



Shindig Returns To Its Roots!

As it has for the past eight years, the Highland Community College Foundation hosted Shindig VIII: Shindig at the Stables on September 29, 2018. The Shindig returned to where it all began.. to gorgeous pastures and stables outside of Freeport. Thank you to Oak Ridge Arabian Stables who once again hosted our charity event at their beautiful and breath-taking stables. The ranch was truly a magical setting – filled with beautiful horses, great food, and warmth generated from the gathering of close to 500 Highland friends. And, thank goodness for the warmth, as the cold and rain tried to damper the event, but the Shindig guests weren't going to let it spoil the festivities.

Guests dressed in their favorite western attire, enthusiastically outbidding one another to win incredible live and silent auction items. Thanks to auctioneer Doug Munda, who sought out the highest bidders to ensure record breaking support for HCC.

New this year was the introduction of mobile bidding. Guests used their mobile phones or iPads to bid on silent auction items. If they didn't have a device or needed clarification on how to bid, the Stables were filled with Highland students and their iPads teaching bidders how to use the mobile bidding software, as well as helping them place bids.

"The Shindig fund-raising event has a long history of tremendous support from donors and community members. It is with that great support that we are able to provide Highland Community College with the needed resources to help shape the future of our communities by providing quality education and learning opportunities," said Jeff Reinke, HCC Foundation Executive Director.

An exciting addition was musical entertainment from Jason McNabb & The Reign. The band's music added a fun country flair to the event as guest danced after the live auction concluded. Guests dined on western fare from 3Headed Monster BBQ in Shannon, as well as delectable desserts from The Cheese Market, Cathy's Custom Cupcakery, Hilldale Deli, and The Cookie Jar, as well as What's the Scoop ice cream from Cafe 217.

When planning and organizing the Shindig, the Foundation made conscious decisions to seek local vendors and suppliers from within Highland's four-county district. Items from food & beverages to rentals to supplies were obtained from throughout the District.

Through the Shindig, the Foundation was able to generate \$80,000 to benefit funding for student-focused programs including scholarships for students in all curriculum areas, the College's expanding program and course offerings, as well as the greatest needs of the College.



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Corporate Partner Campaign

In March of this year, the Highland Community College Foundation launched a new corporate partnership program that aimed to engage our supporters in a new and varied ways, providing a win-win scenario. The Foundation has added 34 Corporate Partners since this launch, raising \$103,000! Thank you to our Corporate Partners.

HCCF Corporate Partnerships are available at four levels, tiered in terms of dollar amount and benefits.

Our Corporate Partners have found the benefits of building long-term, strategic, and symbiotic relationships with Highland while receiving focused stewardship, increased visibility on campus, and at our community events.

Supporting and sponsoring the HCC Foundation is just

one way to have a positive impact on the lives of our students, faculty, staff, and community at large. Whatever the interest, corporate support makes a difference in the lives of students and future generations to come.

The Foundation team welcomes the opportunity to discuss how a business can become a 2019 Corporate Partner. Call 815-559-3413 to learn more.

A Big Thank You to our Corporate Partners



- The Apple River State Bank
 Beggin Tipp Lamm LLC
 Bocker Auto Group
 Citizens State Bank
 Colony Brands, Inc.
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 Freeport Industrial Roofing, Inc.
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Northwest Illinois Agriculture Center: More than a Vision

The vision of creating the Highland Northwest Illinois Agriculture Center to be a regional hub for Ag training and research is becoming a reality thanks to generous donors. With the great leadership team of HCC Agriculture Instructors, Justin Eberts and Monica Pierce, along with the HCC Foundation team, we are excited to share that we have raised over \$400,000 in this effort.

Thanks to a partnership between Stephenson Service Company and Growmark, students will learn in a new and exciting way. The partner donors have provided a Spray Applicator Simulator to aid in the education and training of HCC students. The simulator features a realistic sprayer cab with a mechanical seat that moves to simulate bumps and turns. Digital screens in front and on each side provide a realistic, panoramic view of all operations and makes the driver feel as if he or she is operating a real machine.

Simulator users can select a road course, basic field navigation, or an open course to practice their sprayer operating skills. The simulator provides a report card at the end of each session so the driver can learn his/her strengths and weaknesses. What an exciting new way to learn and train!

Through a private donation, the Ag students will also experience learning in a newly renovated Agriculture Lab located in the Ag Building on campus. Renovations are in the planning stages to develop a creative updated Agriculture lab where students will be able to learn and explore. In addition, Compeer Financial awarded \$8,000 to the Ag Department (photo above) to purchase a drone with a sensing camera with the ability to utilize the images in an easy to use map format. The drone will allow Ag students to use collected data to begin the process of making crop recommendations. This new drone will provide students another exciting opportunity

to experience the technology being used in the industry today.

Thank you to all of our Ag donors who are the pioneering force in helping us realize this important goal:

- Adkins Energy
- Carroll County Farm Bureau
- Citizens State Bank
- Compeer
- Forrester State Bank
- Ogle Farm Bureau
- State Bank
- Stephenson Farm Bureau
- Stephenson Service Co.
- Growmark
- Steve and Darleen Switzer in memory of their son, Joel Switzer
- Vita Plus



Celebrating our Students and Thanking our Donors!

With more than 300 people in attendance, Highland Community College Foundation distributed more than \$390,000 to Highland students for the 2018 academic year at its annual Scholarship Awards Ceremony on October 14 in the Student/Conference Center.

Scholarships were awarded to 130 individuals from 120 various scholarship funds. More than \$8 million has been distributed to Highland students since the Foundation was formed. The first scholarships were awarded in 1963 for a total of \$4,000. Some scholarships are based on merit and financial need; others are awarded to students based on where they attended high school and what major they are studying.

Scholarships still available:

- Early Childhood Consortium – Due November 15th
- Freeport Rotary Vocational Education - No due date
- Gene Haas Scholarship for students enrolled in the CNC Program - No Due Date

For more scholarship information please visit: <https://highland.edu/?s=scholarships>



Jeff Reinke, HCC Foundation Executive Director

From Jeff's Desk...

Wow – how time flies! After completing my first full year as Executive Director of the Highland Community College Foundation, I can tell you that I'm humbled and extremely grateful of the tremendous support we've received from our Foundation Board, HCC faculty and staff, and the many donors who have made a commitment over the past year.

We've made significant strides in introducing a few key initiatives, while relying on several long-standing events.

Here's a quick update:

Rolled out in January, the inaugural "Corporate Partnership" Program was a huge success thanks to the 34 companies that made a commitment to support HCC. A total of \$103,000 was generated in corporate support from this first-year initiative, providing a substantial increase in net income for both the Leadership Golf Outing and the Shindig.

SHINDIG VIII, held at Oak Ridge Arabian Stables, was the most successful ever with over 450 people attending. For the first time ever, we offered the opportunity to bid on-line for our silent auction items. Thanks so much to everyone who attended and supported this year's event. You can check out pictures online at www.highland.edu.

The HCC Foundation's Annual Appeal was mailed prior to the end of 2017. For the first time in several years, we reached out to donors asking for support of HCC programs and services. We received a tremendous response, generating just over \$15,000. This year's appeal will be mailed out again just prior to the Thanksgiving with a key message from a Highland Alum who is making a difference right here in Freeport and the surrounding area – stay tuned!

The 22nd Annual Leadership Golf Outing was held in June, and it was the largest ever with 140 golfers participating! Because of the success, we were able to double the amount of support provided to both the Leadership Institute and Leadership forum! Next year's

event is scheduled for Monday, June 3, 2019 – hope to see you there!

The Agriculture Department's "Case For Support" was introduced to companies and individual donors with the goal of raising \$570,000 for equipment and upgrades to the Ag building. To date, over \$400,000 has been raised with the goal of reaching the \$570,000 mark by March 1, 2019. This success wouldn't be possible without the support of the Agriculture department and the many Agriculture companies and families who've made the commitment to make HCC a regional hub for Ag training and research. This Hub will serve HCC students, agribusiness and Ag tech professionals, producers, and suppliers.

And finally, as we move toward the end of the year, our Foundation Board, staff team, and HCC leadership will be working together to create a two-to-three-year development plan. The key component will be an over arching "Case For Support," giving donors the ability to support one of "Seven Pillars." The Case will identify key areas within each pillar that will give HCC the ability to sustain growth and world-class service to our students and constituencies.

To all of our donors, companies, and volunteers who supported HCC by attending an event or making a donation this past year - THANK YOU for your generosity! To learn more about the HCC Foundation, please visit us on-line at highland.edu/foundation





22nd Annual Leadership Institute Golf Outing

Due to a successful golf outing event, the HCC Foundation was able to double the support to the Highland Leadership Institute. On June 4th, the Freeport Club hosted a record high of 140 golfers at the Leadership Institute golf outing. The Foundation is extremely grateful to the Corporate Partners, hole sponsors, and prize donors for their support. Of course, this would not have been a success without our invaluable volunteers and golfers! Thank you!

"The annual golf outing proceeds directly support participants in the Stephenson County Leadership Institute and the Jo Daviess County Leadership Forum. There are several participants each year who are able to benefit from the program because of the scholarship fund the outing supports. We are grateful for the continued generosity of the golfers, donors, and volunteers," explained Jim Phillips, Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts.



Thank you to the following businesses and individuals who helped with our Golf Outing

Hole Sponsors

Mike Bald, Columbia College, Berbz, Barkau Automotive/Barkau & Sons, Diamond & Huels, Floor to Ceiling, Fraternal Order of Eagles, Cathie Schmerse, Jim Shankland, Stockton Strong, Alan Wenzel, Craig Knaack and Freeport Family Chiropractic.

Food and Beverage Sponsors

Snacks and beverages on course: Journal-Standard (Always Cookies), Jim Phillips & Tracy Mays (Blarney Stone Popcorn), and Dimond Brothers (two big beverage buckets)

Prize Donors

Deininger Floral, Frank Jewelers, 9 East Coffee, Generation's Boutique, Freeport Club, Woodbine Bend, Eagle Ridge, The MORSE GROUP, Todd and Glenna Weegens, Galena Golf Club, Wolf Hollow Golf Course, Platteville Golf, Lake Carroll Golf Course, and Perkins Custom Cuts.

Distinguished Alumni Ceremony

The HCC Foundation is hosting its 24th Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards on November 8th. This historical event will honor persons who began their educational career at Highland Community College, demonstrated community leadership, professional achievement, and believe in the mission of the community college.

The Foundation's Alumni Development Committee has reviewed the nominations and selected the award recipients. Receiving close to 20 outstanding nominations made the selection a difficult one this year! This year's distinguished alumni winners are Alan and Sherry Flack, Mrs. Pennie Groezinger, Ms. Cristina Lambert, Dr. Mike Schiffman, Dr. Heather Shick, and Ms. Kristin Stinnett.

Since the award's inception in 1995, the HCC Foundation and Highland Community College are proud to have recognized 118 individuals as Distinguished Alumni. Congratulations to our amazing community members!



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LISA LA SALA NAMED HCC FOUNDATION DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

On April 2, Lisa La Sala joined the Highland Foundation as Development Director. Lisa's primary focus is implementing fundraising programs that benefit Highland Community College and the support of our students.

Lisa most recently served as the Executive Director of the American Red Cross of Northwest Illinois for over six years. Prior to that, Lisa worked as the Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters. She has been in the nonprofit realm for over 25 years with a large focus on fund development.

Lisa holds a Master's Degree in Non-profit Leadership and Management from Walden University (2013). She resides in Winnebago with her two children, Colin, who is looking forward to attending Highland next fall, and Brooke who is a student at Pecatonica High School. If you don't find Lisa in the office, you may find her enjoying an active outdoor lifestyle: fishing and kayaking!

Please join us in welcoming Lisa to the Highland Community College Foundation team.

