

THE PHILANTHROPIC
MAGAZINE OF
HARPER COLLEGE

COMMUNITY

CATALYST

THE PROMISE OF A BRIGHTER FUTURE

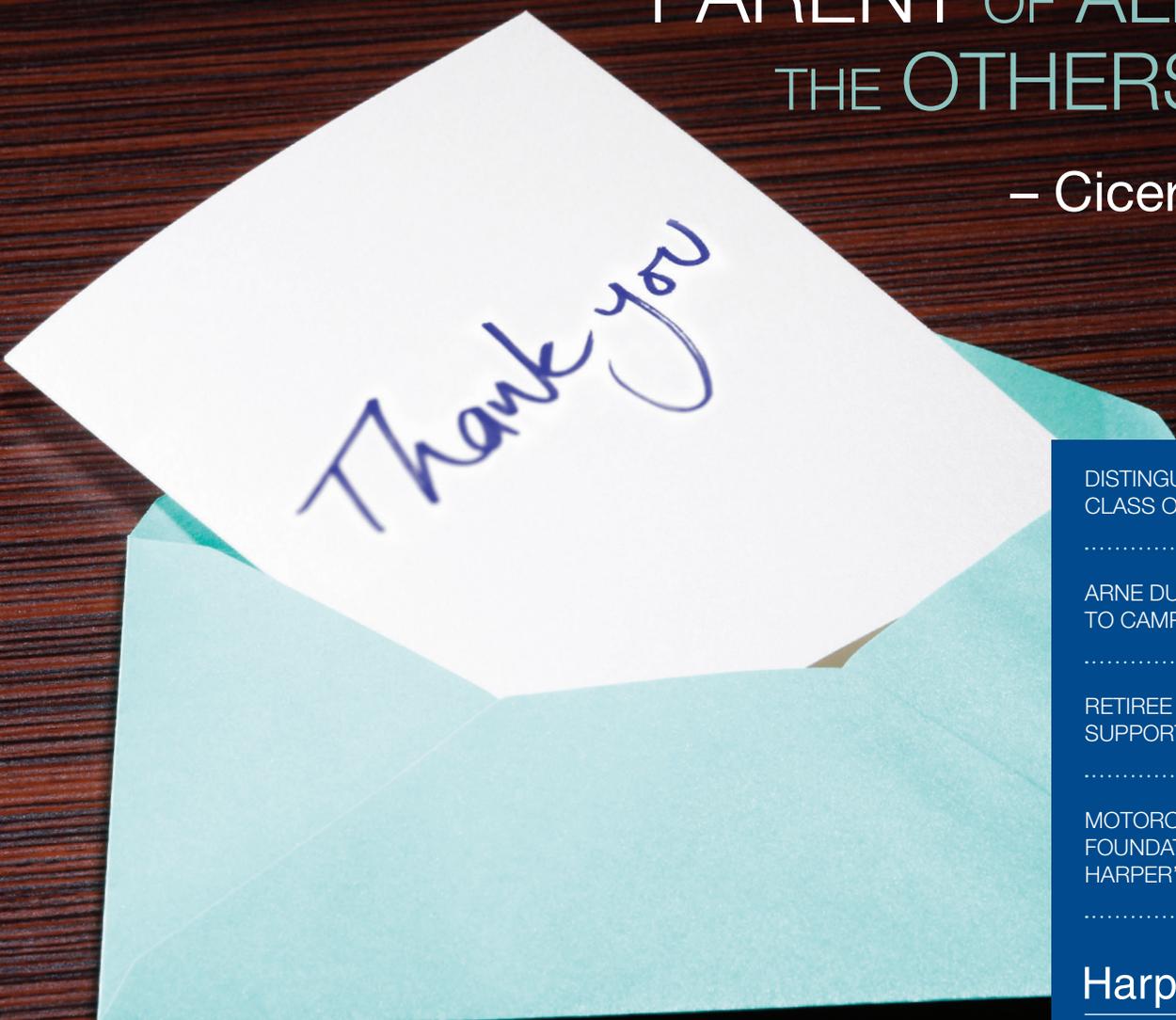
FALL 2015

AN INVESTMENT IN
THE COMMUNITY:

Vince and Pat Foglia's
Transformational Gift

GRATITUDE
IS NOT ONLY THE GREATEST
OF VIRTUES, BUT THE
PARENT OF ALL
THE OTHERS.

– Cicero



Thank you

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI
CLASS OF 2015 INDUCTED

ARNE DUNCAN'S VISIT
TO CAMPUS

RETIREE AND HUSBAND
SUPPORT STUDENTS

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS
FOUNDATION HONORS
HARPER'S BEST

Harper College
EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION



FOUNDATION BOARD PRESIDENT KATHLEEN A. GILMER

Last year, the Harper College Educational Foundation Board of Directors voted to raise \$5million to support the Harper College Promise Scholarship Program – an ambitious goal. We are enthusiastic about the Promise Program because we know it can impact the lives of thousands of future Harper students, their families and our local businesses.

As Board President, it is the students that Harper College serves that motivate me. They are hardworking, dedicated, smart and talented individuals who have chosen to attend Harper for a variety of reasons. I am pleased to share some of our students' stories with you – a single mother earning her GED, a student leader and athlete and an aspiring engineer.

We celebrate all of our students and their success. Many of our graduates have distinguished themselves in their careers and in service to their community. The profiles of the most recent class of Distinguished Alumni are highlighted in this issue.

Many of Harper's students and alumni were supported in their journeys by the generosity of donors like you. I am proud of Harper College students and the determination they show in their achievements and I thank you for your support.

A LIFELONG INVESTMENT IN HARPER STUDENTS

For 30 years, Mary Ann Jirak committed her life to helping Harper College students recognize their potential, develop their skills and achieve success in their careers. Now, 15 years after her retirement, Mary Ann and her husband Don continue their dedication to Harper College students with their gifts to the Harper College Educational Foundation.

Mary Ann Jirak's relationship with Harper College began in 1970. Mary Ann was a recent graduate from Northern Illinois University where she was a Business and Education double major. She always knew she wanted to teach, and found Harper College to be a great fit despite her being the same age and sometimes younger than many of her students. Mary Ann loved teaching, directly impacting the academic development of her students and facilitating their future success.

Her first job at Harper College was in the Business/Social Science Division as the coordinator of the executive secretarial program. This program helped students, primarily women at the time, enhance their skills as they planned to enter or re-enter the workforce. In her role, Mary Ann helped identify internships for students in the one-year program by building connections with local businesses.

Through her many years with the executive secretarial program, Mary Ann consulted with local businesses who hired her to upgrade and train their office staff. She concluded her fulfilling career as the Director of the Career Transition Center, now the Community Career Services Center, offering programs to assist community members with the skills needed to search for employment.

“Harper is near and dear to me because they have given me opportunities since 1970 to both develop my professional career and develop programs to serve students and the community. Harper was good to us as a family and because of that, giving back to Harper and Harper students is very important to us.”



Don and Mary Ann Jirak

During this time, Mary Ann met Don through mutual college friends and have been married for 32 years.

Don, a Navy veteran who served four years, worked in the corporate world for 18 years when he began thinking of buying his own business. At the same time, the owner of Audiometric Associates, a local Hoffman Estates company, knew of Mary Ann through her work in the business community and contacted her to see if she knew anyone interested in purchasing the company. Mary Ann informed Don of the opportunity and the rest is history. During his 11 years of ownership, Don referred many of his employees to Harper College for additional training and education. One particular employee took advantage of the many opportunities Harper had to offer and ended up purchasing the company from Don.

Around 2005, Mary Ann and Don contacted the Harper College Educational Foundation and expressed an interest in giving back to Harper College by including Harper in their estate plans. They established this generous planned gift to help to empower future Harper College students to gain the skills, education and training necessary to help them be successful in their careers.

Recently, Mary Ann and Don also created the Mary Ann and Donald Jirak Endowment Scholarship to support students enrolled in the Women's Program, a program that supports the educational goals of students who are returning to school and re-entering the workforce. Mary Ann felt that a scholarship for students in the Women's Program naturally coincided with her passion for assisting these students.

Mary Ann personally knows the importance of scholarships, as she would not have been able to attend NIU without the support of the scholarship she received. She states, "It can be tough to achieve your goals without someone supporting you in the endeavor."

She continues, "Harper is near and dear to me because they have given me opportunities since 1970 to both develop my professional career and develop programs to serve students and the community. Harper was good to us as a family and because of that, giving back to Harper and Harper students is very important to us."

Mary Ann and Don hope that their gift will help Harper continue to develop programs that serve students and the community. Mary Ann believes that the Promise Scholarship Program is one such program that supports Harper's legacy of community support. In the end, their passion for Harper College lies in the same motivation that Mary Ann felt 45 years ago – helping students attain their educational dreams.

HARPER HERITAGE SOCIETY

Mary Ann and Don Jirak are members of the Harper Heritage Society – a society that recognizes and honors donors that have arranged for the Harper College Educational Foundation in their estate plans. Gifts in support of future Harper College students can be made through bequests or by making the Harper College Educational Foundation the beneficiary of your IRA or life insurance policy. To find out more, please visit harpercollege.plannedgiving.org where you can read about the many ways you can support Harper students, meet other members of the Harper Heritage Society and request more information about including the Harper College Educational Foundation in your estate plans.



FROM THE DESK OF LAURA J. BROWN

Excitement awaits the class of 2019 as they have the opportunity to register this fall for the Harper Promise Scholarship Program. The Promise Scholarship allows local high school students from Districts 211, 214 and 220 the opportunity to earn free tuition to Harper College if they spend their four years of high school meeting standards in regards to attendance, rigor (graduating ready for college-level classes), quality (maintaining decent grades), persistence (graduating on time) and community service. This program is only possible through the generosity of donors who have embraced the program and understand the impact that it will have on both the families and businesses in the northwest suburbs.

In fact, it is through our donor's generosity that thousands of Harper students receive both financial and emotional support to pursue their educational dreams and achieve their goals. In this issue of the Catalyst we introduce you to some of these donors – a manufacturing association, a Harper retiree and her husband and local business leaders, whose generosity have – and will continue to – impact the lives of Harper College students.

We are grateful for the continuing generosity of our donors and our community. Thank you for all that you do to help make the future brighter for our students. To find out more about the Harper Promise Scholarship program visit;

harpercollege.edu/promise

Warm regards

Laura J. Brown
Chief Advancement Officer
Harper College Educational Foundation

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING STUDENTS LIKE ME



Montserrat

The Harper College Educational Foundation is fortunate to have dedicated and determined students who have interest in volunteering their time to help the Foundation with special events. Montserrat is a current Harper College student, Foundation scholarship recipient and Foundation volunteer.

Here is her story:

“Two years ago I came to Harper College to earn my GED. As a single mom, I knew an education was the pathway to a better life for my three children and me. When I began the GED program, I was not sure if I could do it. The demands of raising three small children, working and taking classes...it often felt like more than I could handle. However, the supportive community at Harper College helped me to believe in myself and accomplish things that even I did not think were possible. Graduating with my GED was one of the greatest moments of my life!

After I completed my GED, I was able to transition into a business program with scholarship support offered through the Harper College Educational Foundation. Also, through my participation in Harper's Women's Program, I was able to earn Foundation scholarships to help offset the costs of tuition and books. It is encouraging to know that so many people donate to help students like me. I am now working toward receiving an associate degree in business next semester. Thank you for being a part of my supportive community at Harper.

The dream of a better life for me and my children is within my grasp! I would not have made it this far without the support of donors like you. Thank you!”

To support students like Montserrat, visit:

donate.harpercollege.edu/2015

FMA METAL FABRICATION LAB HARD HAT CELEBRATION



Harper College and FMA representatives stand in front of a rendering of the FMA Metal Fabrication Lab.

The Fabricators & Manufacturers Association (FMA) has partnered with Harper College for the construction of a new \$1.5 million facility designed to train critically needed skilled workers for area manufacturers and related businesses. The new 6,000 square foot FMA Metal Fabrication Lab will double the size of Harper's current manufacturing lab.

A hard hat ceremony for the FMA Metal Fabrication Lab was held on Monday, June 29, 2015. The lab is expected to open in late fall 2015.

The new facility will support Harper's Advanced Manufacturing Program that trains students for high tech manufacturing careers in mechatronics/automation, precision machining, metal fabrication and supply chain management/logistics. The program offers industry-endorsed skills certificates and paid internships with 75 local manufacturers.

The expanded facility will train up to 600 students annually and will house state of the art equipment such as lasers, turrets, press brakes and robotic welders. Some of the equipment will be donated by FMA members, manufacturers and business owners. According to research from Deloitte and The Manufacturing Institute, the U.S. faces a shortage of nearly 2 million manufacturing workers over the next decade.

"Two years ago the chairman of the FMA Board of Directors challenged us to develop a new way for the Association to create a workforce solution for our industry that would have a positive impact for a large number of member companies," said Ed Youdell, FMA president and CEO. "Establishing a stand-alone FMA University would

have been cost prohibitive. Through discussions with Harper College, we found that partnering with an established program would be both cost-efficient and give us a speed-to-market advantage."

The \$500,000 FMA grant has a unique structure: \$400,000 will be released over the next five years and will be contingent on enrollment benchmarks and \$100,000 will go to manufacturing students who qualify for the Harper Promise Scholarship. The Promise Scholarship guarantees area students up to two free years of tuition if they get solid grades, have good attendance, don't repeat classes and perform community service during all four years in high school.

"It's a unique approach," said Youdell. "The College has to grow the program in order to take full advantage of the grant and the timed disbursements will keep the association actively engaged in the process."

"We appreciate our partnership with the FMA in helping us train workers for good paying and family sustaining jobs in manufacturing," said Harper College President Dr. Kenneth Ender. "None of us can solve the shortage of skilled workers in isolation. By working together, we can ensure that our local manufacturers have the highly trained workforce they need to compete in a 21st century global economy."

EQUIPMENT DONATIONS PREPARE MANUFACTURING STUDENTS FOR THE WORKPLACE

With the anticipated opening of the FMA Metal Fabrication Lab, manufacturing faculty have been partnering with companies who have interest in donating their equipment to Harper College so that students have experience utilizing up-to-date and current equipment during their training at Harper College. We thank the following companies for their recent in-kind donations of equipment to our Manufacturing Program.

- Amada America
- BIG Kaiser Precision Tooling, Inc.
- Miller Electric
- MC Machinery Systems, Inc.
(Mitsubishi EDM/Laser)

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FOUNDATION HONORS HARPER'S BEST

For more than 30 years, the Motorola Solutions Foundation has been an advocate and supporter of Harper College students and the Harper College Educational Foundation. Two of the Foundation's legacies at Harper College are the Motorola Solutions Foundation Award for Excellence Scholarship and the Motorola Solutions Endowed Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence.

The scholarship is the highest honor a Harper College student can achieve and is awarded to two students annually who demonstrate achievement academically and in their community. The recipients speak at the annual Harper College convocation ceremony.

The contributions of an outstanding Harper College educator are also recognized at Harper's convocation ceremony with the presentation

of the Motorola Solutions Distinguished Faculty Award. The Award is given to a faculty member who has contributed to the educational experience of the students, to the growth and development of the College and to service in professional and community organizations. The award is determined by a committee of faculty, administrators and students.

We are pleased to thank the Motorola Solutions Foundation for their continuing support of our students and faculty and to recognize this year's Motorola Solutions Award for Excellence and Distinguished Faculty Award recipients.

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS FOUNDATION AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE RECIPIENTS



Kimberly Butler's high school yearbook caption read, "The girl who does it all," and that is the truth. Kimberly is a 2015/16 recipient of the Motorola Solutions Foundation Award for Excellence. Kimberly maintains a 4.0 GPA at Harper College was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa and is a part of the Harper Honors Program. However, her involvement does not stop there. Kimberly has a love for sports. She was a goalie on her high school's water polo team and realizing Harper did not have a team, she decided to start a water polo club here. After submitting a student constitution

in which she outlined the guidelines and purpose of the organization, Kimberly recruited interested Harper students and presented her ideas to the Student Government Board. After the board's approval, the club was started. Kimberly will be serving as president of the Water Polo Club during the 2015/16 year. Currently, Kimberly is pursuing an Associate in Science degree from Harper College. She will then go on to major in business and education and receive her bachelor's, then master's degree in order to fulfill her dream of being a high school counselor.



With a 4.0 GPA, **Ryan Eberhardt** is a participant in the Engineering Pathways program at Harper College and is a 2015/16 recipient of the Motorola Solutions Foundation Award for Excellence. In high school, Ryan led an organization that hosted workshops and seminars on various advanced technology topics and provided hardware resources to support student endeavors. He also started a summer camp bringing free, advanced STEM education to local junior-high and high school students and taught two intersession courses at the Illinois Math and Science Academy (IMSA). At Harper, he continues to advise technical

organizations, help individual students get started with programming and will be serving as the president of the Harper Society of Engineers in the coming year. Ryan is very passionate about using his talents to help others wherever possible and has volunteered to create websites and write programs when time allows. After one more year at Harper College, Ryan will be transferring to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he will earn a master's degree in computer science in order to study machine learning and scalable algorithms and explore the field of biotechnology.

“Receiving the Motorola Solutions Award for Excellence really means a lot to me.

But more than just a financial component, my selection is a sign of trust. My selection is a sign that someone, somewhere, thought I was good enough to invest thousands of dollars in my education. And that speaks volumes. Whenever I feel I am falling short of my expectations, I remind myself of the investment others have made in me and I become determined to do better. That motivation cannot be underestimated, and for that, thank you.”

— Ryan Eberhardt

MOTOROLA SOLUTIONS ENDOWED FACULTY AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE



Dr. Kenneth Ender, Harper College President; Monica Mueller, Motorola Solutions; Kathi Nevels and Kathy Gilmer, Harper College Educational Foundation Board President

We are proud to announce **Kathi Nevels** as the 2015 recipient of the Motorola Solutions Foundation Endowed Award for Teaching Excellence. During her 12 years at Harper, Kathi has made significant contributions as a counseling faculty member. Kathy served as a co-chair of Harper’s Early Alert Strategy Team, a program that has been recognized with multiple awards. Much of the success of this program is due to Kathi’s leadership. Kathi is also active in Harper’s shared governance serving many years on the Academic Standards Committee. One of Kathi’s nominators says it best, “During her time at Harper, she has been an exemplary leader. Through everything she does, Kathi always holds the student and his/her best interests at the core of her efforts. She is a tireless professional who every day brings her best to the students and colleagues with whom she works.”

The following letter was written by a former student of Kathi’s and submitted as a part of her nomination for the Motorola Solutions Award.

Hello Kathi,

You may not remember me, but I would like to pass along a most sincere thank you. I graduated from nursing at Harper College in 2007 and my name at the time was Sarah Miter. I was failing classes and was referred to you to get me back on track. I thought that school was out of the question after failing my first two semesters. You sat down with me and mapped out my school schedules and helped me find my way.

I graduated in 2007 with my degree in nursing and worked saving countless lives in critical care. These hands that were once struggling, and saved by your support, saved several lives. I recently retired from nursing at The Ohio State University Medical Center where I cared for the most critical patients post open-heart surgery, as well as lung and heart transplantation.

I don’t know if you remember me, let alone this conversation, but I sat down with you during my last year and told you I wanted to become a doctor. You said, “I have no doubt you can do it, but let’s finish what you started first”. I did. I graduated, practiced nursing, and then went back to college at Northern Illinois University to obtain my Bachelors in Biology. I graduated with cum laude honors in 2012. I took some time to apply to medical school and have finally got in! I got into The Ohio State University College of Medicine, which ranks #31 in the country for research. (Next to Northwestern University stats!! YAY!)

This would not at ALL be possible without your coaching. I am sitting here trying not to cry while typing this, but it has been such a long journey that started with me meeting you. Thank you for believing in me. Thank you for coaching me. Thank you for launching me on a path where I can serve those in need. Think of all the lives I will touch because of the advising you gave me.

Again, thank you from the bottom of my heart. This journey has been long and arduous, but I am so happy to have the opportunity to be on this path.

Sarah (Miter) Hatch

Sarah is also a former Harper College Educational Foundation scholarship recipient. She received the James F. and Valerie D. Arnesen Biology Endowment Scholarship in 2004-2005.

AN INVESTMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

“We have a moral obligation to provide every opportunity to change dreams and lives and create jobs in our local community.”

— Dr. David Schuler
Superintendent Dist. 214

Like many kids, Ivette Castanon made a few trips to the emergency room growing up. The experiences resonated with her, and as a result, the Palatine High School freshman says she knew she wanted to be a doctor before she could even spell the word.

On Wednesday, September 9, 2015, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan told more than 150 area education, business and philanthropic leaders gathered on the Harper College campus that he envisioned two things happening a decade from now. One, Ivette would be a college graduate – the first in her family – and on her way to medical school. And two, the Northwest suburbs would be reaping the many benefits of Harper College’s Promise Scholarship Program.

“Our communities are going to thrive,” Secretary Duncan said. “We’re going to attract good jobs, we’re going to attract businesses. You’re in the game in a really big way.”

He added, “I appreciate the collective commitment to what this is going to do to strengthen this entire region. It’s a really big deal long term.”

Secretary Duncan visited Harper to recognize its Promise Program, which offers free tuition for up to two years to every public high school student in the district if the student meets requirements for college and work readiness. Those requirements during high school include good attendance, a “C” average or better each year, performing community service and graduating on time and college-ready.

The Education Secretary discussed the importance of public-private partnerships and programs such as Promise as part of a panel moderated by Harper President Dr. Kenneth Ender in the Wojcik Conference Center. Other panelists included Ivette, Harper Promise parent Tanya Williams, District 214 Superintendent Dr. David Schuler, retired Nation Pizza and Foods Chief Operations Officer Mike Alagna and San Juan College President Dr. Toni Hopper Pendergrass.

“We firmly believe that every child will need some form of post-secondary education in order to survive and thrive and earn a living wage in this ever-changing global economy,” said Dr. Schuler, who noted that his district’s poverty rate has jumped from eight percent to more than 30 percent over the last 11 years. “We have a moral obligation to provide every opportunity to change dreams and lives and create jobs in our local community.”

One philanthropic couple who firmly believe in the Promise Program’s ability to change the trajectory of thousands of lives provided a big boost. Dr. Ender announced Vince and Pat Foglia of North Barrington are donating \$1 million to support the College’s efforts.



Pat and Vince Foglia

Dr. Ender said the Foglias aren’t donors, but rather investors. “This is an investment, this isn’t a gift,” Dr. Ender said. “(They’re) not giving away a thing.”

Secretary Duncan concluded his remarks on an inspirational note, saying Washington is more likely to step up and change if it sees leadership from around the country at places such as Harper.

“A high school diploma is fantastic, but it is absolutely insufficient to getting a good middle-class, high-wage job,” he said. “So, the goal has to be for every young person today to think, ‘I am graduating high school and I’m going to some form of higher education.’ This community is saying that’s going to be the norm.”

For more information about the Promise Scholarship program, visit harpercollege.edu/promise



Dr. Kenneth Ender, Ivette Castanov, Arne Duncan

OPPORTUNITY



Arne Duncan

“Our communities are going to thrive. We’re going to attract good jobs, we’re going to attract businesses. You’re in the game in a really big way.”

— Arne Duncan

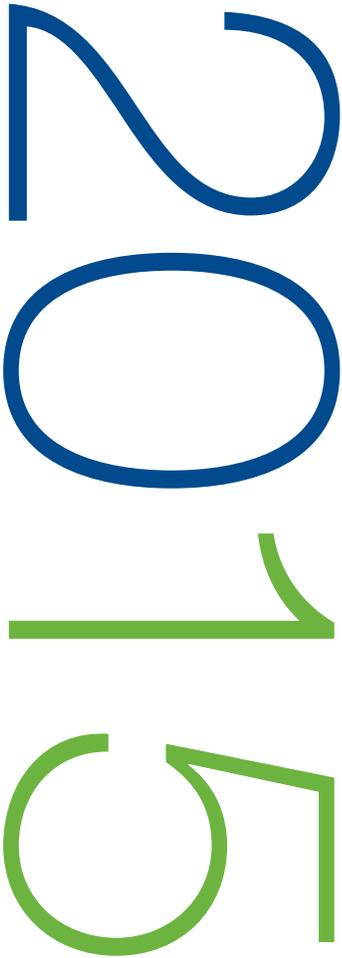


Harper Promise parent Tanya Williams and her son, Tyler (a future Harper Promise Scholar)



Arne Duncan with future Harper Promise Scholars from Palatine High School

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI HONOREES



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI OF 2015

On October 28, 2015 we honored the eighth class of Distinguished Alumni at a special reception and awards ceremony.

With outstanding accomplishments in their professions and the community, these amazing alumni from Harper College are inspiring examples of the importance of education, goals and dreams.

The Distinguished Alumni Awards were started in 2008 as part of the College's 40th Anniversary. Since then, 50 alumni have been formally recognized for their outstanding professional accomplishments and service to the community.



VLADIMIR GONCHAROFF, PH.D.

Dr. Vladimir Goncharoff's illustrious career in academia began at Harper College, where he received a full ride through the Trustee Scholarship. After graduating in 1976 with an Associate in Science, he went on to earn both a master's degree and doctorate in electrical engineering and computer science from Northwestern University. Since 1983, Goncharoff has been an assistant professor and lecturer in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He's a five-time recipient of the Silver Circle Award for Excellence in Teaching, a recognition senior engineering students bestow upon their favorite professor.

His College of Engineering colleagues honored him as the first recipient of the Harold Simon Award for Excellence in Teaching and twice selected him for the Faculty Teaching Award. Goncharoff has also received appointments as adjunct research professor for the San Diego State University Foundation and adjunct professor at Northeastern University at Qinhuangdao in China.

Goncharoff has enjoyed sparking a new generation's interest in pre-engineering as an affiliate professor for Project Lead The Way, the nation's leading provider of K-12 science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs. He has volunteered at the American-Ukrainian Youth Association in Palatine for more than 30 years, where he serves on its board.



RICHARD PARLIER

When Richard Parlier's work ethic and smarts earned him the opportunity to become a heating and air conditioning service technician, he turned to Harper College to bolster his technical skills. Today, he owns First Point Mechanical Services LLC, a multimillion-dollar commercial HVAC company serving northern Illinois.

After leaving Harper in 1993, Parlier climbed the ranks at V.A. Smith Company. Exelon took over the business and named Parlier general manager of service operations. In 2001, he left to join a startup company Westside Mechanical North Division as its president.

In 2007, Parlier became part-owner and a managing partner of Westside. He bought the remaining stake in 2015 and renamed the company First Point Mechanical Services, where he provides leadership for more than 30 employees.

Parlier and his wife, Carrie, are the proud parents of two adopted daughters. Their experience prompted the couple to support the Save Abandoned Babies Foundation. They appeared on several newscasts to share their story, and successfully advocated for legislation that extended the time a parent has to safely relinquish an infant to 30 days old.

Parlier has also actively supported several organizations including Kids Fight Cancer, the Special Olympics, St. Ignatius College Prep and the DuPage Medical Group's efforts to fund clinical research.



RENEE SPACAPAN, DNP

Renee Spacapan's first tour as a Harper College student came after high school when she studied banking and received her associate degree in 1983. Her second came 21 years later when she returned as a mother of five daughters and a desire to launch a career in nursing.

In 2006, Spacapan graduated with an Associate of Applied Science. She went on to earn her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Northern Illinois University and a Master of Science in Nursing from Saint Xavier University. In 2015, she completed her Doctor of Nursing Practice from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Spacapan was also awarded a grant and fellowship in palliative medicine from the Coleman Foundation in Chicago, which consisted of a two-year training program for 30 highly skilled nurses and physicians.

Today, Spacapan works as a nurse practitioner at Nephrology Associates of Northern Illinois in Elk Grove Village. She manages end-stage renal disease patients on dialysis and is responsible for their care.

Spacapan never considers herself completely off-duty, regularly offering to visit her elderly neighbors to monitor blood pressure, give injections and perform dressing changes. She also volunteers at Off the Street Club, Chicago's oldest boys and girls club.



LAURIE TURPIN-SODERHOLM

A meeting and event professional with 20 years of planning and operational experience, Laurie Turpin-Soderholm has planned and executed domestic and international meetings, incentive trips and special events in more than 40 countries on five continents.

As a senior project manager for Denver-based Global Access Meetings and throughout her career, Turpin-Soderholm has managed to incorporate her love of theater, travel and community service. Those passions took shape at Harper College, where she excelled as a student, served as a peer counselor and participated in numerous theater productions both onstage and off.

After earning her Associate of Arts degree in 1982, Turpin-Soderholm graduated with honors from Georgetown University and later completed a master's degree in theater at Northwestern University. She held positions at the International Theatre Festival of Chicago, Creative Group Inc. and helped plan and manage special events including Brach's Chicago Holiday Parade and Mrs. T's Chicago Triathlon. She also had leadership roles for sponsors at six Olympic Games.

Turpin-Soderholm has long valued giving back to her community, offering her time and talent planning events at Unity in Chicago, where she sits on the board, and Abundant Life Spiritual Center in Deerfield. She's also involved with the Harper College Educational Foundation's Annual Giving and Alumni committees and co-funds an endowed scholarship.



JOSEPH QUINN

When Joseph Quinn was a student at Harper College, a professor helped him see the importance of following one's passion. For Quinn, that meant pursuing a career in finance while committing himself to community service. Today, Quinn is a vice president and regional sales manager for BMO Harris Bank, as well as a prominent civic leader and active volunteer for numerous organizations.

After earning his associate degree at Harper in 2000, Quinn transferred to Northeastern Illinois University to complete his bachelor's degree. He's currently enrolled in Northern Illinois University's Master of Business Administration program.

As part of the BMO Harris team, Quinn is responsible for the performance, support and guidance of more than 80 branches and retail executives. He has received numerous awards and recognitions, turned around struggling teams and managed rollouts of new positions.

Quinn believes he has a social responsibility to give back to his community. He has held leadership positions with the Palatine Area Chamber of Commerce, Young Entrepreneur Academy, Palatine Jaycees, Metropolis Performing Arts Centre in Arlington Heights and the Palatine Library Foundation Board. He's also involved with various Harper College Educational Foundation committees and other community organizations.

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RECEPTION SPONSORS:

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STAND UP AND BE COUNTED



Jack Lloyd took a look around the BMO Harris Bank conference room in Rolling Meadows and reveled at all the ways Harper College had impacted each and every person there.

"I don't know that we'd be able to operate without our Harper alumni," said Lloyd, BMO Harris Bank market president. "Look at how many of our employees have been trained and educated there. The number is absolutely huge."

Nearly two dozen BMO Harris Bank employees from a variety of branches recently gathered for a special ceremony through Harper's Stand Up and Be Counted initiative. The newly created program aims to recognize employers throughout the community who have hired Harper alumni and to connect with Harper alumni in the workplace. Jim Meier, Harper Foundation Board member and co-chair of the Alumni Committee, presented Lloyd with a plaque of appreciation.

"Harper College is giving people the foundation they need to be successful in life," said Jim Meier, "Our alumni go on to make significant contributions to their organizations and communities, and BMO Harris Bank is an important partner in making that happen."

Lloyd shared how his family moved to Rolling Meadows when it was incorporated exactly 60 years ago. They watched Harper, which will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2017, evolve into the institution it is today.

"I knew Harper when it was still a corn field," said Lloyd, who could name several siblings, nieces and nephews who attended over the years. "BMO Harris has a strong alliance with Harper, which is critical because of the role the College plays in our community, our businesses and our families."

The Harper College Educational Foundation has also honored AMITA Health/Alexian Brothers Health System and their employees who are alumni at earlier Stand Up and Be Counted celebrations.

Joe Quinn, vice president and regional sales manager, who also serves as co-chair of the Harper Alumni Committee similarly spoke of how Harper had helped both him and his sister "reset" so they could better choose a career path they'd be passionate about taking. He acknowledged that many alumni couldn't attend the event since branches had to stay open, but he encouraged his colleagues to spread their renewed enthusiasm for their alma mater.

"Take this back to your branches, tell them how important our relationship is with Harper," Quinn said.

Based in Chicago, BMO Harris Bank has more than 600 branches and approximately 1,300 ATMs in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, Minnesota, Arizona and Florida. BMO Harris Bank is part of BMO Financial Group, a North American bank with more than 1,500 branches and a combined North American deposit base of approximately \$180 billion, and combined U.S. businesses that rank as the 12th largest commercial bank, by assets, in the United States.



Jack Lloyd and Jim Meier

27th ANNUAL GOLF OPEN



On Monday, June 8, 2015, more than 130 golfers attended the Harper College Educational Foundation 27th Annual Golf Open.

Thanks to our generous sponsors, including event sponsor Robbins Schwarz, this year's Golf Open was the most successful ever, raising more than \$118,000 net to support Harper students and programs.

Although storms ended the golfers' games a bit early, guests still enjoyed several hours of golf at the Inverness Golf Club as well as an Awards Dinner featuring live auction items such as Bears, Cubs and Bulls tickets and the opportunity to underwrite tuition for Harper College students, which raised over \$23,000 for the Harper College Promise Scholarship.

Support from the Golf Open fulfills the promise of a brighter future for Harper students like Zach Mayo, a Harper College Educational Foundation scholarship recipient, who spoke to guests at the Golf Open Award dinner. As Zach shared during the Awards Dinner, "It's people like you who make the Harper community all it can be and it's comforting to know people like you exist."

We thank our sponsors and supporters for their support and generosity. Save the date for our 28th Annual Golf Open on Monday, June 13, 2016 at Inverness Golf Club.

GOLF OPEN 2015 SPONSORS

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GIVING TUESDAY

On Tuesday, December 1, the Harper College Educational Foundation is participating in #GivingTuesday. For more information visit:

donate.harpercollege.edu/givingtuesday



#GIVINGTUESDAYHARPER



NEW BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

The Harper College Educational Foundation welcomes Gerald E. Lewis, Jr. to its Board of Directors.

Gerald is currently Vice-President/Regional Premier Services Manager for BMO Harris leading teams in the Chicago North and South markets. He is a graduate of Northwestern University in Evanston, IL where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and minor in Business Administration. Gerald is a former fighter pilot in the Washington D.C. Air National Guard based out of Andrews AFB, Maryland.

Gerald has more than 15 years of banking experience in progressive leadership roles and has been with BMO since 2007. He has also been actively involved in the BMO African-American League of Professionals as the former president for the organization, and currently serves as an Advisory Board member.

In addition to his responsibilities within the bank, Gerald currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Saint John Community Outreach Organization. He is also an active member of the Northwestern University Black Alumni Association and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

THANK YOU

Your financial investment in Harper College through the Educational Foundation helps Harper College students move closer toward accomplishing their goals and realizing their dreams.

Thank you for partnering with us in order to inspire the transformation of individual lives, the workforce and society.

Last academic year (July 2014–June 2015)



466 students received scholarship support



\$784,864 distributed in scholarships, grants and awards



9 groups of Harper faculty and staff were awarded **\$80,000** to fund innovation on campus for the 2015-16 academic year



98% of scholarships awarded



9 new scholarships created