

# **HCC Has Reasons to Give**



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The HCC Eagle Pride Fund provides valuable annual support for student scholarships and programs providing a brighter future for Houston's workforce.

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**SOAR** is published by the Houston Community College Alumni Association and the HCC Foundation. We greatly appreciate the participation of those who allowed us to share their stories

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This issue of **SOAR** spotlight the many ways the HCC community - faculty, staff give back to HCC and Housto is a whole. HCC has many is the city's largest

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#### A WELCOME MESSAGE FROM HCC'S ACTING CHANCELLOR

Dear Friend.

Welcome to our spring edition of HCC's alumni magazine, **SOAR**! Our cover story highlights the many ways in which our HCC community—faculty, staff, students and alumni—lend a hand to further the efforts of HCC. From the annual Faculty and Staff Campaign which exceeds its fundraising goals each year to the volunteer service of our students and alumni, we are making a difference in the Houston community.



HCC Acting Chancellor Renee Byas

The theme of giving continues with an inspiring story of a lifelong mentor relationship established more than 15 years ago between an HCC student (and now successful alumna) and her professor. Dr. Marjaneh Azad '93 and Dr. Joanne Lin recently reconnected to share the ways in which their lives have impacted one another starting with a chemistry class at HCC.

This issue also includes the HCC Foundation 2012 Annual Report and an update on its fundraising successes—in particular, the valuable scholarship support the Foundation provides to HCC students each year. You can add to these efforts by making a gift to the HCC Eagle Pride Fund. Learn more at hccsfoundation.org/eaglepridefund.

In closing, I want to add my deepest appreciation for the efforts of Dr. Mary S. Spangler, who retired as HCC Chancellor earlier this year. We are grateful for her efforts on behalf of the institution and look forward with great optimism for all that is ahead for the college.

Sincerely



Renee Byas Acting Chancellor, Houston Community College



# Esteemed, Nationally Recognized HCC Chancellor Announces Retirement

After six-plus historic years of accomplishment Among her many accomplishments at HCC and more than 30 years in academia at esteemed educational institutions across the country, Dr. Mary S. Spangler has made the decision to retire from academia and her role as Chancellor of Houston Community College.

"We are fortunate to have been so positively impacted by her visionary leadership and record of accomplishment," shares Bruce Austin, HCC Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

while Chancellor at HCC, Dr. Spangler was responsible for the rebranding of the institution, the dramatic positive change in public perception, the passage of an important bond initiative, as well as two historic annexation elections to expand HCC's influence in the community.

Renee Byas, HCC's General Counsel, is serving as Acting Chancellor.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

# The *Real* Social Network: Working Together for Positive Impact

HCC has long been recognized for the economic and educational impact we have on the Houston region. In the meantime, our social impact, through volunteerism and fundraising, has been quietly growing. Our students, alumni, faculty, and staff have found ways to make a difference – not just at HCC, but across Houston.

The HCC family is building a legacy of service to others through community engagement, philanthropy, and volunteerism. We know that our colleges represent an interconnected network of students, faculty, staff, and our surrounding communities. As such, we are responsible to care for and support each other — and we have found many ways to carry out our charge.

# **Supporting Each Other**

One of the principal ways we choose to give back is through projects that support other members of the HCC family. Beyond the work they do with our students every day, our faculty and staff members have extended their own personal financial support to HCC students through scholarships. In fact, hundreds of them have donated funds to HCC's 2013 Faculty and Staff Campaign, "Piecing Together Opportunities," raising more than \$152,000 this year alone for scholarships, programs, and our annual fund. In addition to their financial contributions, 29 faculty and staff members also dedicated their time to share the message with HCC co-workers and encourage others to join them in supporting the annual campaign.

Why do HCC faculty and staff give from their own hard-earned paychecks? Lillie M. McIntyre, Campus Manager at Southwest College, says,

"It just makes sense to give back. Scholarships mean an opportunity for getting an education. And, it speaks volumes when an educational institution supports what they are all about."

For the sixth consecutive year, Coleman College for Health Sciences took first place for the highest level of campaign participation. Additionally, the HCC Foundation has awarded



HCC Acting Chancellor Renee Byas (I) and HCC Foundation Executive Director
Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga (r) honor HCC faculty and staff donors who have given more than \$2,000 cumulatively to the College, including Judith Boykin, Cynthia Bowen, and Leslie Comfort

Southwest College the newly-introduced Eagle Pride trophy to recognize its faculty and staff who best embrace the spirit of the campaign theme and express its significance through their volunteer efforts.

Our alumni want to support HCC students as well. Although their time as HCC students ended years (sometimes even decades) ago, HCC alumni have found ways to remain engaged on HCC's campuses and provide a supporting presence for our current students. HCC Alumni Association Advisory Council Secretary Monica Blanton '06 joined fellow HCCAA Advisory Council members to lend a helping hand during the May 2012 commencement ceremony. "It was such a rewarding experience to volunteer at graduation and be able to watch students accomplish their goals. I was able to interact with the graduates to help them relax and enjoy their big day. I even helped to dress some of them in their robes, pins, and cords!" says Blanton.



HCCAA-AC Secretary **Monica Blanton '06** (left) assists at HCC's graduation in May 2012

"With all the wonderful volunteers and the support of the HCC alumni, new graduates can learn more about the resources available to them even after graduation."

In addition to volunteering at graduation, alumni like **Shibu Varghese '94** have made time in their schedules to help mentor students and provide guidance on finding the right career path once they leave HCC. In April, Varghese spoke to over 50 Coleman College students, faculty, and alumni regarding career options in healthcare while sharing his experiences and expertise as the Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer at MD Anderson Cancer Center.



HCC alumnus **Shibu Varghese '94** (center), VP and Chief Human Resources Officer, MD Anderson Cancer Center, provided career insight for HCC Coleman College students at an alumni event held during Coleman's 2013 Simulation Day



HCC graduates pause for a photo with HCC eagle mascot Swoop and learn how they can stay connected as part of the HCC Alumni Association

Even HCC students have found ways to support each other. This spring, Coleman College launched a student fundraising program in conjunction with Simulation Day, a day when the Coleman campus becomes a virtual hospital with hundreds of students participating in interdisciplinary simulated patient scenarios. While students prepared for "Sim Day" this year, each program also organized a student fundraising team to raise money for student scholarships and for future enhancements to their particular program. The inaugural effort gained traction among Coleman College's 20 health science fields with Surgical Technology students taking top place. Nearly 70 percent of students in this program reached out to family and friends—and even in their own pockets—to contribute to the first-time fundraiser.



HCC students Jose Gordillo and Jessica Loew volunteer at an area non-profit helping distribute medical supplies to the needy worldwide. They are among a growing number of HCC students who translate their time in the classroom to real-world application through service learning.

# Giving Back to the Community

Students often lament that their "small" charitable contributions may not make a difference. But the collective power of hundreds of students supporting a common cause in some way—through their time or their money—often carries more weight and meaning than a single large gift.

HCC's colleges offer students and faculty many ways to get engaged in their community to make a difference. For some HCC students, like Jose Gordillo and Jessica Loew, students in Professor Jennifer O'Neil's biology class at HCC Northwest College, the best way to give back is through a service-based organization. Like Loew and Gordillo, studies show that today's students want to feel that they are involved in something greater than themselves. The latest report by the *Corporation for National and Community Service* shows that college student volunteerism grew by more than 20 percent over a three-year period—a trend that we are seeing here in HCC's service organizations.

"It was an awesome experience because it let me explore and learn new things, and meet new people," says Gordillo of his volunteer time spent at Project C.U.R.E., a nonprofit that helps to meet the need for medical supplies, equipment, and services in more than 120 countries. "The most important thing is that I am helping people from other countries."

O'Neil says she added the service component to her classes for students who are interested. "I think it's a fantastic way to get even more out of a course. Some semesters I even go with them. It's fun!"

Dan Fox with Project C.U.R.E. concurs on the value of the experience for both the students and the nonprofit. "HCC students are hugely beneficial. They are very responsible and self-starters," says Fox. "They typically wrap up a task and promptly ask, 'What's next?" Students' involvement in community service is also reflected in HCC's response on the 2012 Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE). Participation in a community-based project as part of a regular course was among the top five items in which HCC performed most favorably compared with the 2012 CCSSE Cohort, with 9.3 percent of HCC students, compared to 7.1 percent of other students in the cohort, who responded often or very often. Active and Collaborative Learning, one of five key areas of student engagement tracked by the national survey, underscores the value of volunteerism as part of a student's experience. According to CCSSE,

they are actively involved in their education and have opportunities to think about and apply what they are learning in different settings.



HCC students learn about scholarship opportunities—and also the importance of giving back to provide similar opportunities for future students—at Swoop's first birthday at West Loop Campus

Not all students come to HCC with a profound understanding of the importance of giving back. But through their own experiences in receiving philanthropic support (most often in the form of scholarships), they are often inspired to expand their sense of responsibility to others. **Zoeieann Smart Townsend '12** already plans to continue the cycle of giving that started when she received the David and Jean Wiley Foundation Scholarship. Smart says, "By meeting my educational goals, I am able to go into the community and inspire and educate others on how to pursue their goals and dreams."



Alief ISD high school seniors, from left, Maria Castellanos, Dayana Gutierrez, Rosario Aguirre, and Sandra Navarro. All are members of the first cohort for the Workforce Career Pathways project at HCC for Certified Nursing Aide certification, with funding support received from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation

# Alief High School Students Get Jump Start in Health Career

# Bank of America Grant Funds Career Pathway Program at HCC

Five days a week for a semester, a small group of Alief Independent School District high school students board a school bus to travel to a healthcare class at HCC's Alief-Bissonnet campus. There, HCC Nurse Aide instructor Betty Ashford guides the students through college-level skills training in patient assessment and care.

"I want to leave behind something," says Ashford, a career nurse who now puts her medical training to use in the classroom. "I want them to understand the importance of their role as a Certified Nursing Aide. They are on the frontline as a caregiver," she says.

The unique high school/HCC partnership is made possible through a \$30,000 grant received from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc. to the HCC Foundation. The grant is part of ongoing investments by the Bank of America Charitable Foundation to help connect the unemployed, underemployed, veterans, youth, and those with disabilities to employment opportunities and success.

Nationally, the grants support over 1,050 nonprofits in 34 states. Funding to HCC established the Workforce Career Pathways project. The program, which began last fall and is offered through HCC's School of Continuing Education, addresses the critical need for skilled certified nursing aides. Students in the program have the opportunity to earn their Certified Nurse Aide Certificate while still enrolled in high school. Upon completion and successful passing of the state CNA certification, completers are eligible to receive two semester college credit hours towards their enrollment in the HCC Health Care Career Academy. Funds received from

Bank of America underwrite students' tuition, equipment, and books and represent an investment in the next generation of healthcare workers.

Ten high school seniors were enrolled in the first cohort last fall and another 10 are completing their studies this spring. When the students graduate this May, they will cross the stage with a professional certification already earned and a marketable skill in hand with their high school diploma.

Students enrolled in the program speak to how it has helped fuel their interest in a health career, including high school senior Sandra Navarro.

"Helping others is what I've always wanted to do," says Navarro, who was among the 10 Alief ISD high school seniors selected for the program's first cohort last fall—placing her one step closer to her dream of being a neonatal nurse. "This experience has led me to what I would like to become," she says.

Navarro, who is optimistic by nature and enjoys putting a smile on everyone's face, attributes her interest in healthcare to the day her younger sister was born. She says, "I saw how the nurses performed their procedures and ever since then, I realized that one day I will be walking around a hospital doing what I do best."

After earning the second highest grade in the class and passing the state board certification upon course completion, Navarro says the HCC course convinced her she is on the right track with her career goals. "This experience has changed me in becoming a more knowledgeable and productive worker in the healthcare assessment," she says. "I'm looking forward to the journey to becoming a nurse."

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# **HCC Foundation Awards Scholarships to Future Engineers**

Nine Students Awarded Scholarships to Complete Engineering Degree in Conjunction with HCC's UT Tyler Partnership

The HCC Foundation awarded \$9,000 in scholarships this semester to help nine students further their aspirations of an engineering career and complete their Associate of Science in Engineering Science (ASES) degree.

The students are part of the first cohort to earn their ASES at HCC and continue on to their four-year engineering degree through HCC's partnership with The University of Texas at Tyler. The new program will be offered at The University of Texas at Tyler Houston Engineering Center located on the HCC campus in Alief. Students can obtain an engineering degree in the normal four-year time period from UT Tyler, without any dislocation from the HCC Alief campus, while saving nearly 50 percent on their tuition costs. While beneficial for the student, the program is also designed to support the engineering field and the businesses which need to fill highly skilled job opportunities.

HCC scholarship recipient Lorenzo Rodriguez is an example of the important gap the program is filling for local students who seek a future in engineering and might not otherwise have access to a four-year degree. Rodriguez served in the U.S. Navy as an Electronics Technician from 1999 until 2002 and is completing his ASES degree while working as an Electronics Technician for a major oilfield services company in Houston. He received some college credits while in the military and now seeks to advance his education through his studies at HCC. Rodriguez will continue his studies this fall into UT Tyler's engineering program at the Alief campus.



HCC scholarship recipient Lorenzo Rodriguez will receive his Associate's degree in Engineering Science in May. Rodriquez is among the first group of students to be awarded this newly offered degree by HCC.

"The partnership allows me to earn my bachelor's degree close to home with the benefit of small class sizes and affordable tuition," says Rodriguez. "There is definitely a lot of support from my professors and the community because they want me to do well. This scholarship will help me continue with my studies."

The HCC Foundation provided the funding for the initial nine students who each received a \$1,000 scholarship for tuition, books, and other college fees for the spring 2013 semester. The Foundation is working to raise funds from corporate and individual donors to offer additional scholarship opportunities for students interested in the program.

"HCC seeks to respond to future workforce requirements while also serving the needs of its students to provide an affordable and clear pathway towards an engineering degree," says HCC Foundation Executive Director Dr. Kelly J. Zúñiga. "This endeavor impacts our city and we want to partner with others that believe in contributing to the success of what makes Houston work."

To learn more on the engineering program, visit hccs.edu/engineering.

# San Jacinto Building Now in the National Registry of Historic Places Planting the Seeds for the New San Jacinto Memorial Green The San Jacinto Memorial Building, the nearly 100-year-old neo-classical and Art Deco masterwork on the campus of HCC Central Campus, now joins the list of buildings on the National

Register of Historic Places.

The National Park Service in Washington, D.C. approved inclusion of the three-story building on the National Register on December 4, 2012. The building—constructed in 1914—is currently undergoing a \$60 million restoration and renovation. It is expected to reopen in late fall 2013.

"It is a fitting recognition of a facility that has spawned so many productive citizens for the city of Houston," says Dr. William W. Harmon, President, HCC Central College. "We look forward to returning to the building and educating future generations of students."



An early view of the San Jacinto Memorial Building now part of HCC Central College

The building, which is also registered by the Texas State Historical Commission, was dedicated as a high school in 1926 and operated as such for 45 years. In 1927, the building also provided temporary classroom space for students of Houston Junior College, the predecessor of The University of Houston System.

Thousands of Houstonians graduated from San Jacinto. including Walter Cronkite, TV journalist, historian, and film producer; Kathy Whitmire, former mayor of Houston; David Westheimer, novelist and newspaper editor; Roy Hofheinz, former mayor of Houston and Harris County Judge; Dr. Denton A. Cooley, world-renowned cardiologist and founder of the Texas Heart Institute at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital; and many distinguished members of the Texas judiciary, including Phil Peden, State District and Federal Bankruptcy Judge, and Joe Greenhill, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Texas.

Since its sale to HCC in 1985, the old high school building continues to welcome new generations of students pursuing their education in our state's largest community college. In recognition of its legacy, the San Jacinto High School Alumni Association and HCC have formed a unique partnership to preserve and renovate this historic Houston landmark.

The San Jacinto High School Alumni Association (SJHSAA) is working in tandem with HCC's capital improvements to transform the Central College into an attractive, pedestrianfriendly environment, appealing to students and the diverse citizens who live and work in the surrounding neighborhoods.

The new San Jacinto Memorial Green will be reflective of the original front area of the high school. The trees on the west side of the campus will balance the glass Learning Hub building on the east side of the campus and provide a welcoming green space for HCC students and visitors. The surrounding trees and benches provide naming opportunities for our alumni to honor those they wish.

One of the unique features of the new Memorial Green will be the walkway from Holman Street to the San Jacinto monument. It will have markers for both the history of the school as well as famous people that graduated from San Jacinto. "There are more than you can imagine," says Alan Finger, San Jacinto Class of 1954 and SJHSAA President. "We are excited to be a part of this historic renovation and pay tribute the many generations of Houstonians who passed through the halls of San Jacinto High."

"The Board of the SJHSAA feels that since HCC is revitalizing our old and famous high school that we all dearly loved, that we, as alumni, should also pitch in and help with the beautification of the front green area," adds Finger. "Our collective efforts will serve as a remembrance of wonderful times gone by—where many of us met and married our spouses, and where many of our parents and relatives went to junior or senior high school."

Finger says San Jacinto alumni need the support of both former alumni and any Houstonians who are interested in preserving an important piece of their city's past to help reach their \$1.5 million funding goal. There are many naming opportunities associated with San Jacinto Memorial Green—from engraved pavers to memorial plantings to named landscape features.

To learn more about this project and how you can help create a living piece of Houston history, visit hccsfoundation.org/memorialgreen.

# SAVE THE DATE FEBRUARY 22, 2014

JANICE AND BOB McNair, 2014 HCC CRYSTAL EAGLE AWARD RECIPIENTS

> For more information, please call the HCC Foundation at 713.718.8595 or email opportunityball@hccsfoundation.org or visit www.hccsfoundation.org/OpportunityBall.

# President's Corner

donated \$2.500 to the College that

online at **hccsfoundation.org/alumni** or email alumni@hccsfoundation.org.

named a finalist to the James Beard Foundation's 2013 Best Chef: Southwest! Stay tuned at hugosrestaurant.net.



SOAR • SPRING 2013





Dr. Lin receives her 35-year service pin from HCC Acting Chancellor Renee Byas



I had lots of challenges, but my biggest ones were my language

barrier and the system of education in the U.S.—the registration

process, taking notes in a foreign language, asking questions. I

But counselors and teachers, especially Dr. Lin, were extremely

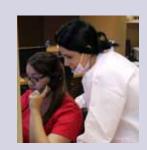
helpful and were always trying to make sure that I understood.

She was very inspiring. She wasn't only a great teacher; she

didn't have any friends since I could not speak a word of English!



Drs. Azad and Lin share a laugh at their interview



Dr. Azad works closely with her dental staff

# **Connecting for a Lifetime**

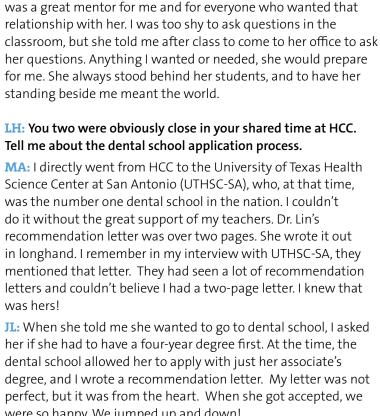
An Interview with Dr. Marjaneh Azad '93 and Dr. Joanne Lin

Collectively, the HCC community makes an incredible impact in the lives of those who connect with it, but some stories rise to the top. One such story exists for HCC alumna Dr. Marjaneh Azad, D.D.S. '93 and Joanne Lin, Ph.D., chemistry professor at HCC Central College (now at HCC Southeast College) who inspired and encouraged Azad to pursue her dream of becoming a dentist. Azad, who immigrated from Iran in 1992, came to HCC to learn English while taking courses in science and math to help her realize her career aspirations. Now, this mother of two has a successful dental practice (Angel Smile Dental Clinic) and remains on the go. She continues to give back to HCC, most recently with a gift of \$10,000 to the HCC Asian Scholarship Program Inspiring Results and Excellence (HCC-ASPIRE) organization and as a member of HCC Coleman College's Dental Hygiene Advisory Council. Lauren Hirshberg, Coordinator of Alumni Relations at HCC, sat down with the two, who were reunited after more than 15 years, and asked them to share their story.

#### Lauren Hirshberg: How did the two of you become associated with HCC and with each other?

Joanne Lin: I started teaching chemistry at HCC's Central College in 1978 and just received my 35-year service pin at HCC a couple of weeks ago. I feel like one of the pioneers at HCC! Marjaneh impressed me right away because she was so sincere and ready to learn. Success between a student and a teacher relies on the student being engaged and the teacher being passionate.

Marjaneh Azad: "I was a foreign student, and HCC was one of the few institutions where I had the opportunity to expedite my learning."



her if she had to have a four-year degree first. At the time, the dental school allowed her to apply with just her associate's degree, and I wrote a recommendation letter. My letter was not perfect, but it was from the heart. When she got accepted, we were so happy. We jumped up and down!

### LH: Until this past September, you had not seen each other in more than 15 years. How did you reconnect?

JL: We saw each other at the HCC ASPIRE event, where she was asked to be a speaker. Marjaneh was the center of attention, and everyone was talking to her. More and more, I felt like I knew her. She mentioned my name as she gave her presentation, and I was like, "Oh my goodness." I was touched and thrilled that she mentioned me.

MA: I had a big speech prepared, but when I got up in front of several hundred people, I forgot it all. So I put aside my notes and started to speak from my heart. I had no idea that Dr. Lin was among all of those people. At the end of the dinner, a lady came up to the table to talk to me, and I just began to cry. I couldn't control my crying – it was Dr. Lin! It was a beautiful moment for me.

#### LH: What is the best part of reconnecting to each other?

JL: I am thrilled to see her as such a success! That's the best reward for any teacher. In my culture, Confucius ranks the teaching profession as honorable and noble. Even though we may be poor, we are rich in our passion and self-fulfillment.

MA: I am so happy to find the woman who inspired me and helped me through. I always wanted to be as strong and as good as her-and to be able to teach. I haven't accomplished my goal to teach yet, but hopefully one day I will.

#### LH: What advice would you give to a student who is considering HCC?

IL: I always tell students in my classes that you are as first-class as any other student anywhere else. You will be taught as a firstclass student. It is as much as you want to get out of the class – it is up to you. Trust your teachers, and connect with your teachers. Your teachers are the best source of advice, because sometimes parents have another agenda. We don't have an agenda, other than the best interest of our students.

MA: That's the type of teacher you want! The kind that is not just involved with you in the class, but one who is involved with your whole life and who recognizes you for who you are. I'm sure HCC has lots of teachers like her, and I'm proud to be a part of this. HCC is a great school with great teachers and counselors, and the classes are affordable and small so that you can learn a lot. You can be a student and work. It is all up to the student to make the most of it.

# HCC Receives Grant to Train Employees at Ben E. Keith Foods Distribution Facility

HCC is teaming up with Ben E. Keith Foods, the eighth largest institutional food service distributor in the nation, to train close to 100 distribution workers to work at the food giant's recently built 475,000-square-foot distribution center in Missouri City, Texas. The training was made possible by a \$69,000 Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) grant to fund logistics training to develop a skilled workforce to meet the specific needs of Ben E. Keith Foods.

With the help of HCC, Ben E. Keith workers will pursue the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC) Certified Logistics Associate (CLA) Certification. The purpose of the CLA program is to recognize individuals who demonstrate mastery of the core competencies of material handling, including understanding the life cycle of global chain logistics, the logistics environment and familiarization with different material handling equipment, introduction to safety principles and safe equipment handling, quality control principles, workplace communications, teamwork and problem solving.

"There was a wide range of students from young adults to some who had not been in a classroom for 30 years, but everyone was eager to learn. Their biggest complaint was that they wished they had learned some of these skills earlier in life, and they wished they had more time to expand on the training. They even found

ways to apply warehousing topics like safety, quality, and planning to their personal lives," says HCC's instructor, Ralph Anderson.

According to W. Elliott Stephenson, Ph.D., Vice President – Human Resources for Ben E. Keith Foods,

# "HCC's training program turned out to be a great success

for both expected and unexpected reasons. We expected a more educated workforce with industry-recognized credentials. We received 100% of what we expected there. What we didn't expect was the high level of appreciation from the employees for the investment that was made in them. The experience has gone a long way to creating a strong team with a high level of morale."

The first 31 HCC graduates completed their training in March with another 30 scheduled to begin classes in May. All of the new hires should be trained in time for the first shipments, which are due to begin in June. HCC and Ben E. Keith plan to continue a long-term partnership that strengthens both institutions as well as the local community.

### **Event Spotlight: "Threads of AFRICA"**

The HCC Fashion Program presents "Threads of AFRICA," which will be on display at Gallery 3601 through September 30. The dazzling works of fashion students were made primarily with Ankara fabrics from West Africa. Kente cloth fabric, which represents some of the finest and most important weaving in existence, will be on display. African village costumes from Zulu and Bamileke tribes will also be displayed among South African animals. Student's jewelry and handbags are juxtaposed among African artifacts and Nomadic Jewelry. Contemporary and traditional artifacts are on loan to HCC from the private collection of faculty member and HCC Collections curator Alex Chapman.

The exhibit is open to the public Mondays through Fridays, 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. HCC Fashion Design, 3601 Fannin Street, 2nd floor gallery space. Guided tours are available upon request by contacting Suzette M. Brimmer, Division Chair, at 713.718.6158.

Admission is free. For details on this event and more, visit *hccsfoundation.org/alumni*, click on "Events' or call 713.718.6152.





Detail work from fashions on display in the "Threads of AFRICA" exhibit at HCC Central Fashion Building

# HCC Foundation Annual Report 2012

September 1, 2011 - August 31, 2012







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# Letter from the **HCC** Foundation Board President

Dear Friends.

As President of the HCC Foundation Board, it is truly an honor and privilege to work with HCC as we improve access to higher education and provide support through the Foundation's fundraising efforts. With that thought in mind, I am especially pleased to share with you the 2012 edition of the HCC Foundation's Annual Report.

For so many in our community, college remains out of reach because of financial constraints. To help ease these financial challenges, the HCC Foundation offered in excess of \$580,000 for academic year 2011/2012 for scholarships. This amount translates to real opportunities for our students, as HCC alumna Brittaney Wilmore '11 reminded us at last fall's State of the College address.

Because an organization like the HCC Foundation exists, Brittaney shared with the gathered crowd of business and community leaders that she was able to graduate from HCC debt-free. Her testimonial is proof of the difference we are making in students' lives—a difference that would not be possible without the generous support of our donors.

Whenever I have the opportunity to speak with these young men and women to learn more about their plans, I am reminded of students like Brittaney whose life is forever transformed as a result of your generosity. We are so proud of all that our students have accomplished and all that your giving enables us to provide to HCC students to launch their college dreams and propel their future ambitions.

Thank you for helping us to make a difference.

Sincerely,

Charles R. Bellomy President, HCC Foundation Board of Directors



HCC Foundation Board President Charles Bellomy with **Brittaney Wilmore '11**, a former HCC Foundation Student Ambassador and scholarship recipient at the 2012 HCC State of the College

# 2012 HCC Foundation Highlights

The Houston Community College Foundation Funding (\$10,000) for scholarship support for high encourages faculty and staff members to explore creative ideas for teaching or enriching student learning. We support such innovation with grants that provide partial or complete funding of accepted Funding (\$3,000) to purchase playground equipment projects. In FY 2011/2012, the HCC Foundation Board for the HCC Childcare Program, a nationally accredited of Directors approved partial or complete funding for the following projects through the Scholarship and Awards Committee.



Funding (\$3,200) for four \$800 HCC scholarships awarded at the 26th Annual Houston Hispanic Forum Career and Education Day, held at the George R. Brown Convention Center on February 25, 2012.

Funding (\$10,000) for 20 \$500 HCC scholarships awarded at the 2012 Simulation Day held at HCC's Coleman College for Health Sciences. The college bcomes a "virtual" hospital for one day with more than 800 students paticipating in interdisciplinary simulated patient scenarios.

Funding (\$10,000) for a **two-semester project** via the Knowledge Arts Foundation to teach select adjunct faculty members at HCC's West Loop campus innovative methods to engage students' interest.

school students in Katy and Spring Branch Independent School Districts enrolled in **HCC dual credit classes**.

program by the National Association of the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

Funding (\$1,875) for program support for 2012 **HCC Newspring Business Plan Competition** at HCC Northwest. The annual competition, co-sponsored by HCC BizConnect Centers for Entrepreneurship and Newspring, is an extraordinary opportunity for HCC students to learn how to develop a business

Matching funds (\$10,000) to establish the Arab American Education Foundation Opportunity 14 **Scholarship** for students attending HCC.

Matching funds (\$1,000) to establish the Asian Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Foundation **Scholarship** for students attending HCC.

Funding (\$15,000) for the HCC Foundation Annual Scholarship Fund in support of general student scholarship for tuition, books, and fees for students attending HCC.

Funding (\$10,000) for the HCC Foundation Emergency Book Fund in support of aid for students facing unexpected financial shortfalls that might jeopardize their ability to continue their education at HCC.

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# 2012 HCC Foundation Highlights





Couture designer Andrew Gn headlined the

**2012 HCC Passion for Fashion luncheon**. The

Melissa Mithoff, with co-chairs Liz Glanville

Gabriela Dror and Nidhika Mehta, raised more

than \$200,000 in support of HCC's Fashion and Interior Design programs. Becca Cason Thrash was named the 2012 HCC Design

Society Fashion Icon and Kay King received a

special award as founder of HCC Fashion.

**HCC** eagle mascot Swoop celebrated

his first birthday in September 2012

at HCC Alumni Association event

held on HCC's West Loop and

**Spring Branch campuses.** 

event, chaired by Rosemarie Johnson and

and Paula Fyhr and Honorary Chairmen

The whimsical Dr. Seuss theme "Oh the Places We'll Go!" greeted the record 750 guests who attended HCC's **2012 Opportunity Ball** in January 2012. Gala co-chairs and Foundation Board members Shawn Taylor and Penny Butler, along with lead underwriter AT&T and numerous other sponsors raised a record \$560,000 in scholarship support for **HCC students**. Sarah and Doug Foshee received top billing as the evening's Mychelle and Shawn Taylor with Sarah and Doug Foshee Crystal Eagle Award recipients.

The fourth annual Chancellor's Symposium hosted 1,200 Houston-area middle and high school students who shared an interest in engineering. **HCC Foundation employees** joined volunteers at the event. The day of hands-on activity and informational sessions, co-sponsored by KBR, was held in September 2012 at NASA-Johnson Space Center and Space Center Houston.



Houston-area students gather for a day of hands-on

The HCC Found record \$12.1 mill ion in FY 2012

The HCC Foundation and the Houston Texans joined forces to launch the **HCC Field of Opportunity Program** in September 2012. **In this** program, each time the Texans score 14 points, an Opportunity 14 scholarship will be awarded. In addition, when the Texans hold an opponent below 14 points, an Opportunity 14 scholarship will also be awarded. The scholarships will be presented in both wins and losses – recognizing that with education there is always a winner.



Houston Texans cornerback Johnathan Joseph serves as spokesperson for HCC Field of Opportunity



In November 2012, the HCC Foundation hosted its **annual Scholarship Luncheon** honoring both the scholarship recipients and the donors who help make these scholarships possible. Keynote speaker and HCCF Board Member Mark Christensen of Bartlett Cocke General Contractors, LLC spoke on the difference education has made in achieving his goals. Wendi Hay, a David and Jean Wiley Foundation Scholarship Recipient (pictured above with fellow Wiley scholars), shared her inspirational story of how HCC scholarship support helped lift her family from homelessness.

ation raised a

The Manufacturing Skills Summit, held in September 2012, was the first in a series of HCC summits to bring together industry leaders and educators. Discussion focused on ways to partner with industry to train the next generation of skilled workers. The event was made possible with seed funding provided by the HCC Foundation.



HLS&R funds new simulation lab for HCC

In September 2012, officials from the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo gathered for a tour of the **Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo HCC Northeast Public Safety Institute Simulation Lab** made possible through the Rodeo's generosity. "This lab is essential as we prepare the next generation of first responders for the Greater Houston region," says PSI Director Johnny Sessums.

In an innovative partnership created in fall 2012, students can now earn their Associate of Science in Engineering Science from HCC with a set degree plan qualifying them for transfer to The University of Texas at Tyler Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Mechanical Engineering program at the **UT Tyler Houston Center for Engineering** located at HCC's Alief Campus. The program allows students to continue their education locally, and save nearly 50 percent in tuition costs. HCCF Board Member Mary R. Williams serves on the Engineering Advisory Council for this program. The HCC Foundation is helping to raise program support. (Read more on p. 6.)

A full house gathered for the **5th Annual State of the College** to hear an update on HCC and its impact in the city. HCCF Board President Bob Bellomy reported on the Foundation's fundraising successes, including \$8.8 million raised at the time of the event, toward the \$30 million endowed Opportunity 14 Scholarship goal. Former HCCF Student Ambassador and scholarship recipient **Brittaney Wilmore '11** told the crowd,

"I have done more here at Houston Community College than I could have ever imagined I would do at a university."

A proud group of 14 students were recognized as graduates of the inaugural class for **HCC's Building & Contracting Leadership Certificate Program** in October 2012. The event marked the capstone of a year-long course on leadership in the construction industry. "I am confident we are all better equipped to go forward and grow our businesses," says graduate Rebecca Manzel. Generous underwriting of tuition and materials was provided, including support from the program's two lead sponsors Clark Construction Group, LLC and **Bartlett Cocke General Contractors, LLC.** 



Inaugural graduating class for HCC's Building & Contracting Leadership Certificate Program



# Golden Eagle Society Celebrates Excellence in Giving

The Golden Eagle Society was established in 2009 to recognize excellence in giving at Houston Community College. The Society recognizes supporters of HCC and its campuses, departments and special programs who have generously contributed \$2,000 or more in a fiscal year. Gifts designated to capital projects, scholarships, endowment funds, or operations are included, as well as in-kind donations, matching gifts, and pledges. All donors to HCC who have contributed or pledged \$2,000 or more between September 1, 2011 and August 31, 2012 are considered 2012 Golden Eagle Society Members.

The 2011-2012 Golden Eagle Society members were recognized at a Chancellor's dinner held in their honor in October 2012 at the Verizon Club at Reliant Stadium. HCC is proud to be the official education partner with the Houston Texans.

The evening also spotlighted a milestone for HCC's Golden Eagle Society—with 194 members inducted for 2012, the highest membership since the launch of

HCC Foundation President Bob Bellomy acknowledged the generous spirit of Golden Eagle Society members and ended the evening with a toast in honor of their giving. "Each of you, through your financial support and commitment, is helping to advance the work of HCC and open doors to education for all Houstonians. We couldn't be more pleased with your commitment and its impact on HCC."

Golden Eagle Society quests enjoyed a behind-the-scenes tour of Reliant Stadium while visiting with HCC Foundation Student Ambassadors and scholarship recipients



# The HCC Foundation gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the 2011-2012 members of The Golden Eagle Society.

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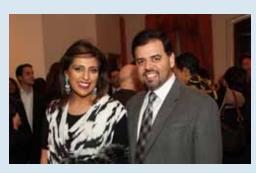
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## Your Donation Makes a Real Difference

Most Houston Community College students come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, and nearly half are first-generation college students. Often their biggest educational challenges are financial. Financial help, even on a modest scale, can make an immense difference in local students' ability to attend—and complete—college.

Your gift helps these students go to college, complete their degree or certificate, and contribute to the quality of life of their families and of the entire community.

## Gifts to the HCC Foundation Go a Long Way

- \$813 will pay a semester of tuition and fees for a full-time in-district student.
- \$208 will cover the cost of a single three-hour credit course.
- \$100 will buy a textbook for a student studying anything from calculus to computed tomography.

#### How to Give to the HCC Foundation

The HCC Foundation offers many ways for donors to provide financial assistance to Houston Community College students.

• **Donations.** You may donate with a credit card at our website, *hccsfoundation.org* or mail a donation to our address below.

- Named Scholarships. With a gift of \$5,000 or more, you may establish a legacy or honor another's memory with a named scholarship.
- Scholarship Endowments. With a gift of \$10,000 or more, you can endow a scholarship that will guarantee support for students in perpetuity.
- Endowed Professorships and Chairs. A \$500,000 donation can establish an HCC professorship, and a \$1 million donation can establish a chair. Professorships and chairs help recognize outstanding teaching and attract distinguished faculty.
- Planned Giving. With Planned Giving, dedicated donors may leave a legacy at Houston Community College through the planning of their estate. The HCC Foundation's website provides extensive suggestions for Planned Giving, and our staff members would be pleased to assist you in developing a plan that will establish the type of legacy you seek.

For more information about donating to the HCC Foundation, please visit our website at *hccsfoundation.org* or call 713.718.8595.

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Because an organization like the HCC Foundation exists, I graduated from Houston Community College debt-free. Everything down to my books and school supplies was completely covered.

—Brittaney Wilmore '11

Brittaney Wilmore '11, HCC Foundation scholarship recipient and former Student Ambassador is pursuing her bachelor's degree at the University of Houston in broadcast journalism

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# Financial Summary Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2012

Established in 1976, the HCC Foundation is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The Internal Revenue Service has classified the Foundation as a Section 509(a)(1) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) publicly supported charity. The Foundation adheres to the highest standards of financial management, and the result is a healthy balance sheet that allows us to consistently provide programmatic support to important HCC initiatives and scholarships for local students from throughout the Greater Houston area.

# 2011-2012 Summary of Revenue and Expenditures

The following financial information was summarized from our 2011-2012 audited financial statements, which are available upon request and on the Foundation's website at hccsfoundation.org (Click on 'ABOUT US').

	2012 Revenue	2011 Revenue
Contributions and Donations	\$ 10,960,186	\$ 4,860,287
Interest and Dividend Income	\$ 41,730	\$ 68,332
In-Kind Revenue	\$ 2,153,842	\$ 1,619,034
Unrealized Income on Investments	\$ 156,904	\$ 104,993
Vending Income	\$ 209,843	\$ 127,176
Other Income	\$ 2,605	\$ 3,293
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	_	_
Total Revenues	\$ 13,525,110	\$ 6,783,115
	2012 Expenditures	2011 Expenditures
Program Services:		
Scholarships	\$ 1,383,136	\$ 1,415,932
Grant Distributions	\$ 3,967,448	\$ 1,189,633
Total Program Services	\$ 5,350,584	\$ 2,605,565
Support Services:		
Fundraising	\$ 216,817	\$ 8,149
Vending Distributions	\$ 169,173 \$ 1,641,359	\$ 104,761 \$ 1,360,855
Administration		
Total Support Services	\$ 2,027,349	\$ 1,473,765
Total Expenses	\$ 7,377,933	\$ 4,079,330
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 6,147,177	\$ 2,703,785
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$ 8,792,340	\$ 6,088,555
Net Assets, End of Year	\$ 14,939,517	\$ 8,792,340



"America's exceptional dream consists of opportunity, community, and intergenerational upward mobility. In pursuit of that dream, community colleges have been a national asset, creating opportunity, supporting students, and building communities."



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