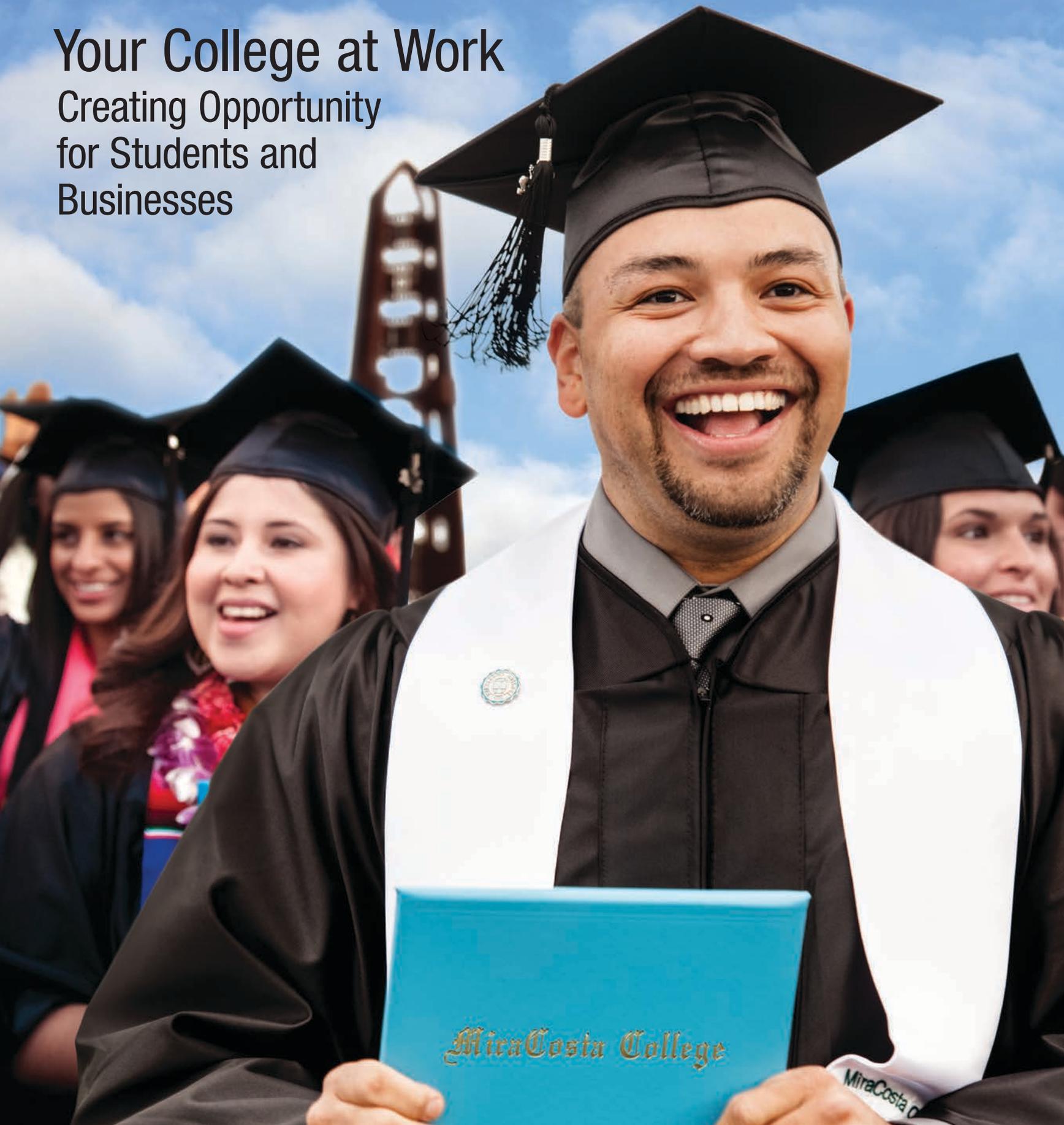


MiraCosta

Transforming Lives

Your College at Work
Creating Opportunity
for Students and
Businesses



DEAR FRIEND OF MIRACOSTA COLLEGE

California community colleges are not just the great equalizers of our time, offering affordable educational opportunities to students of all backgrounds, ages and aspirations, but they are also the places that build connections so vital to the progress of our local communities.



Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D., Superintendent/President, MiraCosta College with 2012 scholarship recipient Jamie Cook.

Here at MiraCosta College, the connections built in just the last couple of years have enabled us to expand career training opportunities for students while meeting the needs of our local businesses. We also have helped to prepare underrepresented and disadvantaged youth for higher education while promoting a college-going culture in our K-12 schools. Meanwhile, our nontraditional students continue to dream bigger and achieve more than they ever imagined. In this edition of *MiraCosta, Transforming Lives*, you'll see examples of the many ways that MiraCosta College has built connections like these, which have not only lifted up our students, but have also helped to shape the future of North San Diego County.

The success of community colleges only can be realized if the community they serve stands firmly behind them. Because of the support of our college foundation, alumni and friends, MiraCosta College is able to provide exemplary educational opportunities and services to our current and future students, local businesses and the region.

Thank you for your continued investment in the futures of our students and our college; it's an investment that will pay dividends for generations to come.

Francisco C. Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President

MiraCosta, Transforming Lives is published by the MiraCosta College Office of Development and Foundation in collaboration with the Public Information Office. We greatly appreciate the participation of those who allowed us to tell their stories.

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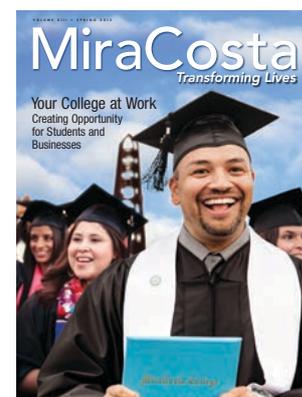
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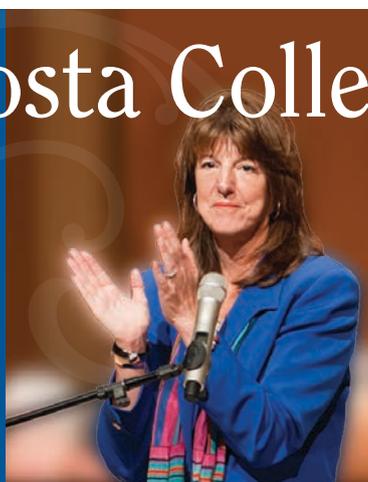
2012 MiraCosta College nursing graduate Dallas Griner, is now employed as a registered nurse in the emergency department at Loma Linda University Medical Center in Murrieta, California.

The MiraCosta College Foundation:

*“Join the celebration!
Your gift can open
the door to higher
education.”*

— Linda Fogerson, MiraCosta College Foundation Executive Director (pictured)

Donate today at
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Supporting Student Success

Its vision is clear: “To ensure that no one is denied access to higher education because of financial need and that resources are available to enrich the college experience for all students.”

Since 1967, the MiraCosta College Foundation has done just that—by providing financial support to thousands of students who might not otherwise be able to attend college. In the 2011–12 fiscal year alone, the MiraCosta College Foundation provided direct assistance to attend college—whether through

Retooling the Region



MiraCosta College Teams up with Local Industry to Create Jobs

Daniel Garcia, a student in MiraCosta College's first Machinist Technology Program, uses the cold saw machine.

When North County manufacturers found themselves with a critical shortage of qualified machinists, they came to

Linda Kurokawa at MiraCosta College for help.

Kurokawa, the college's director of community services and business development, immediately went to work laying the foundation for a new Machinist Technology Training Program. This intensive, three-month course promises to create the type of skilled workers that industry officials say will make a dent in addressing the needs of the region's manufacturing sector.

The machinist program also underscores MiraCosta College's commitment to North County. Kurokawa said she was approached about two years ago by the National Tooling and Machining Association, the local career center and representatives of the North County manufacturing industry. The message? Area manufacturers wanted to hire, but there was a shortage of up to 300 qualified machinists.

Being a machinist is not the type of job you can simply accept without proper training. Employees must master machine shop math, know how to read blueprints, and be skilled at using state-of-the-art, precision equipment. "It takes a lot of skill," Kurokawa said.

Setting up a program from scratch wasn't easy. The first thing you need is the right facility, and a facility was not available at MiraCosta College. Kurokawa needed to find something large enough to house machine shop equipment and classrooms. It took about a year before the college settled on a vacant recreation center in northeast Oceanside.

The local business community helped take over from there. The Haas machining tool manufacturer provided a CNC lathe and a CNC mill for a two-year entrustment. Veridium provided a Swiss screw machine and another CNC lathe. A North County corporation anonymously contributed \$51,000. And the San Diego Workforce Partnership provided a \$63,500 customized training grant to the National Tooling and Machining Association for the training of 12 unemployed or low-income students.

"I can sleep well at night knowing that we worked very hard to create a high-skills work program that can train people quickly and get them into well-paying jobs."

Linda Kurokawa, Director of Community Services and Business Development

"Industry has provided the time and support to make sure this program fits their needs," Kurokawa said.

"Most of the people we are trying to entice are unemployed, or newly out of the workforce or just graduated high school or just out of the military," Kurokawa said. Graduates of the program, she noted, can make up to \$18 an hour as an apprentice.

The program is just one example of MiraCosta College's impact in the community and the way in which philanthropic investments in college programs improve

see **Retooling** page 6

The MiraCosta College

Creating a College – One Student at a Time



ANAI JUAREZ WILL BE THE FIRST TO TELL YOU

she was, at best, an average student in high school. Like many teenagers, she was rebellious and introverted. Pursuing higher education was the last thing on Anai's mind.

Then she enrolled at MiraCosta College.

"It has changed me from being a shy, quiet person into someone who is active in the community, someone who is more willing to speak out, and someone who is not afraid of going after my dreams," said the 21-year-old Oceanside resident.

Anai is hardly alone. In fact, 1 out of every 7 residents living within the MiraCosta Community College District's boundaries who are 18 to 24 years old attend classes at either the Oceanside Campus, the Community Learning Center in Oceanside, or the San Elijo Campus in Encinitas.

And virtually all of the 2,259 MiraCosta College students who completed a survey last year agreed that MiraCosta College provides a "student friendly"

environment. Nine out of every 10 students surveyed said they were satisfied overall with services. Meanwhile, more than 90 percent of disabled students said they were satisfied with the services afforded them.

Anai is among the disabled. She was born with spina bifida and has undergone 15 surgeries related to the condition. Shortly after Anai was born, doctors told her family she would not survive past the age of 5 or 6.

"I couldn't walk or do anything on my own like a normal kid does," she said.

Anai now uses crutches to help navigate the Oceanside Campus, where she said everyone with whom she has interacted has treated her with respect.

"People here are very accepting. Nobody treats me like I'm different. I am accepted for how I am and who I am," Anai said.

Acceptance and diversity are part of the culture at MiraCosta College. Through efforts ranging from the Puente Project, an academic preparation effort that aims to increase the number of Latino youth graduating from college, to the Summer Bridge Program and the United Black Student Conference that were founded to improve the college readiness of African-American high school students,



The Connection: Going Culture, Student at a Time

More than 150 high school students attended the 2013 United Black Student Conference.



MiraCosta College is at the forefront of promoting and maintaining inclusiveness.

And thanks to a \$7.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education, MiraCosta College is now reaching younger children in hopes of instilling a college-going culture, even among the most disadvantaged in our community. The college is in the midst of a GEAR UP program that works with the Oceanside Unified School District to counsel, tutor and monitor low-income and

“Ever since I got here my life has changed a lot. I’m more focused, more outgoing. I learned to accept myself.” Anai Juarez, MiraCosta College student

at-risk youth, starting from when they are students at Cesar Chavez and Jefferson middle schools through their first year of college. These students also have gotten a financial head start. In just six months, the MiraCosta College Foundation secured gifts and pledges totaling \$100,000 to fund scholarships for GEAR UP students who choose to attend MiraCosta College in the fall of 2017.

Anai had a little help along the way, too. She received a MiraCosta College Foundation Board scholarship of \$500 in the fall of 2011 and a MiraCosta College Foundation Robert Rodgers Memorial Scholarship of \$1,000 in the fall of 2012.

Now she is on the road toward helping others. Anai is involved with the school’s Latina Leadership

Network, speaking to high school students in hopes of increasing the number of Latinas going to college.

Once she graduates from MiraCosta College, she plans to transfer to Cal State Long Beach to earn a bachelor’s degree before pursuing her dream of being a social worker helping abused children overcome their obstacles. ■

GEAR UP prepares low-income and at-risk youth for college.



the readiness of African-American high school students

a scholarship, a textbook, an emergency grant and/or a computer—to more than 1,750 students.

The MiraCosta College Foundation does more than provide scholarships. Last year, more than \$450,000 was secured for specialized student services programs providing counseling and emergency financial assistance to ensure college success of two especially vulnerable groups of students: veterans and former foster youth.

Donors are satisfied with the foundation, as evidenced by numerous testimonials on independent websites that monitor nonprofits.

“We are pleased to offer our financial support to this foundation,” wrote Elaine Algeo. “The tireless work put into fundraising and the feedback from



Bob and Elaine Algeo are major donors to MiraCosta College’s Theatre Program.

students who have been recipients of scholarships, plus seeing results first hand, has been very rewarding.

“When we give to the foundation we know that our dollars go to an outstanding program and deserving students. We so appreciate that they keep us in the loop of what is going on at the college and give us many opportunities to support

it in different ways. It is an honor to be part of what is going on at MiraCosta College. We appreciate everyone who works at the foundation—their time, effort and outreach.” ■

individual lives and stimulate our local economy. According to a recent study by Economic Modeling Specialists International:

- Compared to someone with a high school diploma, students who earn an associate degree at MiraCosta College earn \$13,400 more per year, on average, over the course of a working lifetime.
- As they achieve higher levels of education, MiraCosta College students are less likely to smoke or abuse alcohol, draw welfare or unemployment benefits, or commit crimes. This translates into an annual social savings to the California public of approximately \$2.9 million.
- The accumulated contribution of former MiraCosta College students adds \$433 million in annual income to the MiraCosta College service area.
- Altogether, the average added annual income due to the activities of MiraCosta College and its current and former students equals \$498.35 million. ■

Charitable Gift Annuities: A Reliable Investment with Great Returns to You and Your Community

A gift annuity is a simple contract between a person like you and a charitable organization like ours. With a gift annuity you can make a gift of cash, stock or other asset to the MiraCosta College Foundation. In exchange, we will pay you a fixed income at a fixed rate that never changes—no matter what the economy does.

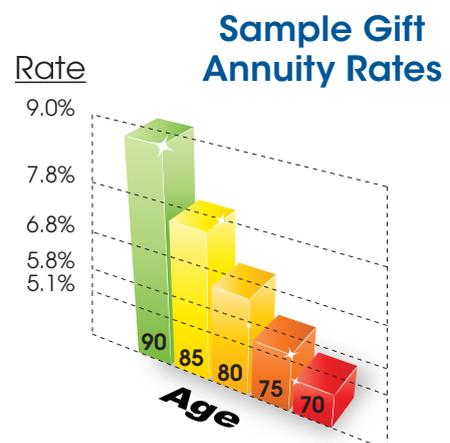
How much you will be paid is based on your age at the time you make the gift. And after a lifetime of payments to you, any remaining funds automatically go to support our mission to transform lives in our community through education. Because the gift annuity ultimately supports the foundation, you receive an income tax deduction for your gift.

Charitable gift annuities pack a lot of advantages for you: attractive fixed payment rates that last a lifetime, options that include funding for one or two people, income tax benefits, possible capital gains benefits if funded with stock, and the option to defer for a higher rate. Gift annuities replace the uncertainty of stocks and CDs with the reliability you deserve.

To learn more contact Linda Fogerson at 760.795.6775 or lfogerson@miracosta.edu or go to www.miracostalegacy.org.



Maria Grant found that charitable gift annuity benefits were too good to pass up.





MiraCosta College

Hits the Right Note for Music Students

Monica Wright was talented, but she didn't think she was talented enough. Her credentials were impressive, but she didn't think they were impressive enough. She was a sought-after piano teacher, but she knew that if she wanted to take the next step in her career, she would need to boost her performance chops.

So Monica enrolled in MiraCosta College's award-winning Music Program. She hasn't looked back since.

The college's Music Department has a lot to offer the community. It annually hosts nearly 50 groups from schools around the United States as part of its renowned annual Oceanside Jazz Festival.



"I didn't expect this kind of a complete education," said Monica, a recipient of a music scholarship from the MiraCosta College Foundation. "MiraCosta College has a lot to offer its music students."

Its sold-out holiday concerts featuring the MiraCosta College Chamber Choir, Masterworks Chorale and Symphony Orchestra are legendary. And top-name performers such as guitar virtuoso Peter Sprague often hold performances at the Oceanside Campus's state-of-the-art concert hall.

But above all else, MiraCosta College offers a demanding curriculum that is the envy of community colleges in the region and beyond. That's what Monica found when she auditioned for the Applied Music Program, which requires students to stage regular public performances as members of an ensemble.

"The music performance program is just phenomenal," Monica said. "It is really intense and prepares you to get into a four-year college."

Students in the Applied Music Program receive private weekly lessons and individual college counseling. The college also offers training for careers "behind the

scene," including recording, production and computerized music systems. In fact, dozens of local bands are taped every semester by students in the Recording Arts Program, which requires students to produce a professional-quality CD before they can earn credit for the class.

"We're helping musicians get exposure while helping our students get experience," said music and recording arts instructor Christy Coobatis.

In all, MiraCosta College offers associate degrees in Music Performance, Digital Audio Production and Recording Arts/Record Production. It also offers certificates of achievement in several areas.

Monica, 24, said MiraCosta College's Music Department has prompted her to set her goals higher. Monica was a self-employed piano teacher when she enrolled at the Oceanside Campus. Before long, members of the Chamber Choir would pull her aside and ask if she could play piano for them while they rehearsed. "I really started enjoying it," Monica said. She has since decided to earn a master's degree in music before

settling in a career as a pianist working as a vocal accompanist.

Monica said she especially enjoys performing with ensembles.

"We have featured guests in a lot of our ensembles," she said. "Just to be able to work with these people provides the students with an incredible opportunity." ■

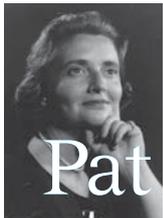


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Pat Rudolph's Lasting Impact



Patricia Rudolph, or “Mother Cardiff” as she was known in her adopted hometown, was an extraordinary woman, activist and leader. She dedicated herself to her community, protecting its character and nurturing its growth. Pat was passionate about fighting injustice and intolerance, and helping those in need. Although she passed away in 2000, her legacy creates opportunity and academic excellence at MiraCosta College today.

When MiraCosta College was establishing a campus in Cardiff-by-the-Sea, Pat got involved in supporting the project, serving on the advisory board for many years. During that time, she developed a devotion to hard-working, responsible students and wanted to help them with what she called “not a handout, but a hand-up.”

Pat decided to make provisions in her estate plans that would benefit these students, knowing that by doing so she was creating a legacy that expressed her strong belief in the power of education to both transform the lives of individuals and strengthen her community. Today, the Patricia and Mark Rudolph Scholarship Endowment funds scholarships for nearly 25 deserving students every year. ■



Pat Rudolph enjoyed a high-flying career with United Airlines.



Past MiraCosta College Foundation Board President Merlene York (back row, center) with 16 of the 25 2012 Pat Rudolph Scholarship award recipients.