Growing local businesses with help of DOL grant

Macomb has received the largest competitive grant award ($9.6 million) in its history from the U.S. Department of Labor to fund retraining programs for those who are unemployed, under-skilled or are U.S. military veterans.

Macomb’s portion is part of a $24.9 million grant awarded to a coalition of eight Michigan community colleges to upgrade and align their manufacturing training curriculums to better meet employer’s needs and current industry standards.

The funds will be used over a four-year period by the coalition, with Macomb in the lead, to strengthen training at each college in four critical manufacturing areas: CNC machining, welding/fabrication, production operations and multi-skilled technician training. The funding will provide for development of new educational offerings and delivery methods, as well as enhance current programs. Collectively, the eight colleges are expected to train more than 2,700 individuals, using an approach that includes employer involvement and promotes job readiness skills and pathways to certificates and degrees.

Macomb’s portion of the grant will fund equipment upgrades at its Michigan Technical Education Center (M-TEC™) facility and will help provide training to approximately 500.

As we head into the hustle and bustle of the holidays, it is a great time to celebrate and thank those who so generously support our students and Macomb Community College. Reflecting on the past year, I am overwhelmed by the many things we have to be thankful for here at Macomb because of our donors. That’s why I am sharing with you this collective snapshot of philanthropy at its very best.

Whether through scholarships, student emergency needs funding, or support of arts and cultural programs, donors like you have made a difference in so many of our students’ lives, as well as in the quality of life of the greater Macomb community. Philanthropy has allowed the College to reach out to people of all ages. From students in grades K–12 to our community’s seniors, all have benefited from Macomb’s numerous educational programs.

As 2013 comes to a close, we thank you for your support and hope you derive some well-deserved pride from reading about the many ways philanthropy is helping secure the future of Macomb Community College, its students and the community.

Enjoy,

Dawn Magretta, CFRE
Director
MCC Foundation & Alumni Relations

From right to left: Avon Gear President David Share, Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel, U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, and U.S. Rep. Sander Levin were among the dignitaries who joined Macomb President Jim Jacobs Sept 23 at Macomb’s M-TEC™ facility in Warren to applaud the $24.9 million grant recently received from the U.S. Department of Labor.
Donors Celebrate Together

Donors to the MCC Foundation celebrated at the annual Donor Recognition Reception, held on November 16, 2013. The event, which recognizes annual donors who give $250 or more, was held at the Lorenzo Cultural Center, where they enjoyed dinner before being entertained with a performance by Linda Eder at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts.

Special tribute was paid to Joan Herroscheck who was inducted into the Legacy Society. This Society recognizes donors who have included Macomb Community College or the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts in a planned gift such as a will, estate plan, life insurance policy or other vehicle. Legacy Society members are also included on the permanent Donor Wall, located in the lobby of the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts.
More than 100 Macomb Community College retirees gathered on Oct. 1 for the second annual Retiree Breakfast, held at the Lorenzo Cultural Center. Hosted by the MCC Foundation and the Macomb Community College Retiree Association, the breakfast was an opportunity for retirees to gather and socialize with friends and colleagues while catching up on all of the new programs, events and innovations throughout the College.

The highlight of the event was the presentation of a Proclamation signed by the Macomb Community College Board of Trustees officially recognizing the important contributions made by College retirees throughout their tenure at Macomb, as well as their continued commitment to education and student success.

Ronald L. and Christine Bonkowski Family Endowed Scholarship

The MCC Foundation is proud to recognize Christine Bonkowski along with Gloria and William Westrick as the 2013 National Philanthropy Day Distinguished Volunteer honorees. Each received the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Greater Detroit Chapter’s Distinguished Volunteer Award at the National Philanthropy Day dinner on November 13. National Philanthropy Day is celebrated annually by 225 AFP chapters worldwide to recognize those whose philanthropic activities contribute so much to our community and set a standard of philanthropy for others to emulate.

To Christine Bonkowski, commitment to community is a family tradition. In 2001, she established The Ronald L. and Christine Bonkowski Family Endowed Scholarship Fund in honor of her late husband, Ronald, whose career in community service focused on civic service and education as a Warren Councilman and Mayor, and as a Macomb Community College Trustee.

Mrs. Bonkowski is a lifelong resident of Macomb County. Through six terms as a Macomb Community College Trustee, she has been a strong advocate for education and student success, and represents the College on the Board of Directors of the Macomb Community College Association.

Gloria and Bill Westrick are longtime patrons of the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts and supporters of Macomb Community College. To help students meet the financial costs of a college education, they established The Gloria and Bill Westrick Family Endowed Scholarship. “One of our concerns was that there were students at Macomb who were having trouble paying for their tuition,” Bill stated. “We know the value of an education. In this economy, there is a need to keep education affordable.”

The Westricks have five children, all of whom have college degrees. “We believe in college as a way to a better life,” states Gloria, “and we believe that given an opportunity, the students are going to go on and do well.”
Scholarship recipients express gratitude, learn the value of philanthropy

The Macomb Community College Foundation receives dozens of thank you cards and letters from scholarship recipients expressing their appreciation to the Foundation and to the donors who make those scholarships possible. Through the generosity of our donors, the Foundation was able to award more than $230,000 this year in scholarships. Students who receive scholarships are learning that philanthropy is about more than fundraising, it’s about making a difference and opening the door to opportunity.

Hydee Holdburg, recipient of the Jason Somyak Memorial Scholarship, is a great example. “Thank you again for your support and generosity,” she wrote. “You have changed my life!”

Students are also learning that philanthropy is a commitment to the future. This scholarship is “a tremendous help as I achieve my lifelong goal of becoming a nurse,” wrote Susan Anderson, a recipient of the Metro Health Nursing Scholarship. “I am extremely grateful and I hope to pay it forward and help finance other nursing students to achieve their dreams as well!”

Katie Burke, recipient of the Sonya Brett Memorial Endowed Nursing Scholarship, echoed the same sentiments. “Because of this generous gift, my dreams are becoming an unimaginable reality. I fully plan to one day pay this good deed forward and help others like myself.”

Aaron Mousolf, a recipient of the Foren Family Fund Award for Engineering and Advanced Technology, is, likewise, intending to show his gratitude at some point in the future. “Your generosity is allowing me to make my goals and dreams a reality. I hope, in return, that one day I will be able to give back and help other students achieve their goals.”
The Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan has awarded a $25,000 grant to help the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts expand Page to Stage, a program that presents curriculum-linked stage adaptations of significant works of American literature to students.

Page to Stage, which began in 2009, brings literature to life for students by creating theatrical productions featuring characters from history and great books. Study guides for teachers to use in their classrooms before and after their field trip to the Macomb Center are also available, and most performances feature a Q & A with the professional actors.

The expansion of Page to Stage is expected to double the program’s reach to 7,000 students from pre-K through college age, with the Macomb Center presenting 14 performances of eight titles. In 2012–13, four performances were presented of three titles geared to students in grade 6 and above.

In addition to the recent grant from the Community Foundation, Page to Stage also receives funding from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, ArtWorks, The Kresge Foundation, Target, the Macomb Community College Foundation and from Julius Cicchini, a Macomb Center patron and donor who contributes annually in honor of his late wife, Anna Mae.

“If you don’t open up the door to our youth,” asked Cicchini, “how are they ever going to open up the door to the world?”

For information on Page to Stage, please go to www.macombcenter.com.

With the support of a $3,000 grant from Meemic Insurance Foundation, ten Macomb faculty and staff members were awarded professional development scholarships. Sponsored through the Gingrich Agency, these scholarships provided staff with funding for professional growth opportunities. Thanks Meemic!

Award winners (left to right) Kathleen Wentzel, Mary Meier, Heather L. Mayernik, April M.B. Cobb, and Susan Boyd each accept the check from John Gingrich, Meemic representative.
New Scholarship Funds Reflect Commitment to Future

Each year, the Macomb Community College Foundation awards more than $230,000 to students in scholarships, funded through contributions from individuals, foundations and corporations. These awards do more than provide financial assistance; they help fund students’ futures. Below are just a few of the scholarships that have been established this year:

A graduate of the Macomb Police Academy, Dr. John R. Cencich is a legal scientist specializing in international crime, forensic interrogations and criminal investigative analysis. He previously served for more than 20 years as a police officer and investigator, as well as a special agent with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. He established the Dr. John R. Cencich Award for Academic Excellence for Law Enforcement Personnel in memory of his friend, Dryden Township Officer Robert Brown, who was killed by a drunken driver in 1999.

In honor of their longstanding relationship with the City of Eastpointe and its residents, First State Bank has established a scholarship to assist graduates of East Detroit High School further their education. The First State Bank Scholarship exemplifies the bank’s commitment to community engagement and education, providing ten $1,000 scholarships for the 2013–2014 academic year.

For Norm and Pat Dyer, creating the Dyer Family Scholarship was a way of “paying it forward.” Norm graduated from Macomb in 1970 after receiving veteran’s benefits to help pay for college. At that time, Norm and Pat had four young children and money was tight. “I would have never went on to complete my degree at Macomb if it wasn’t for the assistance,” states Norm. “I went on to get a degree at Wayne State and (had) a successful career in the defense industry. This was my opportunity to help Macomb students succeed in their educational goals.”

“People helping people” is the guiding philosophy behind the Michigan Schools and Government Credit Union Scholarship for Fire Training and Police Academy, reflecting the credit union’s community focus. The scholarship will provide four awards of $1,250 for the 2013–2014 academic year.

The Ronald W. Wilson Law Enforcement and Police Academy Memorial Scholarship was established by the family of Ronald W. Wilson (picture right) to honor his career in law enforcement—a family tradition in the Wilson family. Ronald’s son, Paul, is a retired Sterling Heights police officer who wanted to ensure that pre-service Police Academy cadets would have the funding they need to complete the rigorous training for graduation from the Academy.
With its new Design and Development Academy, which opened this fall, the Early College of Macomb (ECM), a joint venture of Macomb Community College and the Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD), is offering high school students yet another way to get a head start on college.

The two-year Academy is open to Macomb County high school juniors interested in careers in product design and development. Classes are taught by Macomb engineering and design technology faculty, and credits earned in the academy may be applied to Macomb’s associate of science degree in product development technology.

It’s the newest addition to the ECM, which was launched by the College and the MISD in 2010 and offers college-bound high school students the opportunity to start and finish college early.

For Grayson Mirat, (below) it’s a fast track toward an MBA, which he expects to earn by the age of 22. “I hadn’t thought about starting college early, but my mom knew it was a good opportunity,” said Mirat, 18, who graduated from Macomb with an associate degree in May, just one year after graduating from Chippewa Valley High School. “She said I could quit if I didn’t like it. But once I tried it, I didn’t want to leave.”
### Permanent Directors

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr. James Jacobs</td>
<td>Chairman</td>
<td>Macomb Community College</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Kelly</td>
<td>Vice Chairman/Secretary</td>
<td>Board of Trustee Chairman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth A. Argiri</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Vice President, Business</td>
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### Community Directors

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<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Terry Hamilton</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>St. Johns Macomb-Oakland Hospitals</td>
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<td>Mary Kramer</td>
<td>Vice President &amp; Publisher</td>
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<tr>
<td>William A. Morelli Sr.</td>
<td>Executive Director</td>
<td>Italian American Cultural Center</td>
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**2014 Calendar**

- **January 24 & 25**  
The Addams Family Musical  
586.286.2222 or [www.MacombCenter.com](http://www.MacombCenter.com)

- **January 25**  
“The Hunger Games” to help students in need  
Support Macomb basketball teams as well as the student food pantry! Game entry: 5 non-perishable food items.  
[www.macomb.edu/studentlife](http://www.macomb.edu/studentlife)

- **January 29**  
Cultural Excursion to the DIA—$20 Guided Tour Focused on the 1920s. 586.286.2222 or [www.MacombCenter.com](http://www.MacombCenter.com)

- **February 7**  

- **February 22–May 4**  
The Roaring Twenties—From Riches to Rags  
586.445.7348 or [www.LorenzoCulturalCenter.com](http://www.LorenzoCulturalCenter.com)

- **March 7**  
The Four Bitchin’ Babes Present Hormonal Imbalance!  
586.286.2222 or [www.MacombCenter.com](http://www.MacombCenter.com)

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**Macomb Community College Foundation**  
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**Supporting The Mission Of Macomb**


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