# catalyst

"Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community." — Anthony J. D'Angelo

Winter 2008

# In Brief...

Harper College 40th Anniversary Celebration Gala raises more than \$510,000 for student scholarships.

Robert Fiorani, Vice President, Communication for the North American Operating Division of Square D/Schneider Electric receives James J. McGrath Award.

Michael Bohn, Senior Vice President and Regional Manager for Midwest Operations for Gilbane Building Company, joins the Harper College Educational Foundation Board.

The Harper College 40th Anniversary Arts Festival is April 5–12. Visit harpercollege.edu/arts.

Foundation awards more than \$57,000 in Resource for Excellence Grants for the 2007/2008 academic year.

# Harper College 40th Anniversary Celebration Gala



Harper College President Dr. Robert Breuder with Board of Trustee Chair Laurie Stone and 40th Anniversary Celebration Gala Chairs Rita and John Canning and Diane and David Hill

Harper College kicked-off its 40th Anniversary with an elegant black-tie gala on Saturday, September 29, 2007 at the Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center. Close to 300 people attended the affair, which honored Harper's past and raised money to support Harper's future. Proceeds from the event, which totaled more than \$510,000 will fund scholarships for future Harper students.

Event chairs, John and Rita Canning and David and Diane Hill hosted the event, along with a committee comprised of past and present Foundation Board and Board of Trustee members: Kris Howard Jensen, Jim and Patti Lancaster, Mike and Carol Moorman and Sam Oliver.

Harper College neighbor, Square D/Schneider Electric was the Gala's Event Sponsor. "We are proud to be the lead corporate sponsor for this wonderful celebration of the 40 years of great work Harper College has done for its students and our community," said Robert Fiorani, Vice President, Communication for Square D/Schneider Electric.

The event also highlighted the talents of current and former Harper students and faculty. Harper's Floral Design students created the floral decorations, Harper music faculty Ken Spurr and Steve Suvada entertained the guests, and Foundation scholarship recipients' registered and greeted guests. Harper alumnus, David Ostrowoski, Director of Event Operations for the Renaissance Schaumburg Hotel and Convention Center, managed the event. The event concluded with a private performance by Hollywood Actor and Comedian, Kevin Pollak.

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# Executive Director's Report

Happy New Year! This past fall has been one of the busiest—and most successful—for Harper College. As we celebrate Harper College's 40th Anniversary, I thank you for the support that you have given to Harper over the years. Without your support, I know that the accomplishments listed below would not be possible!

- The Harper College Foundation's 40th Anniversary Celebration Gala raised over \$510,000 for Harper scholarships. I am grateful to our Gala committee, as well as all of our sponsors and attendees who made the Gala our most successful event ever.
- In November, Harper College received a ten year re-accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association. This is the most favorable outcome possible, and we are thrilled with the result.
- In the first five months of our fiscal year, the Foundation has raised \$2.3 million in donations. My sincere appreciation to all of our donors who have pledged their support of Harper students. Our success is dependent upon you.

Thank you again for your support. I hope to see you around campus at some of the 40th Anniversary Celebration events we have planned! For more information about our 40th Anniversary, please visit www.harpercollege.edu.

Calking M. Brook

#### **Catherine M. Brod**

Vice President of Community Relations, Harper College Executive Director, Harper College Educational Foundation

## Gala

continued from Page 1

In speaking for the Harper 40th Celebration Committee Diane Hill remarked,

"We believed in our vision to raise \$300,000 to support scholarships for future students and told the Harper story. We were overwhelmed and gratified by the response from all sectors of the community from the college to corporations! The response was incredible, with a net of almost \$400,000 raised. The wonderful evening was befitting of a premier college celebrating 40 years of success and looking forward to even greater accomplishments. It was thrilling to be a part of this gala event."

## **40th Anniversary Celebration Gala Sponsors**

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Actor and comedian Kevin Pollak entertains Gala attendees.



Square D/Schneider Electric President and CEO, North American Operating Div. David Petratis and his wife Cindy along with Catherine Brod, and Roberta and Robert Fiorani, Square D/Schneider Electric Vice President, Communication



40th Anniversary Celebration Committee members Patti and Jim Lancaster with Anne and Scott Springer

# Scholarships and Awards

The Harper College Educational Foundation is pleased to announce the recipients of two of Harper College's premiere scholarships – the Motorola Award for Excellence and the Amersham Endowed Scholarship. These scholarships are the highest awards a Harper College student can earn.

Motorola recently awarded a grant to the Harper College Educational Foundation to increase the number of Motorola Award of Excellence awards to two per year. One scholarship is awarded to a traditional aged student (18-23) and one to a non-traditional aged student (24+). The Foundation is grateful for Motorola's continuing support of Harper students.

Congratulations to this year's recipients!



# Motorola Award for Excellence (traditional) - Andrea Rohrbacher

Andrea, who is studying sociology, graduated from Fremd High School in Palatine in just three years so she could spend a year in Mexico as part of a mission group. Andrea's volunteer activities include tutoring at the Mission San Juan Diego in Palatine, taking notes for students enrolled in Harper's ADS program, and translating for nurses who have Spanish-speaking clients. Andrea works at the California Pizza Kitchen in Arlington Heights and in her spare time plays the viola. Andrea spoke at the Golf Open in June.



# Motorola Award for Excellence (non-traditional) - Stephen West

Stephen is a married father of two children, attending Harper for a prepharmacy degree. Stephen attended Brigham Young for one semester right out of high school, but left for health reasons. He worked for many years in the restaurant management field, but realized that he wanted something greater for himself and his family. Stephen considers himself "Mr. Mom." His wife, who was a stay at home mother, went back to work and now Stephen attends school fulltime and works part-time at Walgreen's pharmacy. In addition to his family, work and school, Stephen is an Eagle Scout who volunteers with his church, and is a scout leader for his church's Boy Scout troop.



# Amersham Endowed Scholarship – Kelly Powal

Kelly is a nursing student who received a BA in Communication from University of Wisconsin-Madison five years ago. She spent some time working in the marketing field before deciding that she wanted to do something greater in her life. She is currently the President of the Harper Nursing Student Board and involved in the National Student Nursing Association. She works at Good Shepherd Hospital. After graduating from Harper, she plans to enroll in a Masters program in nursing.





## Motorola Distinguished Faculty Award Announced at 2007 Commencement Ceremony

**Kris Piepenburg,** Assistant Professor of English, is the Motorola Distinguished Faculty Award recipient for 2007. Kris is a Harper College graduate. He served as an adjunct faculty member for five years prior to joining the full-time faculty in 2000.

The ability to connect with students is one of Kris' greatest gifts. He takes extra time for students when English is not their native language and has an ability to make learning fun. He not only cares for learners while they are at Harper but also serves as a guide for former students in their work on Master's theses or other writing activities.

Beyond the classroom, Kris has distinguished himself in service to the College as well as the community. Since 2001 he has served as chairperson for the annual publication of The Harper Anthology. He served as chairperson for the Academic Standards Committee for three years and led the committee through instituting the World Cultures and Diversity graduation requirement. He served as a Senator in the Harper Faculty Senate and shared his musical talent at Faculty Retreats.

His English colleagues, in their letter of support for his nomination said of Kris:

"We love him for how humane he is (especially with his students), for how hard he tries, for how talented he is, for how thorough he is in everything he does and for how completely he has woven himself into the fabric of Harper College."

# Gift Announcements



Dr. Daniel Stanford, Associate Professor in Chemistry, Dr. Robert Breuder, George and Christine Winandy. Sally Griffith, Assistant Vice President for Career Programs, Jeff Butterfield, Harper Foundation Board President

## **George and Christine Winandy**

George and Christine Winandy are longtime Arlington Heights residents who recently established a scholarship for Distinguished Scholars studying math, science, technology or engineering.

The Winandys are of the age when they are required to start taking distributions from their IRA. They decided that they wanted to use the distributions to give back to education and help students.

George attended Wright Junior College in Chicago and received his degree from Marquette University. George and Chris currently support scholarships at Marquette, but also realized how much greater of an impact their donation could have at a community college.

As residents of the Harper College district, they enjoyed reading about Harper and Harper's programs, so they called the Foundation. "I want to give back to education which was good to me," said George. As a retired chemist, George determined that he wanted support students who were studying science, math, technology or engineering.

Their initial gift of \$15,000 will underwrite the cost of the first two years at Harper College as well as the first year at a transfer college or university for one Distinguished Scholar student.

Distinguished Scholars are students who have graduated in the top 10% of their graduating high school class. The Winandys plan to continue providing to this scholarship for the next several years.

# Retiring Board Members



Retiring Board member Dick Schonhoff (center) is honored at the Foundation Board meeting by Dr. Robert Breuder and Jeff Butterfield

The Harper College Educational Foundation sincerely thanks the following eight board members who recently retired from the Foundation Board of Directors. Combined, these board members provided the Foundation with over 50 years service and leadership on the following committees:

# Carol Beese, 2004 - 2007

**Committees** 

Resource for Excellence Committee –
Chair, 2006
Committee on Directors
Director's Circle Committee

# Ken Gorman, 2002 - 2007

Committees

Golf Committee
Resource for Excellence Committee
Financial Oversight Committee

## Shirley Gross-Moore, 2004 – 2007

**Committees** 

Motorola/Amersham Scholarship Committee – Chair, 2007 Gala Committee

# Dick Hoffman, 1996 - 2007

Offices Held

Board President – 2002 to 2004 Immediate Past President – 2004 to 2006 Vice President – 2000 to 2002 Trustee Liaison – 2005 to 2007

#### Committees

Golf Committee - Chair, 1999 and 2000 Motorola/Amersham Scholarship Committee - Chair, 1999 Campaign Cabinet Leadership Gifts Committee Theatre Seat/Major Gifts Committee -Chair, 2001 and 2002 Committee on Directors Director's Circle Committee

## Russ Klokkenga, 2001 - 2007

**Committees** 

Investment Committee –
Chair 2002 to 2007
Golf Committee
Resource for Excellence Committee

## Rita Mullins, 1998 to 2007

**Committees** 

Gala Committee – Chair, 2002 and 2004 Arts Committee Director's Circle Committee

## Carol Pankros, 1998 to 2007

**Offices Held** 

Treasurer – 2000 to 2002 Vice President Development – 2002 to 2006

#### **Committees**

Harper Heritage Society –
Chair, 2002 to 2004
Leadership Gifts Committee –
Co-chair, 2006 to 2007
Audit Committee
Budget Committee
Committee on Directors
Community Outreach Committee
Finance and Investment Oversight
Committee
Gala Committee
Campaign Cabinet
Pacesetters Committee

# Dick Schonhoff,1998 to 2007

**Committees** 

Motorola/Amersham Scholarship
Committee – Chair, 2004 to 2006
Director's Circle Committee
Finance and Investment Oversight
Committee
Golf Committee

The Foundation is so grateful to these leaders and innovators for their passion and their determination to help grow the Foundation into the successful organization it is today.

# James J. McGrath Award



Dr. Breuder along with Roberta and Robert Fiorani and the June Commencement Ceremony

# Robert Fiorani, Vice President, Communication for the North American Operating Division of Square D/Schneider Electric is awarded the James J. McGrath Award

The James J. McGrath award is given each year at the Harper College Commencement ceremony to honor a person in the community who has done outstanding service for Harper College. This award was started by former Harper College President, James McGrath, as a tribute to those special people who have unselfishly given time, effort and funds to uphold the excellence of the institution. The 2006-2007 James J. McGrath Award recipient is Robert Fiorani.

Bob is the Vice President, Communication for the North American Operating Division of Square D/Schneider Electric and is responsible for all corporate communication programs and Schneider Electric Branch management in North America.

Bob has been a member of the Harper College Educational Foundation since 2001. During his tenure with the Foundation Board, Bob has served in leadership roles as Secretary of the Board, Chair of the Golf Open Committee and served on the Scholarship Committee and Major Gifts Committee.

Bob's leadership and vision have also helped to strengthen Square D's relationship with Harper College. Since joining the Foundation board, Bob has helped to secure over half a million dollars in donations from Square D. These donations have supported such major initiatives such as the Wojcik Conference Center, the Women's Program, Square D Engineering Scholarship, and science and math scholarships and curriculum development.

After receiving the McGrath Award from Harper College President, Dr. Breuder, Mr. Fiorani addressed the graduates.

"In an afternoon and evening full of congratulations, I ask the graduates to apply some of their tremendous determination and commitment to serving others. To save some time for volunteering, share your new knowledge, apply your new skills, give back to your communities. Take it from me, it's a real education."

# Welcome New Board Member



Michael R. Bohn

Michael Bohn is Senior Vice President and Regional Manager for Midwest operations for Gilbane Building Company based in Chicago. In this position he manages all of Gilbane's business and construction operations throughout Illinois, northern Indiana, Michigan's Lower Peninsula, Missouri and Iowa.

A veteran of the construction industry, Mike has been with Gilbane for 22 years, having joined the New England region in Providence, Rhode Island, as a project engineer. Since then he has progressed through a wide range of positions, including project manager, project executive, district manager and regional operations manager. Throughout his career, he has helped oversee construction of several high-profile projects including the University of Michigan Biomedical Science Research Building in Ann Arbor, Michigan, St. Francis Hospital in Hartford. Connecticut and Intelsat World Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Mike holds a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts.

He volunteers with Rebuilding Together-Chicago and the Northern Illinois Food Bank in St. Charles.

Mike lives in Naperville with his wife Judy and has three daughters. ■

# Resource for Excellence Grant Recipeints

The Harper College Educational Foundation created the Resource for Excellence Grant program in the early 1990s to encourage innovation and creativity among faculty, staff and recognized student groups soliciting financial support for projects that support the mission and purpose of Harper College. The Resource for Excellence Grant Recipients for the 2007-2008 academic year are:

# Interactive Computer Monitoring Equipment for Birthing Simulation Mannequin "Noelle" and Infant

### **Department: Health Careers and Public Safety**

To purchase interactive software and hardware of birthing simulator mannequin which will promote teaching and learning objectives throughout various Health Career and Public Safety programs.

## A note from Barb Gawron, Nursing Lab/Simulation Coordinator

Harper College staff member who manages the Birthing Simulation Mannequin "Noelle" and Infant

"On behalf of the faculty and students of the health careers program, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Foundation for the generous grant funding of the interactive birthing and neonate simulator.

On July 18th Noelle and her neonate arrived with much anticipation at Harper College. The nursing department supply room was transformed into a birthing suite, complete with a birthing bed and infant warmer.

The second semester nursing students are preparing for the first simulation experience with this innovative technology. The scenario: Maria Ramirez is a 23 year old patient in active labor and speaks minimal English. The students will need to assess and interact with this patient and determine the need for an interpreter. They will need to take into consideration her cultural and spiritual beliefs as part of their care. The labor pattern will have some complications which require immediate nursing interventions. Students will be expected to notify appropriate healthcare providers, safely recover the neonate and effectively communicate and collaborate with the team, patient and family.

Community healthcare agencies have expressed an interest in utilizing this simulator to aid in training paramedics and nurses. We also received interest from a midwifery group for possible continuing education in-services.

This interactive neonate represents the future of our health careers program. It will grow and develop improving the critical thinking of healthcare providers caring for mothers and their neonates. Harper College is fortunate to have a visionary Foundation which believes in transforming the future with technological advancement and its incorporation into the curriculum and community. Thank you."

## R.E.A.C.H. Summer Bridge Program for Under-Prepared, First Time College Students

Department: Multicultural Learning/ Studet Development

To provide under-prepared students with the skill sets needed to succeed in college.

#### **Latino Teen Summit**

Department: Enrollment and Marketing To provide Hispanic high school students (freshmen through seniors) with an intense one-day symposium on education and their future by introducing them to current college students and Hispanic business professionals.

## **Developmental Advocates Program**

Department: Student Development

To implement a program that helps students who are nearing Academic Suspension improve their academic performance by partnering them with a Peer Mentor who was on Academic Probation but currently in Academic Good Standing.

# Reaching Out to Rising Business Leaders

Department: Harper College for Businesses

To provide training and networking opportunities to rising business leaders in the community, including front-line supervisors and mid-level managers.

# **Developmental Textbook Loan Program for Athletes**

Department: Wellness and Human Performance

To create a textbook rental program for student athletes who have difficulty purchasing books during to financial constraints.

## 9-1-1 Call Taking and Radio Dispatch Training Simulator

Department: Health Careers and Public Safety

To purchase and train students on a portable electronic multi-line call taking and radio dispatch training system that allows for the realistic simulation of the phone call taking and radio dispatching functions necessary for police, fire and EMS emergency communications.

# Golf Open 2007



Motorola Award for Excellence Recipient Andrea Rohrbacher and Former Chicago Bears Place kicker Kevin Butler



The Square D foursome took home the 1st place trophy for the 2nd year in a row. From left to right: David Smith, Bob Fiorani, Dr. Breuder, Erik Ciotti, and Marty Ciotti

Despite a windy and rainy start, the Harper College Educational Foundation Golf Open 2007 turned out to be a sunny success, raising over \$55,000 for Harper programs and scholarships.

Please save the date for the 2008 Golf Open on Monday, June 2, 2008! ■

# **Event Sponsor**



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John and Rita Canning Harper College Robbins, Schwartz, Nicholas, Lifton & Taylor, Ltd.

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# Harper Educational Foundation Scholarships and Awards 2006–2007

The Foundation extends our congratulations to these student scholars and award recipients and our appreciation to the donors who make these scholarships possible!

Candace Christman Henrietta Pappas Mahogany Washington Patricia Wayman Charles Fabrikant Samson Fabrikant Gina Witt Sharon Mistic Meghan O'Brien Bryan Ackerlund Craig Manze Arely Haro Delia Jaime Claudia Aceves Erick Arevalo David Behnen Eric Behnen Jonathan Bentch Victoria Castellanos Stephanie Emery Vicente Heredia Trea Jackson Rebecca Klingler Agatha Kuc Besian Kumria Daniel Lara Joshua Ledbetter James Matheson Nancy Munoz Shahina Rehman Perla Rodriguez Mike Schiola Idris Sunmola Lenita Taylor Laura Tracy Honorine Umubyeyi Sotero Vertiz Timothy Meindle Sonio Gikashvili Shawna Jansen Devanshi Pandya Hiren Thakkar Carolina Davis Ryan Kuperman Dawn Carlson Carol Standish Alyssa Kulpa Phillip Baumann Jimmy Bruno-Danko Maggie Chen Maria Dela Cruz David Gopanchuk Nicholas Hubley Jedd Lim Elaine Shen

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Agatha Kuc

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Donald G. Albrecht Memorial Endowment Scholarship

Donald G. Albrecht Memorial Endowment Scholarship

Dr. Ernest B. and Mrs. D. Kris Howard Endowment

For Community Service

Dr. Charles Shaner Memorial Scholarship For Dental Hygiene

Ryan Kuperman James DiSanti Manuel Rea Kurt Fraser Peter Kelley Matthew Kou Oleksandr Tkachenko Michael Webb Julie Hoffman Robert Barras Jessica Camargo Eva Kwasniak Henrietta Pappas Lucy Blis Sarah Green Kurleen Nowickas Greg Guther Richard Wagner Amber Martin Duma Mkwanawzi Patrick Mullaney Marlo Peralta Khargbir Singh Cristina Zenaty Kelli Rhodes Laurel Watson Amy Biancofiori Mariam Afzal Katarzyna Daniliszyn Mariya Listratenko Gordon Malling Tomas Gerlich **Dustin Berthold** Ronald Helvey Randi Kiwaczyk Alison Scheublein Joseph Wieczorek Matthew Clark Denise Cross Kristian Garay Scott Shanahan Daniel Wille Cale Piepenburg Timothy Turinsky Angela Coradini Tina Parratore Penka Perfanov Clara Begue Niket Brahmbhatt Jaclyn Corso

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Nils Andrew Johnson Memorial Culinary Arts Scholarship

Nils Andrew Johnson Memorial Culinary Arts Scholarship

Northrop Grumman Engineering Scholarship (2+1)

Northrop Grumman Engineering Scholarship (2+1)

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Lane Elvin

Janet Saewert

Hannah McHugh

Ralph Kramarski

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## **Share Your Harper Story**

Lashanda Williams

How has Harper College had a positive impact on your life? When you discuss Harper with a friend or associate, what are some of the first things that come to mind? What stories about or experiences with the College would you like to share with others?

Women's Program Scholarship

Harper College is collecting stories from its alumni, donors, students, faculty, staff and community members at large to share during its 40th anniversary year. We invite you to share your stories.

To submit your story, visit harpercollege.edu and search "success story" or contact Mike Barzacchini, Director of Marketing Services at mbarzacc@harpercollege.edu.

Thank you in advance for sharing your good news about Harper College.

# William Rainey Harper College Educational Foundation 2007-2008 Members

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