

SPRING 2016



**Schoolcraft
College**

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER



*Fostering opportunity today.
Changing lives forever.*

Letter from the President

Dear Friends of the Foundation:

I love Schoolcraft College! I love what it has done—and what it continues to do—for our students and our community. I imagine that, if you are reading this, that you love Schoolcraft, too.

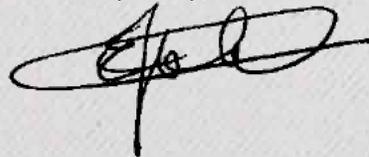
We are so fortunate to have world class facilities, faculty and programming to offer an incredible array of academic classes for the full-time or part-time student, as well as individuals looking to enhance their business or life skills through continuing education classes.

With financial support from generous benefactors, we are able to offer scholarships and provide exciting learning and cultural opportunities to our students and the community. Your contribution in the form of a named scholarship, a planned gift in your will or trust, as a sponsor to the Golf Outing, or a monetary gift of any size will greatly enhance the academic

opportunities that we are able to offer to students. Your gifts—and your continuing support of the Schoolcraft College Foundation—truly do make a difference.

We hope that you will enjoy reading about our amazing students, faculty and alumni. We look forward to having you visit the campus and letting us know why you, too, love Schoolcraft College. Please join us as we continue our vision of “Fostering opportunity today. Changing lives forever.”

Yours very truly,



Elizabeth Johnson, President
Schoolcraft College Foundation

Donors, Friends and Volunteers Honored at Annual Appreciation Dinner

The 14th Dalai Lama, Lhamo Dondrub, said that generosity is the most natural outward expression of an inner attitude of compassion and loving-kindness.

In November, the Schoolcraft College Foundation hosted its annual Appreciation Dinner to celebrate those donors and friends who expressed their generosity through their time, talent and treasure. Their generosity helps provide the resources to challenge our students and support them on their path to success.

The evening honored new members of the Henry Rowe Schoolcraft Society who support Schoolcraft College through planned gifts as well as members of the Bell Tower Society whose contributions to the Schoolcraft College Foundation have accumulated gifts of \$10,000 or more.

The program featured a presentation by welding instructor Coley McLean on welding camera technology that was funded through

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Patrick O'Rourke Police Academy Award Established

Sergeant Patrick O'Rourke was a graduate of the Schoolcraft College Police Academy and served for 12 years as an officer with the West Bloomfield Police Department. On September 9, 2012, he became the first officer in the department's history to lose his life in the line of duty. He and fellow officers responded to a call of "shots fired." When Officer O'Rourke attempted to help a suicidal man, he was met with gunfire and fatally wounded.

Patrick was a larger-than-life hero and his tragic death left behind his wife Amy, four children, his parents Daniel and Arlene, three brothers, and a brotherhood of blue. Close friend and colleague, Sergeant Rick Trabulsy, memorialized his fallen brother-in-blue this way, "What made Pat special was his faith; he had a deep abiding faith and unselfish love. He was always willing to lend a hand, but he knew how to be heavy-handed when he needed to. He could hook 'em and book 'em with the best of 'em. He could kick in doors, but he understood the service side as well.

He always served with great humanity. He had compassion for the weak, the infirm, the old, the young, and he was willing to lend an ear to someone who didn't have anyone to listen to them. He had that perfect combination of compassion and courage."

To honor Patrick's public service, those who loved him have established the Patrick O'Rourke Police Academy Award to honor his memory and ensure his legacy lives on. The O'Rourke family worked closely with the Schoolcraft College Foundation to establish the award.

Gerald Champagne, Associate Dean of the Public Safety Programs, and Gregg Brighton, Educational Coordinator for the Public Safety Programs, hosted a tour of the Public Safety Facility for the family. The facility where today's future officers receive training features a display wall that honors fallen alumni of the Schoolcraft College Police Academy. Patrick's photo is proudly displayed on this Wall of Heroes. The tour was particularly meaningful for Champagne, as he had been Patrick's mentor when he was a cadet at the Academy. Champagne and Brighton presented the family with a gift—a framed picture of Patrick as a cadet and also the letter Patrick wrote as part of his application to the academy explaining why he wanted to serve.

Moved by the experience, the O'Rourke family expressed confidence that establishing this award with the Schoolcraft College Foundation will further ensure Patrick's sacrifice will never be forgotten.



The O'Rourke Family and hosts
Victoria Rexius and Gerald Champagne.



To make a donation

*to support any of the projects outlined in this newsletter
or other college projects and scholarships*

visit scf.schoolcraft.edu

or call the Foundation at 734-462-4455.

Frank Angileri Inducted as Newest Member of Henry Rowe Schoolcraft Society

The Henry Rowe Schoolcraft Society was established to honor and recognize individuals who support Schoolcraft College through planned gifts. Through foresight and planning, donors who include the Schoolcraft College Foundation in their estate plans leave a special legacy by providing essential support for generations of Schoolcraft students to come.

During the annual Appreciation Dinner in November, the Schoolcraft College Foundation inducted its newest member to the Society, Mr. Frank Angileri.

An American success story, Mr. Angileri is a native of Sicily where he earned his Ph.D. in economics at the University of Palermo. He and his wife Bessie (who sadly passed away in 2014) enjoyed more than 64 years of marriage together. After he and Bessie moved to America, Mr. Angileri served 34 years as a quality manager for Ford Motor Company, where he helped develop the Ford Q1 Award and the Supplier Quality Assurance Program. After retiring from Ford, he established Quality Concepts & Strategies, a consulting company. When asked

why he supports Schoolcraft College through his estate, he responded, “My wife and I always enjoyed driving by Schoolcraft College and thought it brought significant value to the community.”

For more information on how to include Schoolcraft College in your estate plan, contact the Schoolcraft College Foundation at 734-462-4455.



Frank Angileri is honored with a plaque as his sister-in-law, Mary Pugliese, looks on.

2015 Annual Campaign Nets Over \$215,000

PRIDE. CHALLENGE. ACHIEVEMENT.

Every day Schoolcraft College puts its students to the test—maximizing their potential by keeping the bar high and providing the support they need to reach it and go even higher. Schoolcraft faculty are serious about academics as they challenge their students. When students leave class, they will have more than just knowledge, they will have a feeling of accomplishment from pushing themselves to be the best that they can be. Student life at Schoolcraft is serious as well. The

dynamic campus has more than 30 student clubs, 12 competitive men’s and women’s athletics teams and vibrant music and theater programs.

This year donors, alumni and friends showed their pride in Schoolcraft College by participating in the PRIDE. CHALLENGE. ACHIEVEMENT, 2015 Annual Campaign and helped raise more than \$215,000—a 20 percent increase over the 2014 campaign.

“We are incredibly grateful to those donors, friends and alumni who make giving to the Schoolcraft College Foundation a priority each

year,” said Beth Kohler, Director of Development for the Schoolcraft College Foundation. “We are also thrilled to welcome those who are new contributors to the campaign and know they won’t be disappointed in helping students achieve their academic goals.”

A total of 265 individuals, businesses and organizations donated to the 2015 Annual Campaign. The funds raised provide scholarships, grants and learning enhancements for students and the campus community, including those that are highlighted in this issue.

Annual Scholarship Reception Returns

After a one year hiatus, the Foundation brought back its annual Scholarship Reception with resounding success. More than 170 donors and scholarship recipients gathered to celebrate a successful academic year and to honor the generosity of the donors who support them. In addition to enjoying hors d'oeuvres and sweets in the Schoolcraft College tradition of culinary excellence, guests were treated to a program featuring Plymouth Rotary Foundation Scholarship Coordinator Ron Schmyr, and Schoolcraft art student and Rockall Fund scholarship recipient Jennifer Wheeler.

Schmyr began his talk by reciting a quote by Dr. Martin Luther King. “Everyone can be great, because anyone can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve, you don’t have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full

of grace, a soul generated by love.” He talked about his experience as a child growing up in Detroit and participating in the Detroit Police Athletic League (PAL). Through his participation in PAL he and his mother were encouraged to apply for a scholarship to attend Detroit Country Day School. After graduating from high school, Schmyr was accepted on a full scholarship to Harvard. During his time at Harvard, Schmyr realized that while financial circumstances were quite different among the students, they had more human elements in common than not. As the beneficiary of life-changing scholarships, Schmyr has made significant efforts to give back to his community. Residents of Plymouth, Michigan, he and his wife Julie have raised seven children together—two of whom attended Schoolcraft College. He has 33 years of experience in the financial

industry—and currently holds the title of Senior Vice President and Senior Portfolio Manager of Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS).

Wheeler, the recipient of The Rockall Fund Art Scholarship, talked about her passion as an artist and how she planned to use that passion to change the lives of others. It was during her work teaching art to persons with disabilities that she discovered to make the impact she wanted, she needed to complete her education. She recently completed her sixth semester at Schoolcraft College and expressed how the scholarship not only supported her financially but gave her confidence in the knowledge that someone believed in her enough to invest in her. Wheeler graduated on May 7 and hopes to pursue a bachelor’s degree at the College for Creative Studies in Detroit.



Register Now for the 2016 Golf Classic

Register now for the Schoolcraft College Foundation Golf Classic being held Monday, June 6, at the beautiful Walnut Creek Country Club in South Lyon, Michigan. Join us for a fun and challenging day on the links followed by a banquet, awards presentation and silent auction. The golf outing supports student scholarship opportunities and helps to promote academic excellence for student success. For more information visit scf.schoolcraft.edu or call 734-462-4463.



Foundation Hosts Event in Florida

The Foundation hosted its first event for alumni, friends and Schoolcraft retirees at the Sanibel Harbour Marriott Resorts in Ft. Myers Beach, Florida, in February. More than 30 people gathered to socialize with one another and hear Vice President and Chief Student Services Officer Cheryl Hagen provide an update on the college and its students.



Guests enjoy the view at the Sanibel Harbour Resort.

Annual Appreciation Dinner *continued from page 2*

private donations to the Foundation. McClean explained the difficulty of performing hands-on demonstrations for more than 12 students in a tight space, something welding instructors battle during every class. The new camera technology projects a welding process onto a big screen in real time, and allows the instructors to record the welding techniques, and upload them to the college's online course management system so students can reference the lesson at any time to hone their skills.

Associate Professor Helen Ditouras also spoke about another Foundation-funded program—the International Institute Focus Series. The Focus Series' goal is to promote global literacy and cultural competency by exposing people to a variety of cultures, and help them understand how key issues and endeavors are affected by the interdependence of all peoples and nations.

Elizabeth Braun, this year's Schoolcraft College Foundation Scholar, spoke about her experience as a student. She has worked multiple jobs to help finance her education while maintaining a 3.9 grade point average, achieving dean's list honors and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa. "I view scholarships as a reward and an incentive to continue to work hard towards my degree," said Braun. "I chose to attend Schoolcraft before transferring to a university because the programs and courses offered here are what I needed to achieve my goals while saving money to pay for a bigger university." A passionate volunteer in her community, she has participated in the Detroit Free Press Marathon with team World Vision to raise funds to provide clean drinking water for the people of Africa and she served on a mission team to Puerto Rico to help build homes for those who had none. Braun is one of seven children and not the first in her family to attend Schoolcraft College. She plans to pursue a career in healthcare.

The evening concluded with the recognition of those volunteers who help the Foundation plan their premier events and dedicate countless hours to ensuring participants and guests enjoy their experience while helping to raise money for Schoolcraft College scholarships and to enhance educational experiences.



Pageturners Book Club Challenges Students and Community to Enjoy Literature

When the National Endowment for the Arts published its 2004 Reading at Risk report, it found that for the first time in modern history, less than half of the adult population read literature, and this trend reflected a larger decline in other types of reading, too. Furthermore, it showed that reading in America was declining rapidly among all groups, but that the rate of decline had accelerated, especially among the young.

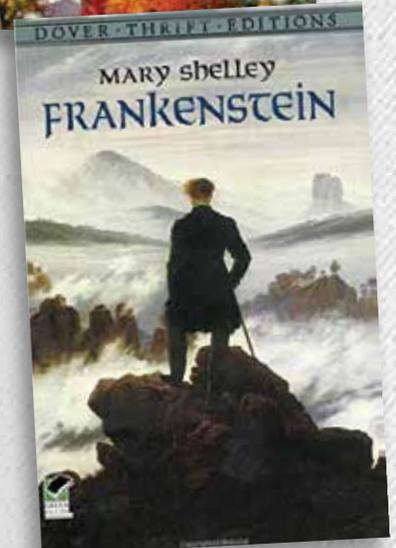
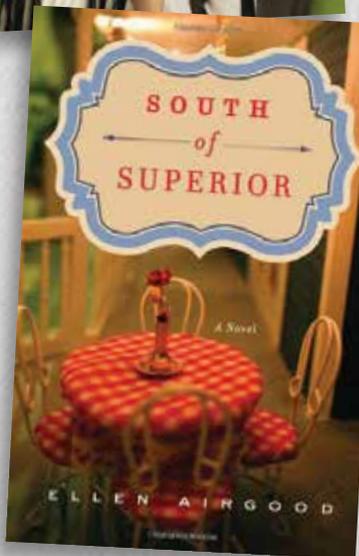
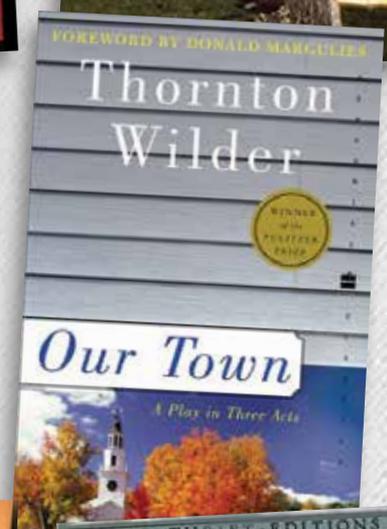
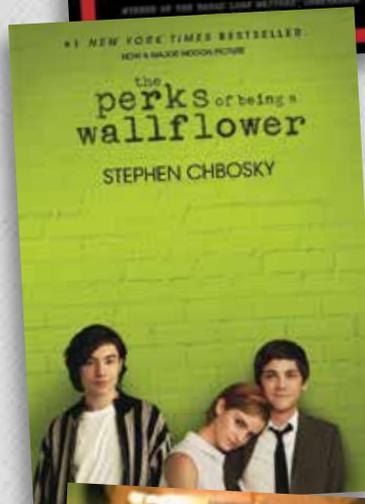
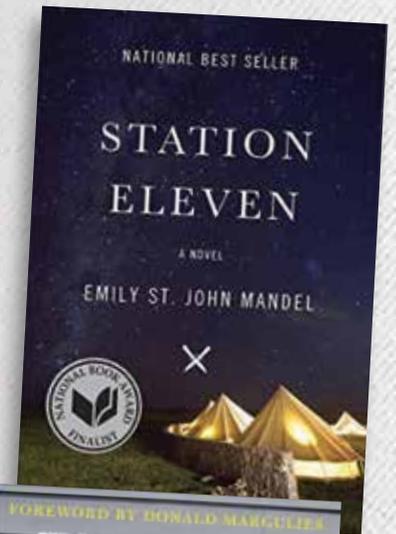
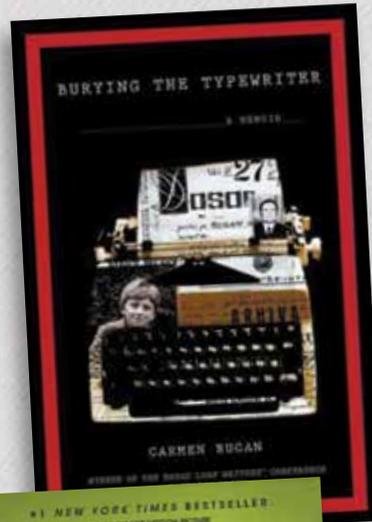
Interestingly enough, Schoolcraft College's Faye Schuette (Professor Emeritus of English) had launched the Pageturners Book Club in 1993, a decade before the NEA report. "She came up with the idea of a campus book club to encourage adult literacy and support the annual Phi Theta Kappa honors topic," said Elzbieta Rybicka, professor of English and coordinator of the Pageturners Program since 2007.

Under the leadership of Rybicka, and supported through a \$3,000 grant from unrestricted gifts to the Schoolcraft College Foundation, the program has adopted a broader focus and evolved into more than just a book club. "Today we share our love of reading through a wide variety of interactive public programs," said Rybicka. "Such as book discussions, author visits, book signings, panel discussions, film presentations, exhibits and classroom research." This year the program featured *Burying the Typewriter*, *Frankenstein*, *Station Eleven*, *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*, *Our Town* and *South of Superior*.

Among Rybicka's favorite memories over her years coordinating the program is a meet the author event with John Titus, author of *Losing Alicia: A Father's Journey after 9/11*. "It is a special moment when students listen with awe and sometimes even cry," replied Rybicka.

Grateful for the investment by donors, Professor Rybicka encourages all to participate. "If you join Pageturners, we will encourage you to read more, tempt you to explore genres you don't normally read, and provide opportunities to make new friends. Together

we will learn about different cultures not only by reading books but also through sharing our different backgrounds and viewpoints," said Rybicka. She added, "Finally, it is *fun!*"





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IRA Charitable Rollover Now Permanent

The IRA charitable rollover is now permanent! When thinking about your annual distribution withdrawals, please consider the Schoolcraft College Foundation. By directing a gift from your IRA to the Schoolcraft College Foundation you can support programs, students AND exclude the contribution from your gross income.

How?

- You must be 70½ or older.
- Your total IRA gifts cannot exceed \$100,000 each year (it will count toward your required minimum distribution).
- Contact your IRA trustee to make a contribution directly to the Schoolcraft College Foundation.

Contact your legal or financial advisor for advice on your specific situation.

Schoolcraft College Foundation Beth Kohler, Director of Development

18600 Haggerty Road | Livonia, MI 48152 | 734.462.4455
scf.schoolcraft.edu | development@schoolcraft.edu

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