Cleveland area neighborhood organizations to provide summer placements for many of the youth.

Through YTA, participants benefited from individual goal setting and success strategy sessions, leadership training, résumé writing workshops, and reading and writing assessments.

Summer Pathways was a resounding success, based on comments from placement partners like Cleveland Hopkins International Air Traffic Control Tower, which said “We were all impressed with the exceptional quality of students you sent to our Air Traffic Control Facility. We hope to work with you in the future.”

Give and Receive: The Benefits of Year-End Giving

This article provided by The Stelter Company



When you make a charitable gift to the Tri-C Foundation by December 31, 2009 you are entitled to significant tax savings while supporting our mission. The assets you give will determine your deductions when you itemize. For example:

- **Cash.** Your gift is fully tax-deductible up to 50 percent of your adjusted gross income (AGI) in the year you make your gift. You are allowed to carry over any excess deduction for up to five additional years.
- **Stock.** A gift of long-term appreciated stock offers two tax savings. First, you avoid capital gains tax. Second, you receive an income tax deduction—based on the increased value of the stock instead of its cost basis—of up to 30 percent of your AGI, with a five-year carryover for any excess.
- **Real estate.** With real estate held for more than one year, you can deduct the value of your gift up to 30 percent of your AGI, with a five-year carryover. You generally receive a deduction based on the property's fair market value and pay no capital gains tax.
- **Tangible personal property.** By giving personal property related to our tax-exempt function, you may be eligible for a deduction for its fair market value up to 30 percent of your AGI with a five-year carryover, and avoid capital gains tax. For a gift unrelated to our function, the deduction is limited to your cost basis and is deductible up to 50 percent of your AGI.

Complete your charitable gift transaction by December 31 to ensure that your gift is eligible for a 2009 charitable deduction!

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Alumni Profile: Ashley Baker



Ashley Baker leads a busy but fulfilling professional life. The Tri-C alumna is the owner of Rhapsody Music Studio where she teaches private piano lessons. Tri-C played an important role in Baker's journey. "My major was undecided throughout my two years at Tri-C," said Baker. "But the College challenged me in many different areas of study, and gave me an opportunity to explore my many interests." Ultimately, Baker transferred to Baldwin Wallace College where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Education, with a focus on Middle Childhood Education. Baker learned her teaching techniques and skills from Baldwin Wallace, but her Tri-C education also plays a vital role in her

everyday activities. "I really enjoyed my studies in music theory and music history at Tri-C," she said. "The knowledge I gained from those classes is used every day in my own teaching and playing." Baker has returned to Tri-C since her days as student, coming to see her brother, a current Tri-C student, perform in the College's choir.

George Stephanopoulos Presents Keynote Speech at Scholarship Luncheon

(Continued from page 1)



Tri-C students Brian Plautz (left) and Monica Rivera Wilson (right) presented Mr. Stephanopoulos with a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame jacket and autographed Cavs basketball.



Mr. Stephanopoulos's family was in attendance, including Father Robert Stephanopoulos (left), his mother Nikki and sister Margarite.



Tri-C student newspaper representatives had the chance to interact with Mr. Stephanopoulos at a media session.

Presented in partnership with AT&T and emceed by WEWS NewsChannel 5's Danita Harris, the 2009 Presidential Scholarship Luncheon benefited scholarship for Tri-C students. Since its inception 17 years ago, the Luncheon has raised \$6.4 million for scholarships.

"It was a pleasure to welcome George Stephanopoulos back to Cleveland, and we were thrilled to have him serve as our keynote speaker," said Tri-C President Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton. "His story of success and insight into issues of economic and political importance illustrated the importance of accessible education. His message was warmly received by our audience."



WEWS NewsChannel 5's Danita Harris served as Emcee of the Luncheon.



Tri-C Foundation Director, Steven Demetriou, introduced Mr. Stephanopoulos.



Tables featured a Greek-style dessert with a chocolate Cleveland to Washington D.C. accent.



Mr. Stephanopoulos showed his approval of his Rock and Roll Hall of Fame jacket.

Tri-C Faculty Recognizes the Important Role of Community College



Dr. Donna Homenko is a professor of Dental Hygiene and Bioethics at Tri-C's Metropolitan Campus. Joining the faculty as a lecturer in Fall 1977 and taking a tenure-track faculty position in 1978, she also served as program coordinator in Health Careers from 1980-1992 before returning to full faculty status. Like so many Tri-C faculty and staff, her commitment to students doesn't end when she leaves the classroom. Homenko proudly supports student scholarships at Tri-C, and has been a committed donor to the Tri-C Foundation since 1993.

Homenko, a licensed dental hygienist, knows the importance of education to the healthcare industry in our region. With 85 percent of Tri-C graduates remaining in the area after graduation, our students are the workforce of tomorrow. "One of my favorite days of the year is Commencement," explained Homenko. "I've easily attended more than 25 of these ceremonies and always come away with the same feeling. Watching the graduates cross the stage and realizing that we, as faculty, have changed their lives forever is truly rewarding!"

For Homenko, and others like her, the value of Tri-C is clear. "Many of our students represent the first generation in their family to receive a college diploma, and I'm proud to be a part of that experience," she said. "In Northeast Ohio, we are fortunate to have many institutions of higher learning, but for anyone who desires to learn a new skill set, re-enter the college scene as an adult, try a few courses while still in high school, or participate in a program leading to licensure or career advancement, Tri-C can fulfill all of those needs. We're here to promote the student, and in turn that person will become a viable member of our surrounding community."

Student Profile: Angela Parsons



Angela Parsons started at Tri-C right out of high school, but then life got in the way, so she had to take a break. But after much soul searching, she recently decided to return to Tri-C. Parsons is now working on obtaining the college credit needed for a bachelors degree in business with a minor in healthcare management. After she has completed her 4 year degree, Parsons hopes to continue to advance in her current position working full-time for a major healthcare institution. There Parsons serves in a support role for a thriving outpatient orthopaedic practice and handles a variety of administrative and clinical related tasks for doctors of podiatric medicine.

"Tri-C serves as the initial stepping stone in building my career objective. Tri-C is the place where futures actually can begin," said Parsons. "My long term goal is to become part of a global outreach ministry or program."

Between semesters, Parsons volunteers administrative support to ministries within her church, coordinating events and requesting sponsorship and contributions for those events. Parsons has also provided support to larger scale agencies that aid in servicing, educating and endearing people like the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society.

Parsons is a divorced mother of two daughters. Her oldest is currently attending the University of Toledo and her youngest is a sophomore in high school.

Vibrant Partnerships Offer Workforce Enhancement to Cleveland



Larry Benders
Executive Director
City of Cleveland / Cuyahoga County
Workforce Investment Board

In times of economic challenge, it is imperative that our community works together to remain competitive and situate itself for future success. Employment Connection is doing that by serving the human capital needs of employers and assisting job seekers to successfully attach, or re-attach, to the workforce.

Employment Connection supports employers by helping them assess their overall workforce needs. Through a team of trained specialists, the Business Service Representatives, Employment Connection can help an employer reduce hiring expenses and employee turnover rate. EC can also offer assistance enhancing the skills of an employer's human resources so that the highest productivity potential can be reached.

By acting as a single coordinating entity of many community resources, Employment Connection can help match workers to available positions, making valuable connections that generate success for the employer and employee. But Employment Connection does not work alone. There is a network of partners working behind the scenes that makes this process highly efficient and effective. Employment Connection is pleased to count Tri-C among our community partners.

Employment Connection and Tri-C have worked together on many initiatives, most recently developing training programs to meet the workforce needs of the healthcare, manufacturing, and construction industries, including skill development for green jobs. Partnerships with institutions like Tri-C serve as evidence that our community is not only willing but enthusiastic about working together for the success of employers and individuals seeking jobs. Workforce success fosters economic development across our region. Employment Connection is pleased to play such an important part in the economic success of Northeast Ohio and stands ready to continue to serve the human capital needs of this region.

Partnership Spotlight: The Fedeli Group



Umberto Fedeli
President and CEO
The Fedeli Group

The Tri-C Foundation relies on our community business partners to accomplish our mission of providing scholarships for students and providing development and enhancement for College programs and services. The Tri-C Foundation is grateful for the continuous support of The Fedeli Group.

Over many years, The Fedeli Group has supported student scholarships and fundraising initiatives of the Tri-C Foundation, helping to make a positive difference in the lives of many members of our community. Without our community's support for student scholarships, many of our colleagues, friends and family members would be unable to access the education opportunities Tri-C provides. We thank The Fedeli Group for its ongoing and generous support and look forward to continuing our productive partnership.

New Directors Join Tri-C Foundation Board

The Cuyahoga Community College Foundation welcomes new appointments to the Board of Directors.



Gail A. Bowen is Director of Administration and Continuing Education at Richard L. Bowen + Associates, Inc. Ms. Bowen also actively volunteers for client events and fundraisers, as well as religious and community service activities.

Kenneth Cherry is Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, Central Ohio District, at UPS. He holds a bachelor's degree in Information Technology and an MBA in Human Resources Management.



Deborah Donley is the founding Principal of Vocon. As the leader of a successful architectural design company, Ms. Donley has extensive experience developing initiatives and managing operations for her company and building relationships within the community.

Henry S. Ford is Senior Vice President and General Manager of FOX Sports Ohio. He is an active member of the community, taking a strong interest in youth education initiatives.



Douglas A. Kern is President and CEO of Northern Haserot Company. Mr. Kern holds a degree in Economics from the University of Wisconsin, and actively serves on the boards and committees of several charitable organizations.

Tom Partridge is Market President for Fifth Third Bank (Northeast Ohio). Mr. Partridge holds a bachelor's degree from Xavier University and a master's degree from Indiana University.



Gregory J. Skoda is Chairman of Skoda Minotti CPAs. Mr. Skoda holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration/Accounting from John Carroll University and serves on the boards of several area charitable organizations.

Thank You to Outgoing Directors

The Tri-C Foundation thanks departing Directors for devoting their time and resources to help us raise critically needed dollars for student scholarships and program enhancement and development: Brenda Goldberg, serving since 2002; Darrel E. Hegar, serving since 2007; Nancy Huber, serving since 2007; and David Strand, serving since 2008.

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TRI-C JAZZFEST CLEVELAND®

April 15 - 25, 2010

Tri-C JazzFest Cleveland returns in 2010 with
a spectacular line-up of performances and
events for jazz enthusiasts and
music lovers of all ages!

Details coming soon.



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Making a Difference with Your Generous Support

During the 2008-2009 academic year, the Tri-C Foundation:

- Awarded \$1.7 million in scholarship support to deserving students in need
- Secured over \$3.7 million for the College's numerous Youth & Early College programs
- Secured over \$2.7 million for direct student support services

*Thank you
for your support!*

**Cuyahoga
Community
College**



CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE BLACK CAUCUS

SAVE
THE
DATE!

SAVE
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DATE!

~ 20th Anniversary ~

Frances M. Franklin
Scholarship & Protégé Luncheon

**Twenty Years of Building Futures,
One Relationship at a Time**



Saturday, May 1, 2010
12:00 - 2:00 p.m. • Embassy Suites Hotel, Beachwood

Featuring Keynote Speaker

Dr. Lawrence Simpson

Vice President, Academic Affairs
Berklee College of Music

For more information, please call the
Cuyahoga Community College Black Caucus at 216-987-4527.