

For Immediate Release

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Donors, New Board, Scholarship Recipients Take Top Honors at BC Foundation Annual Meeting

(FORT LAUDERDALE – FL) - It was an evening of many firsts at the Broward College Foundation (BCF) Annual Meeting held on February 26 at the Willis Holcombe Center of Broward College (BC) in downtown Fort Lauderdale.

A record number of private, corporate and foundation supporters turned out for an information-packed program and reception. The evening was anchored by the recently installed new board, a series of donor tributes, a special unveiling of The President's Club plaque, and a presentation announcing the introduction of the first FAU Transfer Scholarship recipients.

BCF Executive Director Nancy R. Botero's focus was to spotlight the many constituents and supporters committed to Broward College and students, while showcasing new foundation developments and highlights of a record-breaking fundraising year that yielded \$5.7 million for students scholarships and college support. More than two dozen donors were honored in eight categories.

"The mission of the Broward College Foundation is to raise funds that support the college's students, faculty, staff and capital projects," said Botero. "This charge would not be possible without the generous support and leadership of champions who serve as board members, corporate partners and individual philanthropists. These champions are leading the way for generations and beyond," she said.

Special recognition went to Darran Blake, the first recipient of the Broward College Foundation Chairman's award. The Chairman's award distinguishes a donor an individual for committing personal resources, expertise and time to ultimately secure the foundation's future. Blake, a Senior Vice President of financial planning for UBS, has demonstrated her commitment to the Foundation by helping to connect local philanthropists interested in leaving legacy gifts to the Broward College Foundation.

In the category of Individual Philanthropists for 2008, the foundation honored Robert "Bob" Elmore, Chip and Christine Hodges and Dr. Floyd Koch. Elmore's commitment has spanned nearly four decades by first becoming the founding member and Vice Chair of what was then known as the Broward Community College Foundation in 1971. He holds the distinction of being the first individual to endow a teaching chair at BC. His generosity to the Honors Institute has led to the endowment of scholarships since 2004. Last year, his continued support was recognized by renaming the Honors Institute in his honor. The Hodges established the Bobby Hodges Memorial Tribute Fund in 2008 yielding seven scholarships in the first year alone. Dr. Koch has played a major role in developing scholarships that support the career aspirations of dental hygiene students at the college.

In the category of Foundation Donors, the Emil Buehler Perpetual Trust and the Health Foundation for South Florida were honored. Broward College benefits from a long history of philanthropic gifts from the Emil Buehler Perpetual Trust. Most recently, BCF the foundation received a gift from the Emil Buehler Perpetual that led to the purchase of a state-of-the-art voice activated air traffic control simulator ultimately enhancing BC's air traffic control program. Students train on a model currently used in the industry. The Health Foundation of South Florida was recognized for donating two very generous grants last year: one in support of the Broward College and Broward County Health Department Collaborative Dental Care Program, and one in support of funding on an annual basis for tuition, books and related expenses to help those who otherwise could not afford to attend college and pursue a nursing degree.

In the category of Organization Donors, honors went to Memorial Healthcare Systems, Inc., Take Stock in Children and Holy Cross Hospital. Since 1988, Memorial Healthcare Systems, Inc. has provided both scholarships and program support for BC students in nursing and health sciences. In 2008, they stepped up with a \$1.7 million gift for scholarships as well as equipment and faculty enhancements. Through the Take Stock in Children partnership, BCF was able to purchase Florida Prepaid Scholarships designated for students currently in the 6th grade and older who take part in the innovative Take Stock program. Holy Cross Hospital continued its commitment to BCF by designating its donations to the Holy Cross Health Ministries Health Science Scholarship covering tuition, fees, books, supplies and uniforms for the health sciences program. Additionally, the scholarship opens employment doors for recipients who graduate and are recipients of the scholarship.

In the category of Corporate Donors, Marine Industries Association of South Florida (MIASF), Delta Connection Academy, Inc., and CIGNA were honored. MIAASF's generous contributions and dedicated partnerships annually support the college in a variety of ways that promote and enhance the college's marine technology and training programs. The Delta Connection Academy is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Delta Air Lines and is a dedicated flight training provider since 1999. Funds donated to BCF make it possible to enhance the aviation program at BC. CIGNA, a donor since 1998, has annually committed as the title sponsor to the Broward College Foundation/CIGNA Golf Classic. Each year, this fundraising event raises more than \$100,000 earmarked for student scholarships and STARS (Steering Teens Toward Academic Rewards and Success).

In the category of Alumni Donors, BCF recognized Marissa Kelley-Boyle, a shareholder in the litigation firm of Sterns, Weaver, Miller, Weissler, Alhadeff & Stiterson, P.A. Her commitment last year to the Heritage Society Luncheon established an endowment designated for female students who are the first generation in their families to attend college.

The final category presented was Faculty, Staff and Administrators recognizing BC South Campus Dean of Academic Research and Institute Technology Terry Justice, BC Bookstores Director George Masforroll, and Associate Vice President of the Robert "Bob" Elmore Honors Institute Dr. Irma Bocchino. Each of these honorees dedicates considerable funds and time broadening awareness of the Faculty, Staff and Administrators Campaign as well as the BCF mission.

Also during the annual board meeting, college officials recognized Dr. Joyanne Stephens, Vice President of FAU's Broward Campuses, who made a gift to the Broward College Foundation to assist BC graduates who are transferring on to FAU. Two BC students who were designated as the first recipients of the FAU (Florida Atlantic University) Transfer Scholarship were named. Moriah Jordan, a Mixed Media major specializing in film and video with a minor in anthropology, and Nichola Peak, a Criminal Justice major, will each receive \$1,000 beginning with the 2009 fall semester at FAU. To qualify for the scholarship, students must demonstrate financial need and be eligible under the criteria established for Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program.

The evening culminated with the unveiling of The President's Club plaque. The President's Club is an inner circle of supporters who serve as ambassadors for the college. They demonstrate a personal commitment to the college's most essential mission – transforming lives through education.

About the BC Foundation

The BC Foundation awards more than \$2 million in scholarships annually to BC students and supports academic programs and awards for outstanding faculty. While the State of Florida funds approximately 62 percent of BC's operating budget, the balance must be raised from individuals, corporations and institutions.

The mission of the Broward College Foundation is to support the college by providing advocacy, community awareness and financial support to the college, its students, faculty and staff. Led by its Board of Directors, the foundation raises funds, conducts programs and practices stewardship that increases the effectiveness of the college in meeting community, student, faculty and staff needs.

For more information or to make a contribution to the foundation, please call 954-201-7414.
