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MCLENNAN

HIGHLANDER QUARTERLY

In this issue: Steinway Series Presents Anderson & Roe
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Tax Changes for Givers • Honorariums and Memorial Gifts

Your Will, Their Way.
Remember the MCC Foundation in your
annual giving and estate planning.

WINTER 2013

UNIQUE PIANO CONCERT CAPS 2012-13 STEINWAY SERIES



2012-13
McLennan
presents
**Anderson
& Roe**

**Saturday, Feb. 2
7:30 p.m.**
FREE Admission
Ball Performing Arts Center
McLennan Community College

These Julliard graduates have played at several prominent events across North America and have a live performance featured on Julliard's centennial year CD. The Steinway Series concert will feature Greg Anderson and Elizabeth Joy Roe's original compositions and adrenalized performances on MCC's Steinway concert grand pianos.

**Doors open at 7.
Come early to ensure seating.**

For more information, call
MCC's Visual & Performing Arts
at 254-299-8283.



Scan with your
smart phone

MCC FOUNDATION TO RECOGNIZE ALL-STEINWAY MAJOR DONORS

Donors who have given generously to the All-Steinway Campaign at McLennan Community College will be recognized at a special donor wall ceremony and reception on Feb. 2, coinciding with the Anderson & Roe Steinway Series concert.

The MCC Foundation launched the All-Steinway Campaign in December 2009, and to date the campaign has raised almost \$750,000 to purchase 27 Steinway pianos and establish an endowed maintenance fund.

The prestigious designation as an All-Steinway school has elevated MCC to the status enjoyed by many well-known music schools such as Julliard, the Yale School of Music and Carnegie Mellon. To support the arts in McLennan County and the All-Steinway Campaign at MCC, please contact Harry Harelik at 254.299.8606. Naming and legacy opportunities are available.

SINCERE THANKS TO THE GRACIOUS
SPONSORS OF THIS CONCERT!

Don and Pam Moes
MCC Foundation
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HEARTS IN THE ARTS GALA FEATURES "HAIRSPRAY"

Our Gala Sponsors

AS OF JANUARY 26, 2013



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Drs. Clay and Dianne Sawyer

A *Chance* TO HELP A STUDENT



The MCC Foundation is pleased to present the 4th annual "Glam for Good" Gala Jewelry Raffle!

Win this stunning diamond and stainless steel Ladies' Tag Heuer watch valued at \$4,000, courtesy of Boozer's Jewelers. Tickets are \$25 each, two for \$40 and six for \$100, and no more than 500 will be sold.

The drawing will be held February 21, 2013 at the Gala Theatre performance. You need not be present to win.

To order your tickets, contact the MCC Foundation at 254.299.8604 or e-mail reservations@mclennan.edu.

Proceeds from the Hearts in the Arts Gala and Raffle support scholarships and other capital needs.

NEW MEMBERS JOIN FOUNDATION BOARD

Members new to the MCC Foundation board gathered for a board orientation workshop on Nov. 30 at the Northwood House at MCC.

Board members learned about the Foundation's finances, operations, special events and fundraising initiatives and were introduced to the Highlander Alumni Association.

New on the board for three-year terms include Winfred Watkins and Diane Deaver, pictured here with MCC Foundation Executive Director Harry Harelik. Not pictured is new board member Wesley Filer.

Welcome, Diane, Wesley and Winfred!



MCLENNAN DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES TO PRESENT WATERGATE LEGEND BOB WOODWARD



The McLennan Distinguished Lecture Series is funded by private donations to the MCC Foundation. For more information about the series or this event, contact the MCC Foundation at 254.299.8481.

A Conversation with Bob Woodward

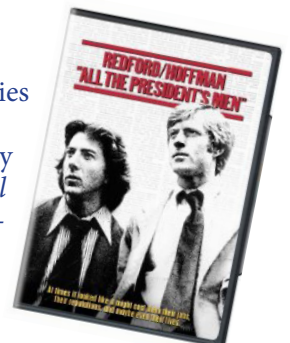
hosted by Professor Ashley Cruseturner

7 p.m., Tuesday, October 22, 2013

McLennan Community College Conference Center

Admission: Free, but tickets will be required.

The McLennan Distinguished Lecture Series is supported by the MCC Foundation in collaboration with McLennan Community College. A free screening of the movie *All The President's Men* will be at 7 p.m., Monday, October 21 in the Ball Performing Arts Center theatre. Movie sponsored by the MCC Highlander Alumni Association.



Hands On LEARNING AT MCC

There are some people with whom resistance is futile. MCC professor Dr. Linda Dulin is one of those people. So, on the day last year when Linda sent an e-mail titled “Honors College students,” I knew immediately that I was in for an offer I couldn’t refuse:

“I have two Honors College students, Jordan Walker and Kyndall Holecek, who want to work in marketing and/or public relations. They are taking an independent study-academic cooperative and would like to gain experience and insight into the field. Would you be interested in having two exceptionally bright young ladies (I truly mean this!) help you in some areas that would let them see what this field is like? ... They really are superior and excited students!”



Foundation intern Kyndall Holecek, left, with Gala volunteer Michelle Herbelin.

I knew Linda’s proposal was an opportunity I shouldn’t pass up. How glad I am that I didn’t! With the MCC Foundation Gala a mere month away, I quickly put the girls to work on the myriad details involved in such a large-scale fundraising event.

They laughed when I told them that one of the most important elements of any public event is the bathroom: how many, how clean, and how functional. (I am right, am I not?) We worked our plans down to the minutest detail ... who stood where, who did what and what time each event transition occurred. The girls were in awe of how complicated it is to “throw a party.” The plan, I must say, was flawless.

Except for one thing. On the afternoon of Feb. 23, 2012, gale-force winds blew out of West Texas and right into the middle of our outdoor event. As we discussed some tough decisions with very limited options and time, Jordan’s eyes, which are normally large and dancing, grew even larger with disbelief at the complexities facing us. With three hours to

kickoff, we decided to move the entire event to an indoor venue.

The rest, as they say, was history, and the 2012 Gala turned out to be one of our best yet. Better yet, Jordan and Kyndall received the kind of hands-on education in event management/crisis planning that would take years to learn on the job.

Aside from helping plan and execute the Gala, the students also participated in an MCC Foundation board meeting and VIP tour, learned how to write press releases for special events, and conducted interviews with PR professionals in various sectors. They journaled their activities and wrote reports comparing/contrasting what they learned from each professional. (Not a shabby body of work for one short semester!) At the end, they absolutely rocked a presentation about their Gala experience and how much they had learned that would prepare them for careers in public relations and marketing. Best of all, even after having seen the less glamorous side of the field, they were even more excited to pursue this career path.

Jordan is now studying agriculture communications at Texas A&M, and Kyndall is finishing up her work at MCC and heading to Baylor in the fall. And, she recently learned that she is a finalist for the prestigious Jack Kent Cooke Scholarship.

With pride bordering on motherly, I bid goodbye to the girls in May, thankful for the opportunity to have worked with them. But my pride is ever greater that MCC is offering students like Jordan and Kyndall such rich learning opportunities and, better yet, positioning itself as the college of choice for high-caliber students like these.



Gala volunteer Denaye Eby, left, with Foundation intern Jordan Walker.

By: Kim Patterson, Associate Director, Communications and Alumni Relations, MCC Foundation

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROFILE

The MCC Foundation's annual scholarship competition ended January 17, with increased numbers of applications. The raising of funds and accepting of applications for scholarships as well as awarding scholarships is the primary objective of the McLennan Community College Foundation. The process to solicit scholarship applications is the responsibility of Lance Summey, the MCC Foundation's Associate Director of Operations.

Submitted applications this year have increased by 18% to 845 (after a 14% increase the prior year.) Completed applications thus far (confirmed requirements of transcripts and references all met) reflect a 35% increase to 532. These statistics confirm not only that more students are becoming aware of the scholarship availability but also that they are navigating the application process more successfully.

Female applicants outnumber male applicants by a 3-to-1 ratio. While applications were received from virtually all high schools in the county, the top five high schools represented by scholarship applications are:



2011 Foundation scholarship recipient LaTasha Everett.

1. West High School
2. La Vega High School
3. Midway and Waco High (tied)
4. University High School

Finally, the ethnic breakdown of the scholarship applications is White 55%, Hispanic 27%, Black 13% and Other 5%.

The MCC Foundation generally is able to annually award around 300 to 325 scholarships and continues to research and expand new

scholarship resources to service an increasing number of qualified and worthy students with financial assistance. If you are interested in supporting the scholarship efforts of the MCC Foundation, please contact Harry Harelik at hharelik@mclennan.edu or 254.299.8606.



Save the Date

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2013
COTTONWOOD CREEK GOLF COURSE

Now accepting sponsorships
Contact the MCC Foundation at **299-8606**
or hharelik@mclennan.edu.
Proceeds benefit student scholarships at MCC.
Watch for registration information in August.

ALUMNI *Spotlight*

Highlander

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
McLennan Community College • Waco, Texas



FROM “LETTUCE PICKER” TO COUNSELOR, TRAVELER, TEACHER

Sandra Victorino Defies Migrant Child’s Odds

MCC History instructor Henry Apperson speaks with pride about many of his students who have gone on to achieve great success. But the one he proudly calls “The Lettuce Picker” stands alone. Sandra Victorino was an MCC Foundation Scholarship recipient, and here is her story:

My parents were migrant workers, so I attended multiple schools from K-12. I found it exciting to move from state to state; however, I struggled with some school systems. I was seen as a migrant child and there were stereotypes about migrant children. I was told time and time again that I would not amount to much since my parents had chosen this life for me. I felt a sense of inferiority.

One of the schools I attended in Washington State had a trailer outside the school building for migrant children in grades K-5. I attended class in that trailer in 3rd grade and remember not learning anything since I was being taught words like cat and hat, which I had learned in kindergarten. The logic about separating migrant children from the other children was that we did not have the ability to catch up with what was being taught and it would be more difficult for the teacher and student. I was raised bilingual; however, I was always placed in ESL classes at almost every school.

I chose MCC because I was afraid to attend a large college and not make it. For many years, I had been given the message that I would not succeed. I lacked faith in myself, but MCC provided me with the safety I was looking for at that time. It was not as daunting. It was close to home, affordable, and the admission process was simple. My professors helped me learn about my history and taught me how to have pride in myself. They believed in me when I did not believe in myself.

“My MCC professors believed in me when I did not believe in myself.”

At MCC, I studied Behavioral Science and actively participated in Phi Theta Kappa, which was such a wonderful and memorable experience. I was also a member of Sigma Kappa Delta and Mu Alpha Theta. Following MCC, I attended the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor and graduated in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Spanish. I earned my Master of Arts in Community Counseling August 2008, and then earned a Certificate of Advance Graduate Studies in Mental Health Counseling August 2011 from Rhode Island College. I became a Licensed Mental Health Counselor for the state of Rhode Island in February 2012.

After moving to Rhode Island, I worked for East Bay Center in Barrington, Rhode Island, where I provided therapeutic services to severely and persistently mentally disabled/dually diagnosed adults. I am currently a clinician at The Providence Center in Providence, where I work in two programs: Women’s Day Treatment Intensive Outpatient Program/ Partial Hospitalization Program and the Co-ed Intensive Outpatient Program. I also work with Brown University on a research project, where I provide brief motivational interventions to college drinkers who have been sanctioned for campus alcohol policy violations.

I have been fortunate to travel throughout the northeast as well as to Argentina. My family still resides in Texas, and I am pleased that my little sister, Jessica Victorino, is currently enrolled in the Nursing Program at MCC, is a Phi Theta Kappa member and is also a Foundation scholarship recipient.



Sandra Victorino in New York’s Times Square.

Charitable Giving News

FISCAL CLIFF DEAL OFFERS CHARITABLE 'DO-OVER'

DEADLINE: JANUARY 31, 2013

*By: Harry Hareluk, MBA, CPA, CFRE,
Executive Director, MCC Foundation*

Perhaps no other Congress has been as maligned, and rightfully so, as the Congress that adjourned on Jan. 2. In one of the most contentious, politically motivated and irrationally stubborn shows of poor leadership and poor statesmanship, our elected representatives in Washington became the butt of jokes from coast to American coast and the shame of nations around the world.

But they accomplished at least one good thing, even if it was birthed in "brinkmanship" and the bitter debate ending in The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, more commonly referred to as the "fiscal cliff deal." Much study must be done on all the new regulations passed (and not just at the deadline but afterward). However, there is one potentially positive item in this bill that is truly a gift: the 2012 "Do-over."

The "Do-over" relates to charitable contributions for 2012 . . . yes, last year's tax return.

Up until 2012, a provision in tax law allowed taxpayers 70 1/2 or older to avoid taxable distributions of up to \$100,000 from their IRAs by directing the distributions as donations directly to a qualified nonprofit entity. This procedure allowed the taxpayer to avoid including the distribution in income, avoided taking a deduction for the donation, reducing adjusted gross income and increasing the potential itemized deductions, which are only allowed if they exceed a percentage of adjusted gross income. (Medical expenses are one of these deductions.) As adjusted gross income is reduced, the possibility exists for the deductions such as medical expenses to increase, thereby reducing taxable income and reducing actual tax. The direct IRA charitable rollover had been phased out after 2011 before the "fiscal cliff deal" was passed, reinstating it. As a result, many qualified taxpayers didn't do a charitable IRA rollover in 2012. That is where the "do-over" comes in.

The recent act not only extended the direct IRA rollover

for 2013 but also gave older taxpayers who act before Jan. 31 the opportunity to elect to make an IRA rollover distribution for 2012. The act also allows those older taxpayers who took what otherwise would have been a taxable IRA distribution during December 2012 to elect a "do-over" and retroactively give that distribution to nonprofit entities before Jan. 31, thereby avoiding additional taxable income (and possibly reducing income tax liabilities) for 2012. Further, if a taxpayer did a direct charitable IRA rollover to charity anytime in 2012 hoping that the distribution would not be includible in income, they now get their wish.

Rarely do taxpayers have the opportunity to change tax consequences after year's end. But this is a "gimme" from the recent tax act. And this is particularly important for taxpayers who may have limitations on their 2013 charitable deductions because of the reinstatement of a different provision relating to "Pease" limitations. The Pease limitations apply to all taxpayers, not just to those 70 1/2 or older. These limitations reduce potential itemized deductions to the extent they exceed 3 percent of certain thresholds (\$250,000 adjusted gross income for singles and \$300,000 adjusted gross income for marrieds filing jointly, etc). Therefore, if qualified high-income or high-itemized deduction taxpayers can move what would have been a 2013 charitable deduction back to 2012, when the Pease limitation was not effective, some overall tax benefit might be achieved.

As usual, this is complicated. Congressional members are not tax experts and any attempt to change tax law or simplify it usually results in confusion. The only thing "simple" about the 2012 taxpayer relief act is that it is simply confusing. Tax consultants will need to be involved for older, philanthropic taxpayers to make an IRA charitable distribution decision prior to Jan. 31.

Perhaps this act should really be called the Tax Consultants' Full Employment Act of 2012!

For information on IRA rollovers and other charitable giving options, contact the MCC Foundation at 254.299.8606.

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OCTOBER 1, 2012 - DECEMBER 31, 2012

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Glynnis Gaines

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In Honor of Harry and Beverly Harelik's Marriage, by:
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Jim and Judy Haller
Gayland and Ann Sims

In Honor Dr. Ruth Pitts, by:
Drs. Jim and Cindy SoRelle

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Rick and Sharon Butler

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In Memory of John Hand, by:
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OCTOBER 1, 2012 - DECEMBER 31, 2012

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