

THE PHILANTHROPIC
MAGAZINE OF
HARPER COLLEGE

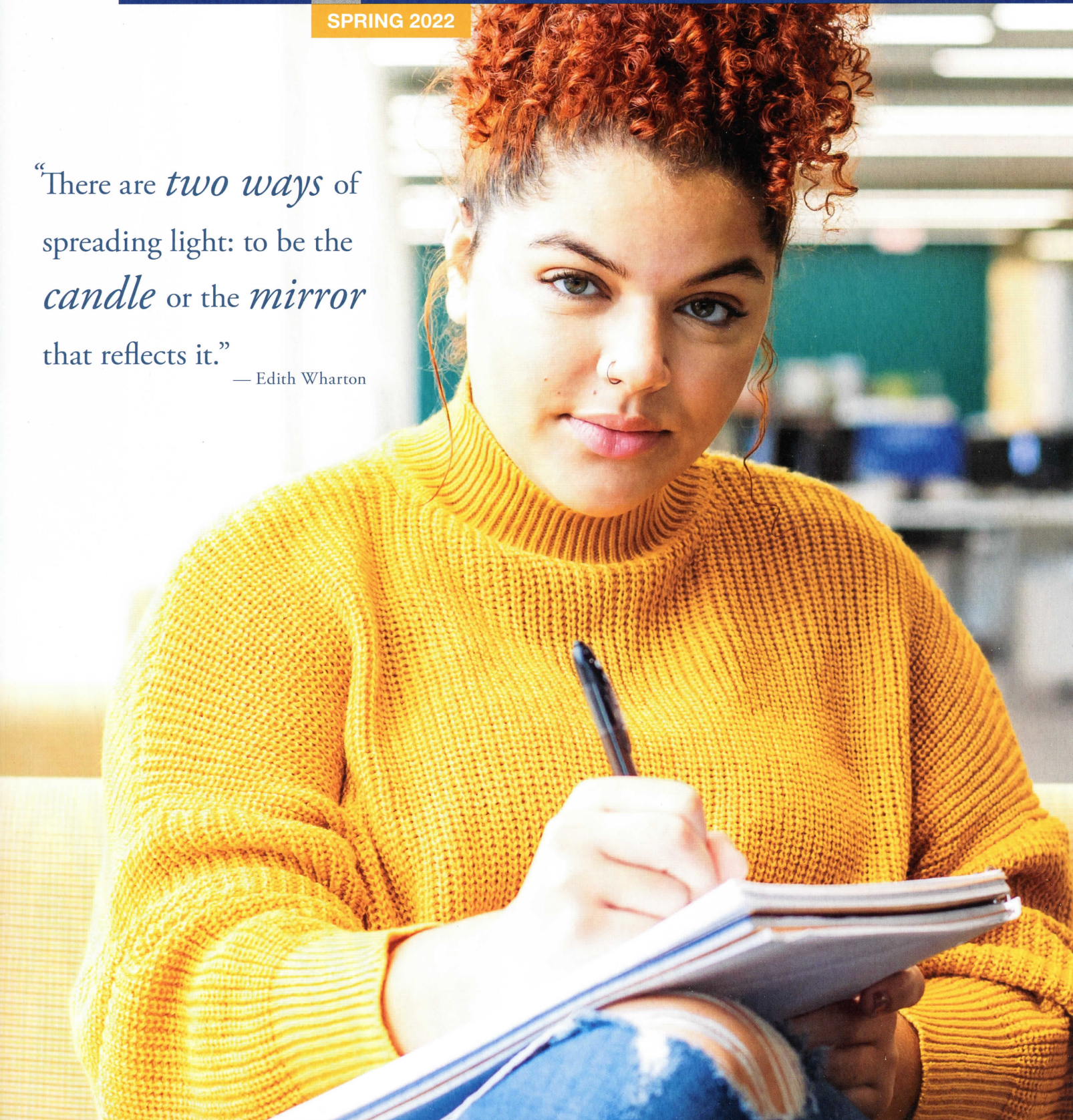
COMMUNITY

CATALYST

SPRING 2022

“There are *two ways* of
spreading light: to be the
candle or the *mirror*
that reflects it.”

— Edith Wharton



FROM THE DESK OF
RICHARD HOHOL
HARPER COLLEGE EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION BOARD PRESIDENT



The Harper College Educational Foundation board and staff are full of hope and enthusiasm with the launch of the **INSPIRE Scholarship Campaign**.

The INSPIRE campaign will expand access to higher education and enhance student experiences leading to success, strengthen connections to our communities, and engage our robust alumni network to build life-changing connections supporting Harper College students.

Through INSPIRE, the Foundation will raise funds to provide access to a college education by expanding student scholarship opportunities for all Harper College students. The campaign will spark donors and secure investments from individuals, businesses and alumni to minimize financial barriers to a Harper College education.

Gifts to scholarships provide students with the support and confidence needed to pursue their passions and expand their horizons. Scholarship support is not only an investment in our current students but also an investment in our society's

next generation of artists, doctors, civic leaders and other professionals who will go on to solve our world's greatest issues.

Support to the INSPIRE scholarship campaign will provide students with the academic freedom to pursue unpaid internships, embark on undergraduate research projects and participate in extracurricular activities to expose themselves to new cultures, ways of thinking and environments.

Your gift, whatever its size, to whatever scholarship aligns to your passion, makes a huge difference in assuring the opportunity for an education will be available to new generations of students.

One day we want to be in the position to have more funding for student needs through dedicated endowment funds. Please join my commitment to push forward as we drive to help make Harper College the very best Community College it can be.

Warm Regards,

Richard P. Hohol

24: Average age of Harper student

12,199: Number of students taking credit classes (fall 2020)

56% of students work while attending Harper College (46% of students ages 25 and older work full-time)

51% of Harper students who self-identified as first generation

\$4,005: average annual cost of tuition for a full-time student

\$2.7 million: Total awarded in 2020–2021 by the Foundation in scholarships, grants and awards

1,005: number of students receiving a scholarship, grant or award

225: total Foundation scholarship funds

18: new Scholarship Funds created by donors in 2020 – 2021

HARPER
by the **NUMBERS**



INSPIRE

Build A Better Tomorrow

INSPIRE Scholarship Campaign

On February 22, 2022, the Harper College Educational Foundation celebrated the public launch of the Inspire Scholarship Campaign with a virtual event. This video kick-off featured stories from Harper students, alumni, donors and friends who have experienced the inspirational impact that scholarships have on Harper students and the community.

We know that scholarships change lives for the better. For almost 50 years, the Harper College Educational Foundation has supported Harper students to achieve their educational goals. The Inspire Scholarship Campaign is designed to expand financial support by creating new opportunities or expanding existing scholarships, which will assist current and future students' lives.

"One of the most rewarding parts of giving is watching how it changes lives. Scholarships are powerful."

While scholarships provide financial reprieve to our students, we have discovered that they provide much more than that. They provide a sense of relief from not having to choose between

purchasing food or books, a sense of motivation knowing that someone believes in your dreams and wants you to achieve your goals and a sense of belonging to a community that you will always be a part of – whether a student, alumni, donor or volunteer.

Since fall 2020, the Foundation has been working with generous alumni, faculty, retirees, community leaders and friends who understand how scholarship support gives Harper students opportunities to make discoveries, receive quality training, and support their families through education.

To date, 31 new scholarships have been created to support Harper students, and nearly \$26 million has been invested in Harper students – present and future. Despite these admirable achievements, we still have students who need your support. We need your help to reach our campaign goal to provide financial support for our current and future students. Everyone deserves the opportunity to achieve their educational dreams.

There are so many ways to support Harper College students – and even more possibilities to create a better future for our college and our world. Will you join us? Together, we will build a better tomorrow.

Missed the virtual launch? Watch it here harpercollege.edu/inspire



Shida family shows gratitude for the community with Harper scholarship

When Mina Fey reminisces about being raised in the northwest suburbs of Chicago, she thinks about a nice place to grow up with a supportive community. She reflects upon how Harper College was a major resource for this community.

"We were fortunate to have a nice childhood, thanks to my parents, but also to the community," Fey said. "We value what Harper does. Looking back, it was always there for us and the community where we grew up."

Fey's parents, Mitsuzo and Kyoko Shida, raised three children – Mina, Miho and Yuzo – in North Barrington. Mitsuzo and Kyoko had first settled in Brooklyn after emigrating from Japan in the late 1950s so Mitsuzo could earn his Ph.D. in polymer science.

In the '60s, plastics were a frontier in consumer science. Mitsuzo's work in this field moved the family to the Chicago area. As a scientist, he created polymer applications for packaging we now take for granted, including adhesives for plastic films in various consumer products. He amassed more than 50 patents.

Fey says she didn't fully appreciate her father's innovations growing up – "He was just a good, strict, dad." After Mitsuzo passed away a few years ago, Kyoko and her children sought to give back to the community that had given them so much. Harper was an obvious choice.

Although none of the Shida children attended Harper full-time, Fey took a course during a summer home from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and her sister Miho did art therapy volunteer work with disabled adults at the college.

"It's pretty amazing that one school can satisfy so many different needs for so many different people," said Fey, referencing how many educational avenues and resources are available at Harper. "We thought, 'What better way to give back than to give to a place that gives back to the community?'"

That's why Kyoko and her children created the Shida Family Endowed Scholarship in 2021 with the goal of helping students with great financial need. In honor of the family's generosity and Mitsuzo's scientific contributions, Harper will name Building Z the Shida Family Science Building. The family came to campus last fall, and Fey said they were inspired by Harper's passionate faculty and staff as well as the great facilities.

The Shida Family scholarship also was designed to encourage applicants who aren't eligible for federal aid due to citizenship status, a detail important to Miho because of her nonprofit work with Latinx youth. In addition, the scholarship gives preference to those who demonstrate community involvement.

"Education and effort are core values that have been instilled in our family," Fey said. "These students are facing such adversity in their lives, yet they want to rise above that adversity to try to better themselves. We think that deserves to be recognized."

FROM THE DESK OF
DR. AVIS PROCTOR
PRESIDENT OF HARPER COLLEGE



Dear Donors, Community Members, Alumni and Business Leaders,

Thank you for all the effort and care you put into supporting Harper College and our students.

For the past two years, the task before us seemed Herculean: we had to rethink every process, course and program. We had to rebuild a college community with remote and in-person students and establish mechanisms for containing a pandemic when it inevitably made its way throughout our community. We had to figure out how to offer classes to students in three different modalities – in person, remote and hybrid while keeping everyone healthy. We had to redesign courses from the ground up and rethink ways of presenting material, evaluating work and engaging with students. We had to expand our technological capacities and platforms. We had to reimagine ways of helping students stay active and

connecting with each other. In a year, when we were entirely separated from each other, we united to solve complex problems and reinvent every aspect of our work.

We could not have done this without your support!

Harper College could not have functioned without your contributions, your patience and your kindness. You are essential to our success, and I am forever grateful to you.

Your generosity and support enables Harper to accelerate our mission of providing a high-quality education for our students and take what they have learned to make a difference in their communities.

Inspiring Future Generations with a Planned Gift

Build a bright future for future generations while building your legacy.

With a planned gift, you can create a scholarship or support a program that is meaningful to you. The Harper Heritage Society honors donors who have left gifts for Harper College in their estate plans. Most members have included the Harper College Educational Foundation in their will or trust, or as a beneficiary of their retirement plan or life insurance policy. Planned gifts can be of any value and help students and the college for generations to come.

To learn more, please contact Heather Zoldak at **847.925.6319** or **hzoldak@harpercollege.edu**. If you have already included Harper in your estate plans, please let us know! We would love to talk to you about your gift and welcome you to the Harper Heritage Society.

Harper alum receives transfer scholarship to University Center at Harper College

Krystle Magsino has been involved with Harper College for nearly 15 years.



Krystle Magsino's path to Harper has taken many twists and turns. This year, thanks to her determination and support from a generous donor, Krystle will achieve a dream that she once thought was unreachable. She will graduate summa cum laude from Northern Illinois University after enrolling at the University Center at Harper College.

After graduating from Schaumburg High School and spending one semester at the University of Illinois Chicago, Krystle enrolled at Harper College as a Distinguished Scholar. She describes her experience in attending Harper as, "That cheesy feeling people describe when they visit a college, and they know they are just meant to be there and go there - I felt that here. It was such a shock to me that Harper felt so right." After earning her associate degree from Harper, Krystle began working in the car industry and was promoted to management in just a few short years. For nearly 10 years, she worked in the industry and was grateful for her career but knew that she wanted more. She wanted to go back to school and earn her bachelor's degree in psychology.

Krystle enrolled at Northern Illinois University through the University Center at Harper College in the spring of 2020. Her first semester back in school became a lesson in navigating school and a pandemic. In addition, she was furloughed from her job during the pandemic, found a job at another dealership, and furloughed again. At that time, she decided she needed to invest in herself and enrolled full-time in school and found a part-time job at a local Starbucks. While Krystle felt nervous about the financial risks she was taking by decreasing her income, she knew she needed to focus on her studies to fulfill her goal.

In the fall of 2021, Krystle received the Beaubien Family Transfer Scholarship, which supported her tuition at the University Center. She says of receiving the scholarship, "Because of the Beaubien Scholarship, the seemingly unreachable dream I have had my entire life is now at an arm's reach. If it weren't for this scholarship, I might be working at a car dealership just trying to make ends meet while taking a class or two for the next several years. Instead, I will graduate this spring."

Second chance leads to steadfast support of Harper students

Harper College helped Randal Allen turn his life around. The scientist, professor and donor is dedicated to helping others gain new opportunities via scholarships.

Randal Allen's resume includes bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, a near-doctorate from Stanford University (the program included everything he needed for a Ph.D. minus a dissertation) and a traditional doctorate from the University of Central Florida.

But the school that started it all, the one Allen selected to be the recipient of his scholarship donations, is Harper College.

"I got this second chance," he said. "If I'm going to invest my money, we invest it with Harper, to give other people that second chance if they need it."

In high school, Allen said, he wasn't a great student. He graduated early – not because he did exceptionally well in his classes but because he figured out a way to be done with school quicker. He took classes like business math, business English, business law and marketing. "It was a business focus, but it was a program for people that weren't cut out to go to college," he said.

After graduation, Allen got a job in shipping and receiving for about a year. "And then I got into trouble, and the trouble is what changed my life," he said. Allen was arrested, and he spent one night in jail. After, he figured that if he went to college, he might be able to staunch his parents' disappointment.

That business focus in high school served Allen well in the long run – how many people graduate from high school understanding the fundamentals of a mortgage? When he enrolled at Harper, he started with basic courses.

Some resonated, some didn't, leaving him to focus on math and English in his first semester. He got an A in algebra and figured, "Let me go through the math sequence, then. Let me take trigonometry and college algebra." He again got A's in his math classes, which lead to analytic geometry, calculus I and II, and ordinary differential equations.

Along the way, he met Dr. William Schooley, a calculus professor – currently professor emeritus – who saw Allen's potential and helped him find different scholarships. He offered to write letters of recommendation, which he contributed throughout Allen's academic career.

Allen's continued success in Harper's math classes led an advisor to suggest that Allen explore the sciences. He took three semesters of chemistry and three semesters of physics, earning all A's. He received his associate degree in pre-engineering after three years at Harper and took one more year to finish the classes needed to transfer to U of I as a junior.

Today, Allen is chief scientist at Lone Star Analysis, Inc., in Orlando, Florida. He has a patent pending on an invention related to artificial intelligence – he's created a speedier AI process that uses less data and has fewer computer requirements than traditional AI.

He teaches at one alma mater, UCF, but he chooses to help students financially at Harper through the Mathematics and Science Endowment scholarship. His other alma maters have reached out, but Harper helped him when he needed it most.

"Harper said, 'I know you got a 17 on the ACT. You never took the SAT. Come on in.' I got this second chance," he said. "If I'm going to invest my money, we invest it with Harper, to give other people that second chance if they need it."

HOPE Giving Circle

Recipient Updates

We asked, and HOPE alumni answered!

How did receiving the HOPE Scholarship impact your life?



KEELY MCENERY
2020-2021 RECIPIENT

Without the HOPE Scholarship, I would never have applied to or been accepted into the Wolff Center for Entrepreneurship (University of Houston). I am so grateful for the opportunities I have been given that will impact my life forever.



ARIANNA MORMINO
2018-2019 RECIPIENT

Whether it be the guidance and encouragement I've received from my mentor or the leadership opportunities that I have been able to be a part of with the scholarship, HOPE has helped shape me into the confident, independent scholar and woman I am today.



AMANDA MIRCUK
2020-2021 RECIPIENT

The HOPE Foundation has generously offered a myriad of opportunities for me to continue cultivating myself into a more well-rounded individual.



EMMA RUTHERFORD
2018-2019 RECIPIENT

The HOPE scholarship has allowed me to pursue my passions and dreams. The scholarship has helped me surmount my college debt and has afforded me the opportunity to make lifelong bonds with the women of the HOPE community.



JESSICA SHI
2020-2021 RECIPIENT

Because of HOPE, I will be able to continue my BSN education at Purdue University in January 2022 and become one step closer to my dream goal — CRNA!



RACHEL KERESZTURI
2017-2018 RECIPIENT

HOPE inspires me to pay it forward and make me want to help change the lives of future HOPE recipients.



ALESKA SCHWARTZ
2019-2020 RECIPIENT

The HOPE program has taken financial stress off the transition from Harper to UIUC. I am very thankful for HOPE and with my career beginning soon, I am excited to give back to the program that has given me so much.



KAYLA KARBOWSKI
2016-2017 INAUGURAL RECIPIENT

I am grateful for the HOPE Giving Circle and am blessed for the support they have given me through the years. I am now in my third year of teaching.



SABRINA MARTINEZ
2018-2019 RECIPIENT

Receiving the HOPE Scholarship has impacted my life because it has helped me feel more confident in my ability to succeed.

HOPE at a glance

The **HOPE Giving Circle** brings together influential women of diverse backgrounds with a common goal of supporting women in achieving their educational goals and empowering them to reach their full potential. Members combine their resources to make a greater collective impact on the lives of women pursuing higher education at Harper College. Through scholarship support, mentoring, professional development opportunities and other means, the HOPE Giving Circle is committed to creating and enhancing educational and leadership opportunities for women. Give or become a member today at harpercollege.edu/hope.

SAVE THE DATE

HOPE Giving Circle Women at the Table *Breakfast and Panel Discussion*

Women in Media and Communication

Friday, April 8 at 8 a.m.

Join members and supporters of the HOPE Giving Circle for an engaging panel discussion featuring women in media and communication. Hear from inspiring women on the opportunities, successes and challenges facing women who have carved out careers in media and communication.

Learn more by visiting harpercollege.edu/hope

HOPE BY THE NUMBERS

2021/2022 academic year

36

Members

57

Donors

\$247,000

Raised (since inception)

4

Scholarships
(18 total since inception)

\$180,000

in Scholarships Awarded
(since inception)

HOPE GIVING CIRCLE MEMBERS

Dr. Victoria Atkinson
Cheryl Axley
Dee Beaubien
Lynda Bollman
Dr. Susanne Brock
Laura J. Brown
Dolores Campagna
Barbara Cragan
Dr. Polly Davenport
Prof. Nancy L. Davis
Alansa Ferguson
Kathleen Gilmer

Bonnie Henry
Carol M. Johnson
Linda Kolbusz-Kosan
Linda J. Lang
Dr. Joanne Leski
Markel Corporation
Dr. Judith Marwick
Dr. Elizabeth McKay
Georgeanna Mehr
Lori Meier
Veronica Neuendorf
Sam Oliver

Jody Paine
Dr. Avis Proctor
Hazel M. Rilki
Louise Robb
Susan Rogers
Dr. Michelé E. Smith
Judith Stetson
Dr. Robin S. Turpin
Louise Welsh Schrank
Melanie Witt
Dr. Anna Marie Yates
Heather Zoldak



Business student receives inaugural Educational Foundation Board Designated Endowed Scholarship

"Receiving this scholarship means not stressing about where my next gas money will come from; not picking up that extra shift at work; not stressing about where to get the money to pay off my laptop bill," said Nour Hussein Abdallah, an inaugural recipient of the Educational Foundation Board Designated Endowed Scholarship. Nour is a first-year Harper student studying business and an Elk Grove High School graduate. She shared, "Thank you so

much for giving me the relief of knowing that my financial situation will never be a problem when trying to pursue my dream career path."

The Educational Foundation Board Designated Endowed Scholarship was created more than a year ago to help students with financial need who are enrolled in nine or more credit hours. The Educational Foundation Board saw a need

to increase their support to scholarships that help students with their tuition and fees. Endowing the scholarship fund creates a lasting legacy because the scholarship will be awarded to students in perpetuity. The criteria was intentionally set for students with financial need to help those who need additional support with their tuition and fees. The scholarship also requires students to enroll in nine hours to help them finish their degree faster.

Scholarship donor is a 'cheerleader for Harper'

Harper College helped Ann Kimberly forge a new educational path. She's now started three scholarships to help students with theirs.

When Ann Kimberly enrolled for her first class at Harper College, she already had a bachelor's degree in special education from the University of Wisconsin. Her goal wasn't to kick-start her education; it was to forge a new path.

She spent some time working in special education but stopped to raise her two sons. When her boys were young, she decided she wanted to be a writer, so she enrolled in a few Harper journalism classes. One day, she found a job opening in Institutional Communications – which is now Marketing Services.

"I went in there, and I was scared to death," said Kimberly, of Lake Barrington. "I had been home for 12 years raising a family, and I was in a field that I had never done anything with. But Harper gave me the confidence through the journalism program, and they gave me the confidence by hiring me."

Between the Harper classes and the work experience – followed by her receiving her master's degree at DePaul University – Kimberly was set up for anything she wanted to do in her career.

Because of her love of education and her desire to help others, Kimberly has established three scholarships at Harper College, each geared toward helping different groups of students and prioritizing Kimberly's own passions:

- Students who receive the WorldView Study Abroad Scholarship learn about a developing country, then travel to that country for two weeks. Kimberly is an avid traveler – she estimates that she's visited more than 100 countries – and she knows that community college students might not typically get a chance to study abroad.
- The Access for All Scholarship is for students who don't qualify for federal financial aid.
- The third scholarship Kimberly funds is one that marries two schools she loves: It covers a student's last year at Harper, plus an additional two years at its University Center, where students can finish their bachelor's degrees at one of four



universities by taking classes onsite at Harper. Kimberly's scholarship is for students studying communications, marketing or business at DePaul University.

"I'm a cheerleader for Harper," she said. "It's a huge asset to our community. It's a diamond. I value education so much. If I can help somebody get an education, boom, I want to make it happen."

Clearwater Capital Partners establishes endowed scholarship

Clearwater Capital Foundation has established the Clearwater Capital Endowed Scholarship Fund to support female students enrolled at Harper College participating in the Rita and John Canning Women's Program. Scholarship funds may be used for tuition, books, and fees.

Education is a core value of Clearwater Capital Partners. The Clearwater Capital Foundation and Harper College partnership allows Clearwater Capital to empower female students and transform their lives through education.

John E. Chapman, Clearwater Capital Partner's Chief Executive Officer, was appointed to the Harper College Educational Foundation Board of Directors in 2021. Clearwater Capital Partners (CCP) was founded more than 15 years ago and is an independent wealth management firm serving the needs of both individual and institutional clients with objectivity, integrity and expertise.

"We are grateful for the investment Clearwater Capital is making in Harper students. The Clearwater Capital Endowed Scholarship will help generations of students in the Rita and John Canning Women's Program at Harper College in achieving their own academic goals and inspiring a better tomorrow for themselves and their families," said Laura Brown, Harper College Chief Advancement Officer.



Promise Update

This spring, Harper College will celebrate its second class of Promise graduates. Since the program's inception in 2015, more than 40,000 students in Harper's sender high schools have been involved in the program. The Promise Program asks students in high school to work hard in school, show up to class and give back to their community. In return, they can earn up to two years tuition at Harper College. More than \$20 million has been raised for the program between private investments and community support.

Donor generosity inspires new scholarships

The Harper College Educational Foundation thanks the donors of these new scholarships for their generosity and for inspiring Harper students to realize their dreams.

Clearwater Capital Endowed Scholarship: Created by Clearwater Capital Foundation to support female students in the Rita and John Canning Women's Program (see article on the opposite page).

Datla Family Endowed Scholarship: Raju Datla is the President of Vistex, Inc. and joined the Harper College Educational Foundation Board in the summer of 2021. He and his family created this scholarship to support students enrolled in computer science or technology areas planning to transfer to the University Center at Harper College.

Frank and Minerva Solano Scholarship for First-Generation Latino Students: Frank Solano was the Director of Multicultural Affairs at Harper College prior to retiring in 2000. He established this scholarship to support first-generation Latino students who have financial need.

Fred and Janine Pfeiffer Endowed Scholarship: Established by Jim and Suzanne Pfeiffer to support adult students pursuing a degree or certificate for a career change. Jim is a Harper College Educational Foundation Board member.

Jackie LeFevre Endowed Scholarship: Jackie LeFevre is a community member and Harper College alumni. This is her second

scholarship with Harper College and will support working female students involved in community activities and have financial need.

Kimberly Family Achieving Dreams Scholarship: Ann Kimberly created this scholarship to support marketing or business students during their final year at Harper College and for two years while attending DePaul University at the University Center at Harper College. (see page 11 for more about Ann).

League of Women Voters - Arlington Heights, Mount

Prospect and Buffalo Grove Scholarship: Created to support adult female students who live in high school district 214 and are from an underserved population. Created by the League of Women Voters - Arlington Heights, Mount Prospect and Buffalo Grove.

STEM Achievement Scholarship: Dave Braunschweig and Cindy Miller have a long history with Harper as employees and alumni. They have established a scholarship to support STEM students (preferred focus on CIS students) who are 22 years of age or older, involved in community service and have financial need.

Wintrust Scholarship: Wintrust has been a long-time supporter of Harper College students through philanthropic support and volunteer engagement. Wintrust created this endowed scholarship to support students who have financial need.

(Scholarships created as of 1/31/2022)

Save the Date

Please plan to join us on

Monday, June 13, 2022

as we celebrate our

33rd ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

We look forward to sharing a beautiful day on the course with you at

INVERNESS GOLF CLUB

Event proceeds support student scholarships and emerging educational initiatives at Harper College.

For questions or advance reservations

please contact Kristyn Meyer at

847.925.6468 or kmeyer@harpercollege.edu

Sponsorship opportunities are currently available.

HARPER HEART DAY

Helping Everyone Access
Resources Together



Harper College Celebrates Harper Heart Day

On February 23 and 24, the Harper community came together to celebrate Harper HEART Day. In 2020, Harper College pivoted from engaging in #GivingTuesday, the national day of philanthropy celebrated the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. The Harper College Educational Foundation stepped out and established Harper HEART Day, our very own day of giving in which our community **H**elps **E**veryone **A**ccess **R**esources **T**ogether. During these 36 hours of giving and engagement, Harper alumni, faculty and staff, retirees, students and friends joined together to raise funds for Harper students and to celebrate the inspirational power of education.

Activities throughout campus (both virtually and in-person) celebrated our vibrant community and engaged donors in supporting Harper students.

Harper students explored parts of campus they might not usually see. They gathered in the IDEAShop to learn about Harper's prototyping lab while picking up an event keychain; they were

treated to a paper airplane flying competition hosted by the Harper Society of Engineers; and discovered the vibrant student activities available on campus through a free showing of Encanto and a pop-up performance by Angie Keilhauer (a contestant on "The Voice") sponsored by the Student Activities Board and Student Government Association. Students were invited to connect with Harper College president Dr. Avis Proctor for an informal, roundtable discussion.

Alumni returned to campus for unique networking events culminating in an evening reception at which guests painted their own custom wooden signs. Our hundreds of Harper retirees span the country, and Harper HEART Day offered a chance to reconnect. Retirees reunited with their former colleagues at virtual reunions, an online movie screening and discussion, and a virtual tour of Harper's new Cultural Center.

We thank everyone who participated in Harper HEART Day!

Five student organizations participated in the Competition for Good, raising funds for scholarships and HAWKS Care (supporting students experiencing food and housing insecurity, transportation challenges or technological inequities) for their fellow students. We recognize these Harper College student clubs for being the HEART of Harper!

- Society of Engineers
- Student Government Association
- International Students Club
- Speech and Debate Team
- Student Activities Board

The Harper Student Activities Board received the coveted Competition for Good Award, recognizing the student organization that raises the most money during Harper HEART Day. Congratulations on your hard work and dedication in supporting your fellow students.



25: Harper HEART Day events

42% of donations from Harper HEART Day came from new donors

5: student organizations participated

HARPER HEART DAY by the **NUMBERS**





Pepper Family Dedication

A focal point of Harper College's campus for students to study and gather will now be known as the Pepper Family Foundation Academic Support Center.

Harper held a ceremony on November 19 to formally dedicate the space in recognition of the Pepper family of Barrington for their contributions to the Promise Scholarship Program exceeding \$400,000.

"The Peppers have been instrumental in supporting, championing and funding the Promise Scholarship Program and foundation – and college-sponsored programs," said Dr. Avis Proctor, president of Harper College.

Richard Pepper, who passed away last year, and his wife Roxelyn have been dedicated supporters of Harper. Members of the family have also been active in serving on various fundraising and scholarship committees: Scot Pepper is a member of the Harper College Educational Foundation's board of directors, while Lynda Bollman has supported the HOPE Giving Circle since its inception.

"We couldn't be more excited and proud to have our name on this building," said Scot Pepper, who spoke on behalf of several relatives in attendance. "Supporting Harper is a passion in our family."

The Academic Support Center, located on the first floor of the David K. Hill Family Library, contains seven centers: the Tutoring Center, Writing Center, Success Services, Anatomy Room, Developmental Math Center, Supplemental Instruction and Community Tutoring Center.

Ellen Fisher, the Academic Support Center manager, said the centers collectively provide support in more than 100 different subjects. Both online and in-person services are offered. During the 2019-2020 academic year, the centers connected with 18,000 students.

Ellen said the space is integral to student success, pointing to data from Harper's Institutional Research department.

"Again and again, we see that students who work with tutors succeed and persist at higher rates," she said.

In his remarks, Scot Pepper also pointed out a special connection between his family and the library: Pepper Construction served as construction manager for the building, which opened in 2018.

A scholarship for the C students

Harper College's supporters come from all sorts of backgrounds. There are the college's graduates and its employees. There are those students who take a class, or three, to improve their skills or explore a new career path.

And there are those like Gerald Fitzgerald Jr., who's been familiar with Harper since its 1967 inception when the college held evening classes at Elk Grove High School. He's lived within two miles of Harper for most of his life, but his first real knowledge of the college came when he decided to mentor a Harper student.

EB211 is a scholarship program to help hardworking students from underrepresented communities. As a mentor in the program, Fitzgerald met Guillermo "Memo" Quillo, who went through Harper's engineering program and earned his associate degree, then transferred to the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for his bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering.

After seeing how much Harper helped Quillo, as well as the quality of its academic programs, Fitzgerald learned more about the college's importance to the community and local employers. He decided he wanted to help other Harper students.

"It is a great community resource that, in my opinion, is only going to get greater," Fitzgerald said.

The Fitzgerald Family Endowed Scholarship is for students who are first-generation college students, immigrants or children of a first-generation immigrant, have a disability or are from an underserved community. They must also have a financial need and demonstrate persistence, and the scholarship gives preference to C students with these traits over A students who do.

That's because Fitzgerald wants to nurture students' potential.

"Oftentimes, in any educational program, the top students get a lot of attention, and the students in the bottom 10 percent don't get a lot of attention," he said. "But a lot of the C students who have a lot of potential to do great things for their community sometimes get lost in the shuffle. And so I hope the scholarship goes to a C student with a lot of drive and desire."



Gerald and Denise Fitzgerald with their daughter, Celine.



Fremd graduate and eagle scout receives David K. Hill Memorial Scholarship

The David K. Hill Memorial Scholarship was created in memory of David K. Hill by his family and friends. David was a member of the Harper College Board of Trustees, a community leader, a prominent national businessman and philanthropist.

The scholarship is open to students from science programs who exhibit exemplary achievement in academics and community service.

This year's recipient is Justin Glab, a first-generation college student in the Harper Honors Program and studying biochemistry. He is an Eagle Scout and was on the varsity water polo and swim team at Fremd High School.

In receiving the scholarship, Justin says, "I really appreciate the generosity of this scholarship. Nothing means more to me, than my education and the ability to

establish myself in this world, give back to my family and those that I love around me. I am solely responsible for paying off any debt I receive. This scholarship will allow me to delay taking out loans as long as possible and to allow me to work as little as possible during my college studies which will help ensure my dedication to schooling."

Thank you to our Business Champions

The Harper College Educational Foundation is grateful for the sponsorship support of our 2021-2022 Business Champions. To sponsor an event or to learn more about marketing and recognition opportunities with the Foundation, please contact kmeyer@harpercollege.edu or **847-925-6468**.

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GRADFEST

SAVE THE DATE

It's not too late... Let's Celebrate!

Alumni Gradfest Celebration

Harper College will host this special event for 2020 and 2021 Harper College Graduates to commemorate and celebrate their time and accomplishments at Harper. This outdoor festival style event will feature a picnic lunch and entertainment.

Saturday, June 4, 2022

Noon-3 p.m.

Ender Outdoor Pavilion at Harper College

Registration will be required. Invitations will be sent to 2020 and 2021 graduates in May. Update your contact information at harpercollege.edu/alumni

Questions? Call 847.925.6701 or email alumni@harpercollege.edu.

Harper College is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, gender-related identity, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status or sexual orientation. 30562 MO 2/22

