



## Important Dates...

### HCC Foundation sponsored events

#### Rise-n-Shine Breakfast

May 4, 2016  
7:30 to 8:30 a.m.  
Building T  
(Business & Technology)

Hosted by HCC Alumni  
Association and  
Freeport Area Chamber  
of Commerce

#### 20th Annual Leadership Golf Outing

Monday, June 6, 2016  
The Freeport Club

#### Shindig VI

Saturday, August 20,  
2016  
(Location and theme  
TBA!)

## HCC Foundation Announces April 1 Scholarship Deadline

**A**pril 1 is the deadline for submitting Highland Community College Foundation scholarship applications, according to Pat Dunn, Highland Foundation director of operations and member of the HCC Scholarship Committee.

A searchable database of more than 100 scholarships is available at [highland.edu](http://highland.edu). This online tool allows Highland students to review scholarships based on eligibility criteria. Students seeking additional information on the application process should call the Foundation office at 815.599.3413 or the Financial Aid Office at 815.599.3519.

In previous years, the Foundation has annually awarded more than \$350,000 in scholarships to HCC students. Scholarships vary in amounts and are available for recent high school graduates, returning students, non-traditional students, part-time students, and adults seeking to re-enter or attend college for the first time.

Since 1962, the Foundation has awarded more than \$6.8 million in scholarships through annually funded, endowed, and memorial scholarships. These scholarships have been established and sustained by generous donations from individuals and businesses in northwest Illinois.

Individuals or community partners interested in supporting students by establishing a scholarship should contact Dunn at 815.599.3408 or [foundation@highland.edu](mailto:foundation@highland.edu).

*Photographs shown here were taken at the Foundation Scholarship Ceremony last September.*



## Leadership Golf Outing June 6, 2016

### Major Sponsorship Opportunities

(multiple opportunities available)

Platinum Sponsor (Includes 2 foursomes and name/logo on cart signs) • \$2,500

Gold Sponsor (Includes 2 foursomes) • \$2,000

Silver Sponsor (Includes 1 foursome) • \$1,500

Bronze Sponsor (Includes 2 golfers) • \$750

Brat and Burger Lunch Sponsor (Includes 2 golfers) • \$750

Heavy Hors d'oeuvres/dinner Sponsor (Includes 2 golfers) • \$750

### Additional Golf Sponsorships Available

Big Beverage Buckets On-Course Sponsor (beer/soda/water, one bucket per nine) 2 available • \$250

On-Course Skills Sponsor, 18 available • \$150

Hole Sponsor (tee or green) • \$100

### Leadership Golf at The Freeport Club

- check-in at 11 a.m.
- brat and burger lunch buffet at 11:30 a.m.
- shotgun start at 12:30 p.m.
- beverages and treats on course
- heavy hors d'oeuvres begin at 6:00 p.m. with awards and golf prizes
- 18 holes + cart
- Single golfer: \$150

Register online at [highland.thankyou4caring.org](http://highland.thankyou4caring.org)



## HCC Foundation Recognizes Distinguished Alumni

**T**he Highland Community College Foundation presented its 21st annual Distinguished

Alumni Awards last October 2015 at the Foundation's annual board meeting and dinner at the Freeport Country Club. Each year, alumni are nominated for the awards by friends, colleagues, and family members. Final selections are made by a committee comprised of of HCC Alumni Association Steering

Committee members and Foundation board members.

This honored distinction is reserved for individuals who exemplify community leadership, demonstrate professional achievement, and believe in the mission of community colleges and higher education.

Shown above (L to R) are the 2015 award recipients: Dr. Steven Manson (LaCrosse, WI); Tim Myers (Rockford); Amy Baker (Orangeville); and Jim Dole (Freeport).

In the summer of 2016, nominations will be accepted for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards. Watch for an announcement on the HCC website, at [highland.edu/alumni](http://highland.edu/alumni).



**HIGHLAND  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE  
FOUNDATION**

## Foundation Achieves Fundraising Goal for Fine Arts, Vocal Music Tour to Europe Set for May

With the completion of the December 2015 Madrigal at Chestnut Mountain Resort, the HCC Foundation finally surpassed its \$25,000 fundraising goal in support of Highland Community College's upcoming Vocal Music Tour. We will now be able to underwrite a significant portion of the cost of the tour for several HCC students, thereby greatly reducing the per-student cost of the trip.

Plans are now underway for a group of 15-18 students to travel to Germany and Austria in May 2016 with HCC music instructor Allen Redford and local composer/pianist Pat Beckman to perform in various venues. What an amazing experience this will be for our HCC students, many of whom would not have been able to participate in the trip without the generosity of our donors. Thank you!

# Start Here. Go Anywhere. 3 Local Superintendents are Highland Alums!

**T**he Superintendents of three northwest Illinois school districts have one thing in common—they are graduates of Highland Community College. Brad Albrecht, River-Ridge; Mike Schiffman, Freeport; and Rosemarie Brubaker, Aquin Catholic Schools each went on after Highland to advance their education and prepare for their current responsibilities.

Albrecht earned a Bachelor's degree from Illinois State University, then a Master's degree in Educational Administration from Clarke University. He earned his Superintendent's endorsement from Western Illinois University.

Schiffman earned a Bachelor's degree from Illinois State University and holds a Master's degree in Administration and Education from Western Illinois.

Brubaker earned her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Rockford University and her Master's degree in Administration and Leadership from National Louis University.

All three superintendents spent their careers in education and have risen through the ranks. Albrecht started in the Elizabeth School District as a physical ed teacher and multi-sport coach. With the consolidation of Hanover and Elizabeth School districts—River Ridge—he continued teaching and was also head boys basketball coach and athletic director for the district. He was also principal for grades 6 – 12 prior to becoming superintendent in 2004.

Albrecht said, "Highland was a great experience and affordable decision after high school. I was unsure of my future plans, so I decided to enroll in general education courses and participate in basketball and baseball." He was captain of the Cougar basketball team.

Albrecht added that Highland "allowed me to stay in the area and have a quality education and college social life."

Schiffman began serving as Superintendent of Schools in the Freeport School District on July 1st, 2015. His previous experience included five years as Superintendent of Schools for Dakota Community Unit School District 201 in Dakota, IL, where he served beginning in July 2010. Prior to that, he spent time as a principal, dean of students, and history teacher at other school districts in northwest Illinois. He is currently working on and close to completing his Doctoral Degree through Western Illinois University, "hopefully" graduating in May or December of 2016.

Schiffman said, "HCC provided a great start to my post high school education. Going to HCC allowed me to find out what career and pathway I wanted to move towards. Dr. Kenneth Kiser was one of my Social Science professors at HCC, and it was after taking his courses that I realized I wanted to be a Social Science teacher."

"I was also responsible for paying for my college tuition," Schiffman said. "So by attending HCC I was able to continue to live at home and to work in the area in order to save for my tuition as I moved on to a four-year institution."

Schiffman noted that Highland Community College "is where my passion for life-long learning started. It was where many doors began to open for me and my future as a teacher and educational leader."

Brubaker taught in the Aquin Catholic School system beginning in 2008 as a teacher in several subjects—psychology, sociology, science, health and world history. She was junior/senior high school administrative intern and then administrator, before becoming

Aquin superintendent and principal in 2015.

Aquin's Brubaker said, "Attending Highland Community College was an excellent choice for me and my family. I am a wife and mother of two who, at the time, was starting college at square one. I was a non-traditional student and needed an affordable start that was close to home. HCC was just that and more. I was impressed by the rigor of the courses and the knowledge of the professors. I felt pushed to work hard, critically think and openly discuss thoughts and ideas within the classroom."

Brubaker added, "Highland was a catalyst for me to continue on to complete my bachelor's degree and master's degree. All around my HCC education was top notch, but I would like to specifically mention the excellence I experienced with the English department.

"I truly feel as though they prepared me well for my future college and professional research, writing and public speaking. Professor Donna Tufariello was instrumental in increasing the quality of my writing. After being out of school for about eight years, she was patient as I learned to recall information I had not used in almost a decade. However, nothing but true excellence was acceptable. I thrived off of that type of challenge.

"I'd also like to commend Professor Alan Wenzel. I am a much better public speaker because of his guidance and expertise."

Highland Community College currently uses a promotional and recruiting slogan "Start Here. Go Anywhere." It's a pleasure to recognize these three local educational leaders who got their start at Highland and have come back to northwest Illinois!

## Double Your Money — and Your Impact — by Participating in "Double Play"

*Back in 2013, a generous anonymous donor from JoDaviess County originally pledged \$50,000 per year for five years in matching dollars, which can only be captured if the Foundation raises the same amount each year in donations to either the Major Gifts Campaign or the College's "area of greatest need." For 2013, 2014, and 2015, the Foundation met or surpassed its Double Play matching goals, thereby receiving a total of \$150,000 in matching funds from our Double Play benefactor.*

*The 2016 calendar year marks the fourth year of the HCC Foundation's "Double Play" appeal. Every dollar donated to Double Play, up to \$50,000, will be matched at year-end. As we head to press, donations to Double Play 2016 total \$11,835.00 so far.*

*Won't YOU help us reach our Double Play 2016 goal? To donate to this appeal, you can mail in a donation using the special envelope enclosed in this newsletter, or you can give online at [highland.thankyou4caring.org](http://highland.thankyou4caring.org). We truly appreciate your support!*



THE BUCKET

### HCC Foundation

R. Todd Weegens, President  
Jim Berberet, Executive Director  
Pat Dunn, Director of Operations  
Kim Rampenthal, Director of Fundraising  
Joanne Kasprzak, Secretary

Non-Profit Org.  
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Rockford, IL  
Permit No. 745

## Alumni Updates

### Angela Bradt, Rock City

"Starting at HCC, I knew I wanted to get into education, but it was during my classes there that I found a passion for students with special needs. After getting my associates' degree from HCC, I then transferred to Illinois State University to major in special education. I have been teaching students with a wide variety of special needs for 14 years now and am currently teaching at my alma mater, Dakota Jr/Sr High School, where I try to direct as many students as possible toward Highland as they start their college careers."



### Marg Christensen, Freeport

"I started attending Freeport Community College in the late '60s and am not sure if Highland Community College has ever left my life. FCC was a wonderful opportunity for those of us of the work force and not the Woodstock generation. My emphasis was on business management, vocational ed, leadership, and real estate. My greatest memory is being in *Grease* in the '80s as the beloved Miss Lynch. Many family members have attended HCC, and my husband has taught Business classes there. As a realtor, when touring clients, HCC is always at the forefront as one of our area's biggest assets."



### Pete Fink, Lanark

"When I stepped onto Highland's campus as a freshman, I had no idea it would still be part of my life 20 years later. Back then Highland helped me solidify my career path, gave me a great education, and brought together a new set of classmates from across the region. Today those classmates are still great friends of mine, still making laughs and memories, and now as Highland's Network Administrator I'm able to help Highland provide today's students the same opportunities, education, and memories."



### Ashley Wolber, Warren

"I graduated from Warren High School in 2005 and enrolled at Highland right away. I became a work study in the Financial Aid Office and gained some great work experience while completing my degree. In 2007, I graduated with my Associates in Business Administration. I worked for three years in the HCC Foundation Office, before going to my current position in the Financial Aid Office as a Financial Aid Assistant and Veteran Certifying Official. I am so grateful for my education through Highland as well as all of the wonderful experience. Highland is a great asset to our community."



**Stay in the loop with HCC Foundation! Be sure you can receive our e-blasts and important updates. Send an email to us at [Foundation@highland.edu](mailto:Foundation@highland.edu), with "Current email address" in the subject line and your full first and last name in the body of the email.**

**Send your alumni updates to  
[foundation@highland.edu](mailto:foundation@highland.edu)**