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Rita Canning Receives the James J. McGrath Award



Rita Canning is the 26th recipient of the James J. McGrath Recognition Award. This honor is bestowed upon a person in the community who has done outstanding service for Harper College.

The award was initiated by former Harper College president, James J. McGrath, as a tribute to those special people who have unselfishly given time, effort and funds to uphold the excellence of the institution.

Past award recipients include:

Richard Goode (1986)	Dudley A. Powell (1994)	Sam Oliver (2003)
Diane Tomcheff Callin and Marilyn Swanson (1987)	Alan Herbert (1995)	Carol Pankros (2004)
Donald Wilson (1988)	Donald D. Torisky (1996)	Richard Hoffman (2005)
James Lancaster (1989)	Donald A. Barrington (1997)	Jeffrey Butterfield (2006)
Robert Leibold (1990)	Rick Korte (1998)	Robert Fiorani (2007)
Gerald McConnell (1991)	Thomas P. MacCarthy (1999)	Martha Bell (2008)
Bruce A. Mueller (1992)	Fred Barr (2000)	Robert Glorch (2009)
Dan T. Thomson (1993)	Rob Brumbaugh (2001)	Kris Howard-Jensen (2010)
	Richard Guttman (2002)	Rita Canning (2011)

Congratulations to Rita Canning on being selected as the recipient of the 2011 James J. McGrath Recognition Award. ■

Alumni Spotlight: *Yoshiko Urayama*



Yoshiko Urayama relocated to the U.S. in 1988. During that same year she began taking classes at Harper College as a way to improve her language skills. Proud of her years of study at Harper Yoshiko shared the importance and value of education she received at Harper College. Today Yoshiko is the seventh president and editor of the Chicago Shimpo Newspaper. The Chicago Shimpo is a weekly Japanese newspaper that began publishing on November 15, 1945, and has a circulation of 5,000. It covers national, international, and local news in Japanese and English.

Can you tell us about your time at Harper College and why you came to Harper College?

I came to Arlington Heights for the first time on June 12, in 1988 due to my husband's job. I had studied English in Japan, but I soon recognized that my English wasn't practical in the real English world. A librarian at the Arlington Heights Library recommended me to attend Harper College, so I went to the registration office in August in the same year.

During my time at the college, my reading, writing, speaking, and listening skill all drastically improved. For Japanese, speaking English is especially difficult. I appreciate Mr. Peter (I cannot remember his last name) at the accounting tutoring center asking me to become an accounting tutor. I could improve my speaking skills while I explained Accounting 101 and 102 to some students.

I still remember that I struggled to follow an American Literature class. I took the class in summer just after I had finished ESL courses. We had to read 10 novels in eight weeks. I thought about dropping out, but with the teacher's encouragement, I finished the class with a "B."

After taking the Literature class, my reading speed improved so much. That experience led me to take many different courses at Harper College.

Harper College also provided me opportunities to meet people from different countries. It was a precious experience for me to know "diversity" which I never experienced in Japan.

How did Harper College help you in your profession today?

When an opportunity came to me to take over the Chicago Shimpo, I knew about business management, accounting, fundamental law, computer software to

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New Endowed Scholarships



Lane Moyer, Foundation Board; Carol Johnson; Tom Johnson; Judy Marwick, Ed.D., Provost and Kathleen Canfield, Director of Career Services and Women's Program

Thomas J. Johnson Endowed Scholarship for Business

The scholarship was established in March 2011 by Tom Johnson, Harper College Professor Emeritus and retired Dean of Business and Social Sciences, to support business students.

Johnson has volunteered for years with the Foundation and decided this year he wanted to do something to give back to Harper students.

Carol M. Johnson Endowed Women's Program Scholarship

The scholarship was established in March 2011 by Carol Johnson for Women's Program participants studying health careers.

Johnson has always been interested in nutrition. After her first career as a paralegal, she went back to school at Harper College at age 40 and graduated from the Dietetic Technician Program.



Lane Moyer, Foundation Board; Lois Lloyd, mother of Jack Lloyd; Jack Lloyd, Foundation Board and Judy Marwick, Ed.D., Provost

Jack and Linda Lloyd Family Scholarship Endowment for Criminal Justice

The scholarship was established by Jack and Linda Lloyd in March 2011. The Lloyds have a long history of serving their communities in law enforcement and public safety roles and felt strongly about finding a way to support those who chose to follow the same path.

Lloyd Family History

Burt Lloyd, (great, great, great grandfather) served as the Sheriff of Sangamon County, Illinois and was head of security at the state capital in Springfield during the Lincoln administration. He is buried in the same graveyard with Abraham Lincoln. Family members serving in law enforcement include:

Daughter – Investigator, Child Welfare Services, State of Florida

Uncle – Sheriff and Forensic Investigator, San Luis Obispo, California

Uncle – Undercover Agent, Chicago Police Force

Cousin – Sergeant, Chicago Police Force

Cousin – Lieutenant, Denver Police Force

Cousin – Forensic Investigator, Chicago Police Force

Nephew – Patrolman, Chicago Police Force

Niece – Studying Criminal Justice Profiling at Tampa College in Florida

Family members serving in public safety include:

Uncle – Fire Chief, Long Beach, California

Cousin – Fireman, Garden Grove, California



Andy-John Kalkounos and Kenneth L. Ender, Ph.D., President of Harper College

George A. Kalkounos Chicago Prime Steakhouse Endowed Scholarship

Harper alumnus Andy-John Kalkounos understands the importance of education and creating affordable opportunities. The George A. Kalkounos Chicago Prime Steakhouse Endowed Scholarship was established in May 2011. The scholarship will provide support for second-year students enrolled in the culinary or hospitality certificate or degree program. The first awards will be made in fiscal year 2012. ■

Scholarship Award Highlights



Lane Moyer, Foundation Board; Associate Professor Catherine Restovich and Catherine Brod, Chief Advancement Officer and Executive Director, Harper College Educational Foundation

Motorola Distinguished Faculty Award

The Motorola Distinguished Faculty Award committee is comprised of a member of the Board of Trustees, four previous award recipients, an administrator and a student. The committee is chaired by the Assistant Provost. On April 18 the committee met and recommended **Dr. Catherine Restovich, Associate Professor of English**, as the 2011 Motorola Distinguished Faculty Award recipient.

Dr. Restovich consistently strives for excellence in all she does. And, for the past 11 years at Harper College, excellence is what she has brought to her classroom and shared with her students. Dr. Restovich possesses the unique ability of challenging, inspiring and motivating her students to achieve at higher levels of learning. She has taught 13 different courses for the English department - four of which she created with a colleague in the history department.

Dr. Restovich believes her job is to treat students with dignity and to guide them to treat others with dignity. Through focusing on civil rights and social justice in her classes, she works to help mold students into critical thinkers and advocates for others.

Over the years, she has been a faculty leader in many areas at Harper. She currently serves on the master planning committee, on the learning communities committee and is working to create success cohorts for developmental students. She has also served as English department chair and has presented at the campus, local and national level.

Committed to teaching outside the classroom as well, Dr. Restovich is a dedicated volunteer through her work at Ronald McDonald House, the House of Hope, the Dorothy Day organization and her support of the Red Cross and numerous Catholic Charity groups. She also serves as a mentor to her students for issues outside of the classroom and is recognized by her students as a caring, empathetic and kind person.

In a letter to the Dean of Liberal Arts, nominating Dr. Restovich for the award, a faculty colleague said of her:

"Dr. Restovich is the most effective teacher of any colleague in my 27 years of teaching. Her combination of scholarship and passion for the art of teaching provides an ideal definition of the spirit recognized in the Distinguished Faculty Award."

Motorola Award for Excellence

Since 1981 Motorola has sponsored its Award for Excellence, which is the highest honor a Harper College student can earn. The Award honors a student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in academics, extracurricular activities and community service, while attending Harper College. There are two awards, (non-traditional) to a student 24 years or older; and (traditional) a student who is 23 years or younger.

This year's recipients of the **Motorola Award for Excellence** given through the Harper College Educational Foundation were Hannah Schiller and Susan Kmiec.

Motorola Award for Excellence



(traditional)
Hannah Shiller

Hannah Shiller was homeschooled through high school and is currently in her first year at Harper College. She is part of Harper's Honors Program and currently has a 4.0 GPA. Her interests and passions are in politics and the abolition of modern day slavery across the world. She hopes to pursue a law degree or a degree in not-for-profit administration. Shiller volunteers her time for an organization called TeenPact which is a leadership school that trains students to understand the political process, value their liberty and develop leadership skills. Once a student in the class, she is

now one of the leaders in the program. She truly impressed the committee with her maturity and dedication to helping people across the world.

Motorola Award for Excellence



**(non-traditional)
Susan Kmiec**

Susan Kmiec is pursuing a degree in nursing at Harper College. Before returning to school, she created and ran a medical transcription company for 17 years while raising her children. She decided to pursue her nursing degree to make an impact on people's lives, one life at a time. She is especially interested in hospice and home care. Kmiec has a 3.88 GPA and plans to go straight from Harper's Nursing RN degree to a bachelor's bridging program. She currently works at Northwest Community Hospital and volunteers as a Read to Learn tutor through the Palatine Township and at the Kane County Crisis Center. She impressed the committee with her passion for life and love of learning.

Amersham Endowed Scholarship



Uzma Fatima

Established in 1982, the Amersham Endowed Scholarship honors a second-year student who has shown excellent achievement in academics, extracurricular activities and community service, while attending Harper College. The recipient must be enrolled in one of the qualifying programs of study - life science, human services, technology, math, physical science, business or social science. This year's recipient of the Amersham Endowed Scholarship given through the Harper College Educational Foundation is Uzma Fatima.

Fatima graduated from the Islamic Foundation School where she was president and founder of three clubs including the Literature Club, Teen Book Club and Girls Cooking Club. She is currently in her first year at Harper College and has a 4.0 GPA. She plans to pursue a degree in Health Administration. She is a member of the National Honor Society, Phi Theta Kappa and the Harper Honor's Program. She has volunteered for the March of Dimes and her local library. She has a great love of science as well as literature and writing short stories. Fatima impressed the committee with her diverse interests and positive energy.

David K. Hill Memorial Scholarship



Melissa Fioretto

The David K. Hill Memorial Scholarship was created in memory of David K. Hill by his family and friends. Hill was a member of the 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 the areas of academics and community service.

The David K. Hill Scholarship committee, made up of four science faculty at Harper College, met on May 6 to interview scholarship applicants and chose Melissa Fioretto as the 2011-2012 recipient.

Fioretto attended Fremd High School and is in her first year at Harper College. Her love of science began at an early age with an interest in dinosaurs. While in high school, Fioretto took an education internship for earth science, geology and astronomy classes and found she also had a great love of teaching. She has decided to join her two passions and is working toward goal of becoming a high school science teacher.

In addition to maintaining a 4.0 GPA, Fioretto volunteers her time as a mentor with the Building on Student Success (B.O.S.S.) program, sponsored by Harper's Phi Theta Kappa chapter. She impressed the committee with her true passion for science and focus on her goals.

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Planetary Studies Scholarship



Kevin Klicki

The scholarship was established by Harper College Emeritus Professor Paul Sipiera through donations received by the Planetary Studies Foundation that he established.

Kevin Klicki, a graduate of Buffalo Grove High School, was chosen as the second recipient of the scholarship.

Klicki has had a lifelong interest in the natural sciences that he wishes to share with others. His goal is to deliver the message of scientific inquiry and its power through literature, film and live discussion.

Patrick Botterman Scholarship for Student Leadership



Meagan Kasper

The scholarship was established by the Botterman Family in memory of Patrick Botterman, a former member of the Harper College Board of Trustees who passed away unexpectedly in 2008. He was a tireless advocate for making education affordable and accessible to the people of the Northwest suburbs and played a major role in Harper's success and growth over the past 10 years.

Meagan Kasper, a graduate of Schaumburg High School, was chosen as the second recipient of the scholarship.

Kasper's goal is to use the experiences she has gained at Harper to transfer to a four-year university and study liberal arts. She chose liberal arts because she wants a deeper insight into languages, literature, philosophy, science and history. She also plans to continue taking Spanish courses and hopes to study in Spain or Mexico to further her love of the culture.

She has volunteered with the Almost Home animal adoption agency and knows the good feeling of giving back to the community. The scholarship helped to relieve some of her financial burdens so she was able to focus her energy on her work and find more ways to better her community. ■



November 11-13 and 18-20
Fridays and Saturdays, 8 p.m.; Sundays, 2 p.m.
Harper College Performing Arts Center

For Tickets:
CONTACT THE HARPER COLLEGE BOX OFFICE

Phone: 847.925.6100
Online: harpercollege.edu/boxoffice

“What makes *RENT* so wonderful is not its hipness quotient, but its extraordinary spirit of hopeful defiance and humanity.”
—The New York Times

The Pulitzer Prize and four-time Tony Award-winning *RENT* has become a pop cultural phenomenon, boasting a score that includes everything from electric rock and salsa, to Motown, be-bop and reggae.

Set in New York City's East Village, Jonathan Larson's groundbreaking rock musical is about falling in love, finding your voice and living for today. Inspired by Puccini's *La Boheme*, the joyous and often bittersweet *RENT* follows a year in the lives of seven friends—young bohemians negotiating their dreams, loves, and conflicts as they struggle to make it amidst the tough realities of the big city.

NOTE: *RENT* includes mature subject matter and is not recommended for children under age 16.

Ticket Prices: \$12 Harper students, faculty/staff, seniors
 \$15 General admission



Executive Director's Report

Within this issue of the Catalyst, I am pleased to share a robust update on the Foundation's activities and express my tremendous gratitude to all who have, and continue to, play such a vital role in advancing our mission.

This past year has been excellent for Harper College and we have many things to celebrate and recognize. Enrollment continues to increase, with credit enrollment for the summer term up one percent. Also, the graduation ceremony had a record number of graduates completing degrees and certificates.

The Foundation allocated more than \$450,000 to support scholarships, grants, community programs and cultural arts. I hope you look on pages 4-6 at the impressive list of scholarships and scholars from last year. On page 3 you will see highlights about the four new endowed scholarships that were established.

This past year we had five new members joined the Foundation Board to provide their leadership and guidance. I encourage you to read the biography of our newest member, Jay Fritz.

Also, this year we completed the importing of our alumni records. This will allow us to develop a strong Harper College alumni program and connect with past students. On pages 14 and 15 please read about the 2011 Distinguished Alumni honorees. These former Harper College students have remarkable achievements.

Our successes would not be possible without the generous support of donors like you and the thousands of other individuals, corporations, businesses and organizations who believe in Harper College and support us year after year. At Harper College, we help people achieve educational dreams and goals. We could not accomplish this without your support.

Catherine M. Brod

Chief Advancement Officer,
Harper College
Executive Director,
Harper College Educational Foundation

Board Member Spotlight: *Jerome (Jay) Fritz*



Jay Fritz is a lifelong Chicagoan who resides in Inverness with his wife, Karen. Fritz received his Bachelor of Arts from Loyola University and MBA from DePaul University, with a focus in finance.

He began a long career in banking at Bank of America (formerly Continental Illinois National Bank) with a focus on commercial lending to middle market corporations based in the Midwest. Fritz continued his banking profession with Community Bank in Libertyville, Northern Trust and First National Bank of Chicago.

In 1991 he formed Royal American Corporation with the support of local investors. For the next 15 years under the leadership of Fritz as Chairman and CEO, Royal American Bank grew to over \$550 million in banking assets with an additional \$100 million in managed customer accounts in its Trust Department and Broker/Dealer subsidiary. In 2006, Royal American was sold to a public company, Midwest Banc Holdings, Inc., for \$135 million in cash and stock.

Following the acquisition by MBHI, Fritz continued to serve as President and COO of Midwest Bank, and EVP/Board Member of its parent holding company until 2010. At that time the bank was sold to FirstMerit Bank, Akron, Ohio through an FDIC assisted transaction.

He joined Cornerstone National Bank & Trust in 2010, along with a team of senior bankers he had been associated with at Royal American Bank. Fritz is currently Managing Director and a member of the Executive Management Committee at Cornerstone, an organization committed to serving its community and closely held businesses throughout metropolitan Chicago.

Throughout his career, Fritz has remained actively involved in many charitable and civic organizations including the Wellness Place, Buehler YMCA, WINGS, the Northwest Suburban Chamber of Commerce, Northwest Community Hospital and the Inverness Association. He has also supported Harper College through their scholarship fund, and he served as an adjunct faculty. ■

23rd Annual Harper Educational Foundation Golf Open



The 2011 Harper College Educational Foundation Golf Open presented by **Harris Bank and Schneider Electric** was held at Inverness Country Club on Monday, June 13. More than 120 golfers enjoyed an afternoon of best ball scramble.

Regardless of the teams' end scores, the true winners of the day were Harper College students. The golfers help to raise more than \$110,000, with the proceeds benefiting student scholarships.

Special Thanks to our 2011 Golf Open Sponsors

Event Sponsors

Schneider Electric and Harris Bank

Continental Breakfast Sponsor

Harper College for Businesses

Resource for Excellence Lunch Sponsor

Northern Trust

Awards Dinner Sponsor

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19th Hole Reception Sponsor

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Co-Chair Mark Cleary,
Northrop Grumman Corporation

Co-Chair George Powers,
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Steve Catlin, Harper College (retired)

Meg Connolly, Mortenson Construction

Maria Coons, Harper College

Kenneth L. Ender, Ph.D., President, Harper College

Derrick Hamilton, AT&T

Tom Johnson, Harper College (retired)

Steve Peterson, Harper College

Joseph Quinn, Harris Bank

Jim Schwantz, Village of Palatine

Doug Spiwak, Harper College

Robert Stanojev, Ernst & Young Consulting (retired)

make paper layouts, how to use Photoshop, how to see art work, and more. All of my knowledge came from my eight years of study at Harper College.

I took over the Chicago Shimpo and became the seventh president of the company in 2000. Since then, I have made effort to introduce Japanese culture to American people and American culture to Japanese people. I believe that the more people of the two countries know each other, the more we can do business together.

Can you share the importance and value of education you received at Harper College?

Harper College was a great place to receive a comprehensive education. I really appreciate the curriculum that Harper College offers.

Your experience is an inspiration, what advice would you give current students attending Harper College?

Harper College offers classes at an affordable fee, so I would like to encourage current students to take classes as much as they can. Especially, I would recommend them to take what they tend to think, "Oh, it's too difficult for me."

You don't have to memorize everything, but having basic knowledge makes you easier to study more when you need it. For example, I took a basic law class which was very challenging for me at that time. Now, I sometimes face legal matters, but I don't have to worry about them because the language in the law has been familiar with me.

Do you have a memory of experience you would like to share?

I have so many memories at Harper. My smoking spot was outside of the building L where I met many people and enjoyed small takings. ■

Harper College Alumni – **We NEED YOU!**

If you attended Harper College with a degree, certificate or have more than 40 hours of credit classes we are looking to reconnect with you.

Join our database of Harper College Alumni by signing up today at harpercollege.edu/alumni

We build opportunities to exchange information, network and expand professional experience between the alumni, students, faculty, staff, administration, Board of Trustees, Foundation Board and the Harper College communities. Join today and start connecting.

COMING SOON – Alumni e-newsletter.

Motorola Solutions Partnership Promotes Student Success



Choice Scholars Institute students pose with Marianne Stanke, Director of Staff Operations at Motorola Solutions, Inc. and Kenneth L. Ender, Ph.D., President of Harper College

When Brenda Escutia mentioned her dream of becoming a nurse, people sometimes discouraged it, saying it was too hard.

The Rolling Meadows resident didn't let the dream go, enrolling this summer in a Harper College program aimed at helping incoming freshmen, Escutia among them, succeed in college and the professional world that comes afterward.

Through the Choice Scholars Institute, she brushed up on math, reading and writing skills while jumpstarting her healthcare studies; thanks to a new partnership with Motorola Solutions, Inc., she also received career tips and encouraging words from Motorola Solutions professionals who talked with students about their jobs, the attributes bosses look for in potential employees, and the importance of determination and being willing to learn new things.

“When people say, ‘You can do it. I was in your shoes,’ it really encourages you,” Escutia said. “Now I see that if you’re really interested and you really want to do it, you’re going to go the extra step to be successful.”

Escutia left the program more inspired than ever to pursue a career in nursing.

The four-week Choice Scholars Institute was launched three years ago, and targets new students whose placement tests land them in at least one developmental course, but whose scores also put them on the cusp of college-level classes. About three dozen students enrolled this year, brushing up on basic skills within the context

of career paths that interested them, like healthcare, chemistry and graphic arts. Through this year's “Motorola Moments” lunchtime sessions, they also took home workplace advice from Motorola Solutions professionals, who covered everything from critical thinking, innovation and marketing to communications, teamwork and the importance of a positive attitude.

“This program is an outstanding example

of the many ways in which we're really connecting the dots for our students,” Harper College President Dr. Kenneth Ender said. “Through this program and specifically our partnership with Motorola Solutions, we're teaching students the things they need to know to succeed at William Rainey Harper College and in the workplace. It's exciting for these students, and it's inspiring to us to see the potential they have to grow and achieve.”

The program's kickoff Motorola Moments session focused on career preparation and the job interview process. In a later session specifically tailored to Choice students interested in graphic arts, Motorola Solutions professionals outlined the company's approach to marketing campaigns and answered questions from students about brand messaging. A wrap-up session focused on workplace etiquette and common mistakes people make that can trip them up professionally.

“This partnership is devoted to providing freshmen with the fundamental skills they need to thrive in an educational setting and in a professional setting,” said Marianne Stanke, Director of Staff Operations at Motorola Solutions, Inc. “We are committed to jointly guiding students to be better-equipped, and making America more competitive on a global level.”

Program participants have been able to improve their test scores and begin college-level coursework earlier. Research shows the longer students remain in developmental courses, the less chance they have of graduating from college.

The Choice Scholars Institute is part of Harper's new Student Success Agenda, designed to help more students graduate with a degree or workforce certificate or transfer successfully to a four-year college or university. The Motorola Solutions partnership grew out of Skills for America's Future, aimed at bolstering industry partnerships with community colleges and building a national framework to maximize workforce development strategies, job training programs and job placements. ■

Gifts of Life Insurance

Life insurance. At first blush the thought of it may not exactly send shivers of excitement down your spine. However, if you have a sincere desire to make a major financial contribution in support of future Harper students, life insurance can be an excellent tool for helping to accomplish your philanthropic and other financial objectives. Indeed, life insurance can empower many individuals to make charitable gifts they would never have dreamed possible - and at a relatively modest after-tax cost to the donor.

Gifts of life insurance can be made as easily as just naming the Harper College Educational Foundation as a beneficiary. While no immediate tax benefits are available, identifying your charity of choice as beneficiary only requires the submission of a new beneficiary form and results in no out-of-pocket cost.

If you anticipate the policy will not be needed at your death, another option is to assign ownership of the policy to the Educational Foundation resulting in some immediate tax benefits. By assigning complete and outright ownership of your life insurance policy, you are making a gift in the policy's payout amount at your death with no out-of-pocket cost. And, you can deduct your cost basis or interpolated terminal reserve value (whichever is less) from your Federal income taxes in the year of the assignment. A professional advisor (CPA, estate attorney, and/or financial advisor) will be able to assist you in assessing your deduction amount. Furthermore, you can arrange to deduct any future premiums that may be due on your policy by gifting them to the Foundation annually. If you are interested in exploring gifting in this manner, we ask that you work the Foundation and a professional advisor who is versed in charitable gifting to assist you through this process.

Finally, if you are strongly motivated to make a significant gift to charity, but constrained from doing so by family considerations of providing an inheritance or assets for children and grandchildren, several options exist:

- You can name our institution as the contingent beneficiary. In this case, we will receive the proceeds only if your primary beneficiary is not living at the time of your death.
- You may want to consider a "wealth replacement" technique such as transferring the policy to a charitable remainder trust. The trust will pay an income to your beneficiary for life. At the death of the beneficiary, any remaining proceeds will pass to the Educational Foundation.
- Another wealth replacement technique is to establish an irrevocable life insurance trust, allowing the trust to provide assets to your family without being subject to taxation while donating other taxable assets to charity.

In the final two examples, the rules are technical and every person's financial considerations vary, so we once again recommend you seek help from an advisor who is familiar with charitable gifting in this manner.

Regardless of the gifting method you utilize, the rewards to you, the charity, and your family by seeing your charitable intentions fulfilled in a meaningful way can be very positive.

If you would like to understand more about insurance products or using insurance for charitable purposes, please join us on November 9 and 10 for a free seminar session on "Unlocking the Mystery of Insurance: What you Really Need to Know" (see page 10 for more information).

If you have any questions about making a gift to the Harper College Educational Foundation through your will or estate plan, please contact Katherine Sawyer at 847.925.6319. ■



Katherine Sawyer, Associate Executive Director of the Harper College Educational Foundation and Director of Major Gifts shares some insight on charitable planned giving.

In Memoriam

Robert Powell

Today's students may have not had the delight of meeting Robert Powell, but his accomplishments are still prevalent today by the many alumni and colleagues he touched.

Although he was always happiest in the classroom teaching English, Robert's students and peers regarded him not just as a teacher but as a mentor. He displayed his leadership and encouragement as president of the Faculty Senate and later as dean of the College of Liberal Arts.

Since his retirement more than 20 years ago, Harper students and colleagues have commented on the significant influence Robert had on all who worked and studied with him. Indeed, he is still considered something of an institution by Harper alumni and faculty alike.

In a recent interview, Robert's longtime friend and founding faculty member Thomas McCabe described Robert's influence. "I would have to

call him an intellectual giant. In the early years he was a natural," McCabe said. "There's no question he was the leader of the pack. His students would come back and say he was the best teacher they ever had. He was the quintessential college professor. When you think of a professor you think of Bob Powell."

Robert will be remembered by his children and grandchildren for his sage advice and knowledge, by his friends for his lifelong love of golf and the St. Louis Cardinals, and by his students, faculty and coworkers both for his love of English and American literature and as a great mentor, professor, intellect and guiding light.

A memorial service was held at Harper College, Room A238 at 11 a.m. on August 26.

Thomas Yopst

As owner of Yopst & Vandersteen C.P.A. Accountants and working full-time Tom Yopst managed to find time to teach and influence Harper College students. He taught for more than 28 years as an adjunct professor in accounting. Recent students commented about Professor Yopst, "Loves to teach and it shows. Class needs to know the material before coming to class and do homework because the exam is similar to what he is discussing. If you study, you'll pass. Excellent professor and very likable. He is so cool. Show you are trying and he will do his best to help you. Great teacher." Thomas Yopst leaves a legacy of many loyal, dedicated friends and a long following of Harper College students. ■

Harper Professional Advisors Seminar Series

The Harper Professional Advisors Seminar Series is offered as a public service by the Harper Professional Advisors Committee of the Educational Foundation. Presenters are experts in their field and volunteer their time to share knowledge on topics of interest. The 2011 topics and dates are as follows:

September 21 and 22 – IRAs: To Roth or Not to Roth, That is the Question

October 10 and 19 – Paying for College: For Your Children and Grandchildren

November 9 and 10 – Unlocking the Mystery of Insurance

December – No Session (winter break)

For more information or to register please visit harpercollege.edu/foundation (free seminar series) or call the Educational Foundation office at 847.925.6490.

Project Awards for Resource for Excellence Grants

For some students, contributions to the Resource for Excellence Fund is what makes it possible for them to pursue post-secondary education in order to contribute in a meaningful way to a 21st century economy while supporting themselves and their families. It also supplies seed funding for innovative programs that emerge from our academic and student activities divisions. These grants have helped to resource new programs deemed to be urgent and relevant to our mission, such as:

The **Career Stimulus** program embraces community members who are un- or underemployed in the current recession to help restore confidence, refine or acquire skills and build networks toward gainful re-employment.

The **Book Bag Literacy Project's** goal is to promote stronger literacy skills in the English as a Second Language (ESL) community Harper serves. Students in the Future Educators Club are creating book bag activity packs. The packs will be circulated to ESL families that utilize the Child Learning Center and the Northeast Center Reading Room. Each book bag pack will consist of one pre-k book in English and one book in the family's native language -

Polish, French, Spanish or Gujarati. CD recordings of the books in English and in the respective language will also be available for circulation.

Another aspect of the project will involve creating book bag packs for children in grades 3-8. The packs will consist of one

book, one professionally read CD in English, a professionally developed discussion guide and developmentally appropriate activities. Parents of children in grades 3-8 will have the opportunity to borrow Kindle audio books to promote self-guided reading activities and further develop English language skills.

This project is a collaboration between the Northeast Center Reading Room, Future Educators Club, Child Learning Center and Academic Enrichment and Language Studies.

The **One Book One Harper** initiative is a collaborative effort to encourage students, faculty and staff to read one book and participate in a variety of academic, cultural and social activities related to the book during the 2011-2012 academic year.

A planning committee representing various departments of the College will review potential titles and make a selection for the campus to read. The books will enable the exploration of diverse perspectives and have multi-disciplinary themes and relevance. The goals of this new initiative are to encourage reading, strengthen connections in the Harper community and increase student use of the campus library and other academic resources.

Choice Scholar Institute is an interdisciplinary and interdivisional initiative to promote college readiness by providing academic enrichment programs for at-risk students, partnering with fellow educators, and introducing students to learn strategies that provide them with a framework

for understanding the challenges and expectation of college and the practical skills need to be successful.

Tech Connect is a project aimed at building technology bridges from students to the College and from students to the community. The project is comprised of two key elements:

Offer CAS 160 to 15 students at the Palatine Opportunity Center. The target students will be adult education students enrolled in Harper's Adult Basic Education/ GED courses who have indicated the intent to transition to credit courses leading to a certificate or degree.

Part two, students will complete a service learning component where they will volunteer to help adults with basic computer and Word skills at the Palatine Opportunity Center.

Implementation of Tech Connect will thus provide students with the means to strengthen their connection to Harper College and also strengthen their commitment to community involvement.

College Access for Special Populations (Year Two) will continue to provide financial assistance with tuition, textbooks and fees for displaced homemakers, single parents, non-traditional career seekers and individuals with limited English proficiency who are living below the Self-Sufficiency Standard for the northern suburbs of Cook County and are unable to secure financial aid.

Distinguished Alumni Class of 2011

We are proud to be celebrating the fourth year of the Distinguished Alumni Program. With 44 years of alumni, the Distinguished Alumni program was created as a manner to celebrate the accomplishments and achievements of our graduates. The nomination criteria for the program includes:

- Having attended Harper College and completed a minimum of two credit courses.
- Demonstrating achievement and success of an exceptional nature within their chosen field or profession.
- Exhibit positive impact on his/her community through leadership and/or volunteering.



Nancy M. Castle



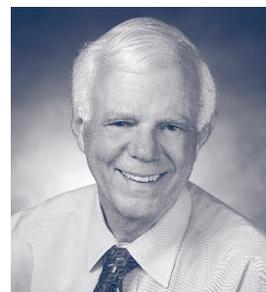
Thomas J. Erbach



Daneen M. Gorski-Adams



Donna M. Grzegorek



Lawrence R. Moats

2011 Distinguished Alumni Honorees

Nancy M. Castle, Ph.D.

Professor

**Center for Non-Governmental
Organization Leadership
and Development**

**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Northern Illinois University**

Dr. Nancy Castle was 16 years old and new to northwest Illinois when she arrived at Harper College in 1973. During her time on campus, she explored an interest in psychology and built a foundation of skills and confidence that she eventually parlayed into a nationally recognized career in the field. Castle continued her education at Northern Illinois University, where she earned a bachelor's and a master's degree in psychology and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology.

Over 30 years Castle built a distinguished career, first as a faculty member at the University of Arkansas, and for the last 20, as a professor at Northern Illinois University. She is considered a national expert on the

employment of persons with disabilities, especially persons who are Deaf. She has produced numerous publications and presentations in this area and served as part of the leadership team at two federally funded university research centers.

Recently, Castle was invited to serve as a faculty member with NIU's Non-Governmental Organization Leadership and Development, where she will work with nonprofit organizations dedicated to building a civil society. Her interest in civic engagement has also resulted in her appointment as the campus liaison for service learning.

Thomas J. Erbach

**Technical Training Manager, Beckman
Coulter, INC**

Tom Erbach's love for solving analytical problems and puzzles has helped fuel his 20-year career as a manager of technical training and support management. In his most recent role with Beckman Coulter, a leading global producer of clinical and

research laboratory technology, Tom supported more than 300 field service engineers in the United States and Canada.

Over the years, Erbach has combined his technical expertise with his passion for adult education and applied learning. He was one of the few service employees at Beckman Coulter to receive the "Inner Circle Award" for improving training and performance measures that have become the new company standard. Through a partnership with Harper College for Business and the College's HVAC program, he created a customized curriculum to train Beckman Coulter field service engineers from around the nation in refrigeration principles.

Erbach received an associate degree with a chemistry major from Harper College in 1974 and, later, a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Northern Illinois University in 1977.

He spent six years on the Board of Directors for Wayside Cross Ministries, a drug and alcohol recovery program for men, where he helped chair the building of the Adult Learning Center.

Daneen M. Gorski-Adams
Director of Learning and Development
Hospice and Palliative Care of
Northeastern Illinois

Gorski-Adams is a two-time Harper graduate, having completed both an Associate of Science degree in 1984 and an Associate in Applied Science Degree with a nursing major in 1994. Between her two stints on Harper's campus, she earned a bachelor's degree from Loyola University. Gorski-Adams' combination of clinical and administrative experience in the specialized areas of oncology and hospice nursing has led her to become a well-known and respected nurse in the area. She was recently named the Director of Learning and Development for Hospice and Palliative Care of Northeastern Illinois, which she has worked for since 2005. Passionate about mentoring staff and educating patients and family members, Gorski-Adams' current role allows her to do both through the development of all internal and external programming.

She has received certification from the American Board of Nursing Specialist and possesses two specialty certifications; from Oncology Nursing Certification Corporation and the National Board of Hospice and Palliative Nurses. In addition to her professional accomplishments, she is actively involved in several community organizations and continues her Harper involvement by serving as a member of the advisory committee providing support and direction to the College's nursing program.

Donna M. Grzegorek
Hygienist Innovative Dental
Professionals and High Tech
Dental Healthcare

Since earning her Associate in Applied Science in Dental Hygiene from Harper College in 1980, Donna Grzegorek has become a well-known and respected name in the dental community.

Her advanced credentials include certifications in myofunctional therapy, local anesthesia, nitrous oxide sedation and laser dentistry, among others. Her passion for her career and her focus on wellness through oral healthcare set the stage for numerous honors, including three national industry recognitions: Sunstar America's "Dental Hygiene Award of Distinction," Discus Dental's "Hygienist of the Year," and the American Dental Hygienists' "Hygienist Hero." Grzegorek has also become a key opinion leader in the area of early oral cancer detection. She is currently a Clinical Specialist at High Tech Dental Healthcare and Chief Operating Officer of Innovative Dental Professionals in Barrington.

She is a published author, national speaker, corporate consultant and student mentor, and has volunteered hundreds of hours to advance public awareness about a variety of dental topics. Grzegorek's desire to give back to the community has manifested itself in a number of events, including a successful effort to set a Guinness World Book Record for the "Most Number of People Dental Flossing on a Single Strand of Dental Floss," which involved 250 adolescents on a 1,500-foot piece of dental floss.

Lawrence R. Moats
President Moats Office Properties
and Arlington Electrical Construction
Company

Larry Moats has had two unique views of Harper College. He was a student during the campus' first two years in existence, and he served 15 years on the College's Board of Trustees – becoming, at the time of his first election, the youngest elected official in the state.

Moats is a successful businessman and generous benefactor with a strong public service background. After finishing at Harper, he attended the University of Illinois at Chicago, started his first business while still a student there, and eventually earned an MBA from the University of Chicago in 1986.

Under Moats' ownership, Moats Office Properties, a community-based organization with buildings for lease and rent in Illinois, Arizona and Michigan, continues to flourish despite the bad economy. His electrical contracting business provides power, control systems and other specialty services to critical organizations like Fermi National Accelerator Lab, Great Lakes Naval Base and the Facility Management Systems at University of Illinois.

He and his wife, Dr. Carolyn Moats, are members of the Harper College Educational Foundation President's Circle, which raises money for scholarships and educational programs. Moats has long had an interest in fostering a Harper alumni program. ■

Save the Date



Harper College

Distinguished Alumni
Reception

November 14, 2011



6–8 p.m.
Wojcik Conference Center
at Harper College

Harper College

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