



2023 Hearts in the Arts Chair, Nell Hawkins, as Morticia Addams to promote the 21st Annual Gala.

New Heights for Hearts in the Arts

This year's Hearts in the Arts Gala was a huge success, thanks in large part to the many dedicated community members who passionately support local arts. Our friends and donors contributed generously, enabling us to net more than \$50,000 to support McLennan Community College students in arts, theater, and music, making this the most successful Gala yet!

We are grateful to all of our event sponsors, generous donors, and event attendees, as well as our outstanding Chair, Nell Hawkins. You all understand the important role of art in a well-rounded education, and we could not have continue providing such high quality education without your support.

Our extremely talented students put on a performance of *The Addams Family—A New Musical* that was to die for. The value of an MCC education is unrivaled, and that is a direct result of the tireless brilliance of our faculty and staff. The visual and performing arts programs are filled with talented teachers devoted to providing top-tier educational opportunities to our students. Their influence on this successful Gala cannot be overstated.

It isn't too early to begin planning your attendance for next year's Hearts in the Arts Gala! As a testament to the talented students, this Gala, along with every showing of *The Addams Family* sold out this year. Please consider becoming a Hearts in the Arts member so you never have to worry

Please remember the MCC Foundation in your annual giving, estate planning, & memorials.

1400 College Drive • Waco, TX 76708 • Phone: 254.299.8604 • Editor: Chris Qualls



Presidential Scholar Volunteers pictured left to right: (back row) Shelbi Roye, Marshall Vrana, Jacob Patryka, Alex Balaban, Danielle Dunn, Andrew Jones (front row) Kaden Huff. Not pictured: Perla Reynoso, Lucie Tomastikova, Maddison Upmor, and Laison Uptmor

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21st Annual Hearts in the Arts Gala continued

Top: The Fallas Family and friends with costumed students.



Above: Mrs. LaWanda Ball with Wednesday Addams outside the Ball Performing Arts Center.



Below: Jodi Tindell and Diane Nowlain, who worked tirelessly to help make the event a success for our guests.





The Addams Family

A New Musical

21st Annual Hearts in the Arts Theatre Gala

February 23, 2023

Gala Sponsors

- WT Waco Tribune-Herald** | **H-E-B HelpingHere** | Sheehy, Lovelace, & Mayfield, P.C.
- CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK** | **TEXASLIFE INSURANCE COMPANY** | **RAINEY & RAINEY**

2022-2023 Hearts in the Arts Members

Hearts in the Arts Executive Producers

Virginia and Dr. Donald K. Lewis | Nancy Logan

Hearts in the Arts Executive Directors

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Hearts in the Arts Choreographers

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Friends of the Arts

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Nashim and Dr. Bruce Hamilton | Susan and Stephen Heyde | Lorraine Stansel | Greta Watson

Special thanks to Nell Hawkins for being our 2022-2023 Hearts in the Arts Honorary Chair!

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THOSE WHO HELPED MAKE THE MCC FOUNDATION'S 21ST ANNUAL HEARTS IN THE ARTS GALA A HUGE SUCCESS!

THANKS TO OUR MCC ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF:

Dr. Johnette McKown, Lindsey Vanek, Dr. Fred Hills, and Dr. Steve Benson; Dr. Lisa Elliot, Jennifer Norman, Clif-Ann Paris, and the MCC Marketing & Communications Department; Chief Clayton Williams and the MCC Police Department; Robert Fajardo, Dianne Feyerherm, Brian Renegar, Maria Hernandez, Bryan Mohan, Elaine Ortega, and the MCC Physical Plant Staff; Jodi Tindell, Estella Lopez, Laura Merced-Rowell, Diane Nowlain, Kendra Palmer, and the MCC Food services Department.

MCC FOUNDATION STAFF:

Neyra Bazaldua, Judy Fleming, Patrick Koon, Chris Qualls, Kathy McLendon, and Kim Patterson.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT:

Randy Dockendorf, Kathleen Laundry, Benjamin Mason, Kelly Parker, Edgar Sierra, Aricelis Tapia, Joe Taylor, Lise Uhl, and Nick Webb.

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS:

MCC Presidential Scholars: Danielle Dunn, Kaden Huff, Andrew Jones, Jakub Partyka, Perla Reynoso, Shelbi Roye, Lucie Tomastikova, Maddison Upmor, Liaison Uptmor, and Marshall Vrana.

MCC Women's Golf Team: Jones Mitchell, Mia Clarke, Raeleigh Davidson, Kennedy Demers, Emma Olivarez, Rebecca Rodriguez, Shanna Sandoval, Lucile Tanvet, and Brill Wise.

21st Annual Hearts in the Arts Gala continued







From the Executive Director

A Letter from Kim Patterson, MS, APR

They say life is what happens when you are busy making other plans ... and this maxim recently hit home with a major life change. It is bittersweet to announce that, after an amazing career here at the College, I will be retiring from MCC on August 31. I have accepted a full-time teaching position on the faculty of the Baylor University Journalism, Public Relations & New Media department beginning this fall.

It is a rare and humbling opportunity to be sought out to contribute to the program that shaped me both professionally and personally. The plan was to remain several more years here at McLennan, but sometimes God's timing is different than our own. After 28 rewarding years serving MCC in fundraising, community relations, marketing, and public relations roles, I have vast experience to share with the next generation of communicators.

The Foundation team is blessed in that we get to work closely with colleagues across campus and donors throughout the community. We are so proud of what we have accomplished with your help over the past 6.5 years, including raising more than \$12 million in contributions and managing investments to increase the Foundation's fund balance to almost \$32 million. This financial security will ensure the long-term success of the MCC Foundation, enabling it to serve students and the College well into the future. The impact of that fundraising is notable:

- Added more than 100 new endowed scholarship funds
- Funded the transformation of the McLennan baseball and softball fields
- Helped plan and fund the stunning new Cameron project that will serve the Waco community for at least another 100 years
- Worked with the College to host dignitaries, including Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, noted Churchill biographer Dr. Andrew Roberts, and Senator Tom Cotton.
- Updated and named the lovely center campus space the "Alice M. Starr Plaza"
- Raised support to fund the Highland Arbor and Greta and Murray Watson, Jr. Arbor
- Built endowments for the McKown Emergency Fund, Paulanne's Pantry, and the Presidential Scholars, ensuring these important resources will serve in perpetuity
- Was named a "Charity Champion" for our support of the Men of Color Initiative.
- Began the endowment to support the McLennan Honors College
- Thrown some really memorable parties and events!

The Foundation is in a very strong position financially and operationally, and our rock star team of Neyra Bazaldua, Judy Fleming, Patrick Koon, Kathy McLendon, and Chris Qualls remains committed to serving our incredible donors and the students, faculty, and staff here at MCC. It has been an honor to serve alongside them, and you. Our mission to help every student succeed in college and in life will always be in my heart.

Blessings,

Kim Patterson



Kim was part of the 4th Flour team who gathered for a Christmas celebration in 2002.

Honoring our NISOD Award Winners

February 2023

One of the important ways the MCC Foundation supports McLennan's success is through its funding of Professional Development for faculty and staff. This support includes funding travel, conferences, trainings, retreats, and other opportunities to keep us all at the top of our profession. This also includes sponsoring the Piper Award given in the fall, and the NISOD Awards each spring.

The NISOD awards are voted on by our colleagues to recognize those among us who best exemplify the outstanding, student-centric spirit of McLennan Community College. Nominations are collected through the Professional Development office and voted on by the PD Committee. NISOD stands for the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development. We are proud to recognize the following five people who have been selected by their peers as our 2022-2023 NISOD award winners:



Representing our Arts & Sciences Faculty: Paulina Sidwell

Professor Sidwell is Professor of Engineering.

One of her nominators writes: "Paulina goes above and beyond for her students and her colleagues, even working overtime while she should be on maternity leave. She sees 10 steps down the road and is prepared for every situation. She is also warm and friendly, instantly puts everyone at ease, and always has an ear to lend to both students and colleagues."

Representing our Workforce Faculty: Stephen Cook

Stephen Cook is Program Director/Asst. Professor for the Fire Fighter's Academy

One of his nominators writes: "Steve Cook leads by example and consistently teaches his students to work hard, be trustworthy and be kind-all while saving lives and property. I appreciate that he teaches his students to give back, go above and beyond, and to be caring to those they are helping and to the community. Steve teaches all this, along with very difficult skills, from his own experience and his strong ethical core."



Representing our Adjunct Faculty: Ron Chmielewski

Ron is a part-time instructor in Biology and has also taught in the Agriculture program

His nominator writes: "Ron has a wealth of knowledge that he brings to his courses, and is a delightful colleague."

Representing Administrative Staff: Mikken Canham

Mikken is Coordinator of Professional and Organizational Development

Her nominator writes: "Mikken works hard to provide exceptional professional development options for staff and faculty. She always has a smile for you and stops what she is doing to assist you." Another writes: "She puts the professional in professional development."



Representing Support Staff: Orlando Jimenez

Orlando is a Shuttle Driver for Campus Police

Orlando's nominator writes: "Orlando always has a smile on his face and is a warm and welcoming person to greet students throughout the day. He is caring about his riders and always helps when called upon." Another writes: "Orlando offers friendly engagement and connection each and every day. He is an important part of our student success team."

Presidential Scholars Travel to D.C. for Experiential Learning



McLennan Community College's Presidential Scholars are afforded many educational opportunities beyond the classroom. MCC President, Dr. Johnette McKown, is involved with every aspect of education for these fortunate students. She mentors them, checks their grades, and introduces them to people and experiences far beyond the norm for most college students.

Recently, our Presidential Scholars had the opportunity to travel to Washington D.C. where they experienced hands-on learning. Students walked down Pennsylvania Avenue for a tour of the White House and later toured the Capitol building, visiting offices of our elected officials.

Elected officials weren't the only special introductions for these students. Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh was available, and took a meeting with our students. He showed them around the Supreme Court building, answered questions, and took photos.

Students were blessed to experience a service at the National Cathedral before a somber visit to Arlington National Cemetery. There are few experiences like the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and these scholars were able to witness it.

Many students today cannot recall the events of September 11, 2001 firsthand, though many of us remember that day vividly. Presidential Scholars visited the 9/11 Pentagon Memorial and felt the gravity of history.

Of course, no scholarly visit to Washington D.C. would be complete without visits to the National Archives, National Museum of American History, and a monument tour.

MCC offers excellent quality education to our students, and we also understand that sometimes the best learning can happen outside the confines of a lecture hall. Students who traveled to Washington D.C. have presented their experiences to the College's Board of Trustees and at a recent Foundation Board meeting. One recurring theme students emphasized is the impact of the experience on them. These students have gone beyond learning about American history; they have touched history in the halls of the White House. They have smelled it in the National Archives, and seen monuments to many of the most pivotal times and figures of our Nation.

To find out more about the Presidential Scholars program or to support scholarships for learning experiences like these, reach out now to [Kim Patterson](#), Executive Director of the MCC Foundation.

Pictured (from left to right):

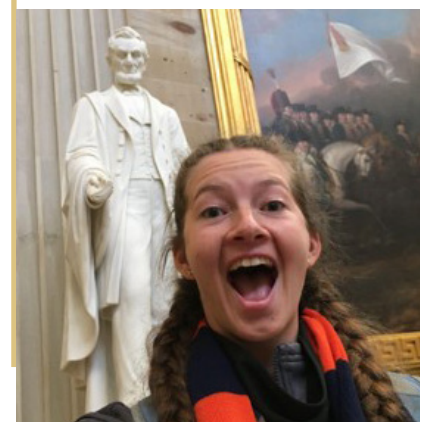
(L) Alyssa and Aaron Burks under the U.S. Capitol dome.

(R) Presidential Scholars in front of the White House.

Below: Presidential Scholars with Supreme Court Justice Kavanaugh.



Below: Scholar Danielle Dunn in front of Honest Abe.



"Think about every problem, every challenge, we face. The solution to each starts with education."

-George H.W. Bush

CONGRATULATIONS TO BOARD MEMBER, DEIDRA EMERSON



The McLennan Community College Foundation is extremely proud of our Board Member and Deputy City Manager for the City of Waco, Deidra Emerson, who recently received the McLennan County NAACP 2023 Community Service Award. It is an honor, one richly deserved by Deidra who strives to serve our community well. She is pictured above with her proud parents, Rev. Ralph and Gladys Emerson at the February 25th awards banquet.

Congratulations Deidra! Our community, college, and students are proud of servant leaders like you, who brighten our community.



Continuing a Community Legacy of Scholarship

Wacoans are proud of our storied academic history. Once called “The Athens of Texas”, Waco is a place synonymous with scholarship. Wacoans take pride in the leaders our community produces. Honors College students at McLennan Community College are among the most distinguished young leaders representing our community. Our Honors College students develop top tier research skills in a variety of disciplines. Each student is paired with an academic mentor to guide their scholarly development. Honors students expand their knowledge through travel, relationships with community leaders and professionals from diverse career fields and volunteer opportunities throughout our community. By investing in

these students, you can be certain that our community’s legacy of learners and leaders continues long into the future.

MCC Foundation
1400 College Drive
254/299-8606
mclennan.edu/foundation



Make a gift



Scholarship Applications now being accepted

www.mclennan.edu/foundation/scholarships

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE: Spread the Word

The scholarship competition for 2023-2024 will open again May 1st. Deadline for application submission, including all required references and transcripts, is May 15, 2023. The application can be accessed [here](#).

Thanks to the generosity of our donors we currently have 780 scholarship opportunities available to MCC students, totaling \$828,300. Please contact Patrick Koon at pkoon@mclennan.edu or (254) 299-8818 for additional information.

For the 2022-2023, the MCC Foundation awarded more than \$663,589 in scholarships! [Apply today](#), or contact the MCC Foundation to discuss donating to one of our outstanding scholarship funds or establishing your own.

Follow us on
social media!



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@MCCFoundation1

www.mclennan.edu/foundation

You are cordially invited to *Light the Night*

Celebrating the completion
of the Home Field Advantage campaign
and dedication of the new

McClinton Field at McLennan Community College
NEW DATE: Wednesday, April 19, 2023
Bosque River Ballpark

You and your family are invited to join us for a doubleheader
against the Grayson College Vikings beginning at 3 p.m.
Field dedication ceremony at 6 p.m.
Game Two will begin under the lights at 6:30 p.m.

**FREE
POPCORN!**



As a result of vendor delays, we have been forced to postpone the Grand Opening of the new Baseball and Softball fields. We now plan to Light the Night on Wednesday, April 19th, 2023 during a double header against the Grayson College Vikings. The first game begins at 3 PM, and the field dedication ceremony, honoring the generous donors who supported field renovations, will begin at 6 PM. Free popcorn will be available to all who attend. Donors to the project and VIPs have been invited to an exclusive experience before the ceremony begins.

Save the Date

Friday, October 6, 2023
Cottonwood Creek Golf Course



Proceeds benefit athletic student scholarships at McLennan!

Contact the Foundation at 299-8604 or reservations@mclennan.edu.

Accepting sponsorships & team registration through Aug. 31, 2023

One of the longest running golf tournaments in Central Texas, the MCC Foundation Golf Classic, is also one of the most successful tournaments in the region. Please consider participating in the MCC Foundation's Annual Golf Classic as a player, sponsor, or both. Review the [sponsorship form](#) to support excellence in higher education. Let us hear from you by August 31st to be fully included in all sponsor benefits and fun.

Distinguished Alumni & Distinguished Leader

Accepting Nominations Now



Saul Cornejo Bravo
2016 Distinguished Leader



Yuridia Navarro-Escobedo
2018 Distinguished Leader



Johnathon Kiebler
2019 Distinguished Leader



Nallely Gonzalez
2020 Distinguished Leader



Killian Hutchison
2022 Distinguished Leader



Landon Hengst
2012 Distinguished Alumnus



Mary Perez
2016 Distinguished Alumna



Judge Vicki Menard
2019 Distinguished Alumna



Clint Lewis
2021 Distinguished Alumnus



Mandy Loftin Conner
2022 Distinguished Alumna

The McLennan Community College Foundation's [Highlander Alumni & Friends Association](#) is accepting nominations through July 30th for its 2023 Distinguished Alumni and Distinguished Leader awards. The Distinguished Alumni Award nominations form is available online [here](#). The Distinguished Leader nomination form is available [here](#).

The Distinguished Alumni award is presented to an alumnus or alumna of MCC who has demonstrated a record of distinguished service and extraordinary achievement in a particular discipline, organization, or cause that brings distinction to the College. To be eligible, nominees must have successfully completed a one-year certificate, two-year associate's degree program, or have earned a minimum of 30 transferable hours (without a degree) from MCC.

The Distinguished Leader award is presented to a 2022-2023 graduating or completing student of MCC who has demonstrated a record of distinguished service and extraordinary achievement in academic and extracurricular realms, shown remarkable leadership, or provided service to a cause that brings distinction to the College.

The Highlander Alumni Association was established in 2008 as a division of the McLennan Community College Foundation and serves as the principal link between the college and its network of alumni and friends.

Questions about the nomination process should be directed to the association at (254) 299-8481 or alumni@mclennan.edu.



Remembering our friend Willie Hobbs



Willie Robert Hobbs, who passed away peacefully on January 12, 2023 at the age of 89, was always passionate about helping others—it shaped his life and career. He began working at the Texas State School for the Blind, Deaf, and Orphans in Austin, TX. His passionate love of service led him to Gatesville State School for Boys and then to Waco, TX where he worked with Waco ISD. He worked in the Office of Economic Opportunities Advancement Corporation (EOAC) before joining the family at McLennan Community College in April of 1970, where he continued until his retirement as Director of Financial Aid after more than 25 years of service.

Driven by a call to serve, Willie was part of the Waco delegation of 12—an advocacy group supporting American Prisoners of War (POWs) and supported by the U.S. Department of State. The group visited Paris during peace talks with officials from North Vietnam in April of 1971. Willie and friends presented 40,825 letters and petition signatures in favor of better prison camp conditions and POW treatment. Downtown Waco now holds a [Freedom Fountain](#) to memorialize the inspiration of the groups heroic efforts.

Willie served on a variety of boards throughout our community, including the Heart of Texas Housing Finance Board, Hillcrest Hospital Trustee Board of Directors, and the Freeman Center board. He volunteered with the YMCA, Red Cross, and United Way. He also was a devoted member of the Lion's Club for more than 50 years, and was voted 2022 Lion of the Year.

Many MCC faculty and staff members will recall the warmth and light that exuded from Willie, and many have their own stories of his inspiring and humble leadership. MCC retiree and friend Herman Tucker said, “Mr. Hobbs believed in the importance of education and continuous learning. He inspired others to be their best selves. Helping others was a driving force that governed his life. He was a servant of the community and his light will continue to inspire others”.

In honor of a life well lived and a legacy of service to the community, Willie's family has established the Willie Hobbs Memorial Scholarship at the McLennan Community College Foundation. They have asked that those willing to honor and memorialize his extraordinary life contribute to the scholarship that will continue his legacy at the school where he spent a quarter of a century. Please support his legacy.

[Donate to the Willie Hobbs Memorial scholarship fund](#) today.

Pictured above: Willie Hobbs (L) and the downtown Waco Freedom Fountain (R).

Pictured below: Willie Hobbs and his wife and travel buddy of 66 years, Barbara, at the Grand Canyon.





FINANCIAL SUPPORT is one consideration as college students prepare for the new school term. Aiding the students is Willie Hobbs, financial aids director at McLennan Community College, shown here with three work study students. They are (left to right) Linda Sweeney, Donna Stough and Judy Woodliff.



Pictured above: A coalition of Waco leaders, including Willie Hobbs (left) attend the Paris Peace Talks to advocate for U.S. Prisoners of War in Vietnam.

Applications Being Accepted at MCC For Scholarships, Loans, Grants

Willie and Barbara in New Zealand.



Willie on one of his many travel adventures.



The Waco Delegation of 12 preparing to travel to the Paris Peace Talks.



Cameron Project Heads into Home Stretch

by Kim Patterson, MS, APR; MCC Foundation Executive Director

After two years of dreaming, planning, studying, and retooling, McLennan Community College is pleased to announce the newest and most impressive chapter in the story of the William Cameron summer home on the MCC campus.

The new plan presents a cost-effective alternative to renovating the 100-year-old home that is plagued by structural issues. Instead, the College will create a new building on the original site of the home, maximizing the efficiencies of new construction and considering the technological and environmental needs of modern spaces. The new building is one story, but pays homage to the original two-story structure in design, and it beautifully complements the historic courtyard that will be preserved.

Central to the design is a soaring, 350-seat hall that will host community meetings, weddings, gallery exhibits and more! Throughout the space, the College will curate panels that tell the story of early Waco, the Cameron family, and Cameron Park. The last remaining original features of the home will be re-used, including Juliet balconies and antique bricks.

The new plan has a \$6 million cost that also includes courtyard improvements, landscaping and professional fees. While the Foundation has raised significant support for the project, fundraising continues to complete this project that promises to be the new Jewel of Waco!

The story of the property began in 1922 when Waco businessman William Waldo Cameron envisioned a grand summer home as a gift to his new bride Helen. In designing the home on the family's property in north Waco, he was inspired by the grand Mediterranean villas he had seen during his world travels. It was a style quite different from the stately mansion where he and his family lived at 18th and Austin Ave. in downtown Waco. Featuring an Olympic-sized, spring-fed swimming pool in the courtyard and abundant windows to welcome a cool breeze off the Bosque River valley below, the home called Valley View soon became a popular center of Waco social life.

Cameron died unexpectedly in 1939 and Helen and daughter Flora began a new life in San Antonio. By 1966, the home had been left unattended for several years when it was included in land purchased for the College's new campus. In the early 1970s, a group of Junior League members envisioned the space as a perfect home for The Art Center of Waco, a vision that included renovating the home and launching an almost 40-year partnership with the College. Structural issues forced the property to close in 2017, and Valley View was again left idle to await its fate.



The Cameron Courtyard will once again host business and social events.



Above: A rendering of the design for an event space/ballroom in the forthcoming building. Click the photo to see a virtual video of the full design.

President Johnette McKown and campus leaders began discussions with supporters in 2019 to map out a future for the property. Keeping in mind that any improvements needed to serve a College function, they developed a plan to combine community and educational space with new offices for the MCC Foundation. Fundraising began in earnest in June 2022 to support the dream, backed by a \$2.5 million lead commitment from local philanthropist Clifton Robinson. That plan paused late last summer when renovation cost projections soared from the original \$4 million estimate to \$8.3 million.

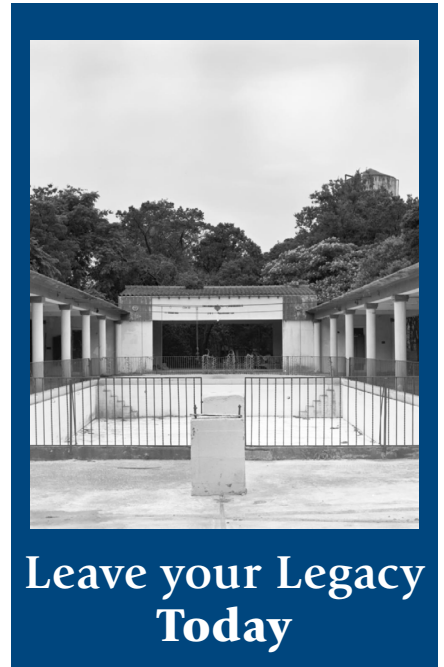
In true no-nonsense MCC fashion, the College and MCC Foundation have worked diligently to blend old with new and creative design with practicality. While we were all disappointed be unable to save the original structure, we know the new plan will preserve the past, pay homage to the family that helped build Waco, and nobly serve our College and community for years to come. Please join us with your support as we head into the home stretch of this journey, and mark your calendars for Fall 2024, when the new Jewel of Waco will sparkle once again.



To contribute to the Cameron revitalization project, contact Kim Patterson at kpatterson@mclennan.edu



Make a gift



Leave your Legacy Today

The Cameron family left a legacy in our community. Their generous donation of land spurred a movement that gave us one of the most beloved features of our area: Cameron Park.

Our aim is honor their legacy and continue the work that has paid dividends for generations of Central Texans. Our students play a role in carrying that legacy forward. Every graduate who goes forth from our campus armed with quality education and ready to impact the local economy carries with them a piece of the Cameron legacy. Now we offer you an opportunity to leave a legacy that will shape generations.

Fundraising efforts continue for this revitalization effort. We have numerous supporters from the community who have made generous gifts and pledges, and we are awaiting a decision on TIF funds from the City of Waco. However, there is still an opportunity for you to contribute to this once-in-a-lifetime project.

There are still some naming opportunities available, and your gift could impact countless individuals for years to come.

To talk about naming opportunities or to discuss methods of giving, please contact MCC Foundation Executive Director, Kim Patterson, today at kpatterson@mclennan.edu and leave your legacy today.

2022 Foundation Holiday Dinner

And Outgoing Board Members



Holiday Dinner

It is a rare occurrence that the Foundation is able to convene such a large number of staff, board members, supporters, and students, but our Holiday dinner provides the perfect opportunity. We gather to reflect on a successful year while looking ahead with hope and expectation to all our coming blessings.

This year we were joined by students from MCC's theater and music departments, who performed a few songs and scenes from their upcoming opera production, "[Die Fledermaus](#)", which showed at the Ball Performing Arts Center on campus from March 30 - April 1 at 7:30 PM. These students performed wonderfully, both at the

Holiday Dinner and the public production of the show. We are so proud of the exceptionally talented students, faculty, and staff that make our theater, arts, and music programs outstanding.

Recognizing Outstanding Service

One of the most important aspects of a successful service organization is the insightful leadership of dedicated board members. Board service requires commitment, service, and vision. We are grateful to so many community members who have given of their time and talents to guide us as we insure that quality education is within reach for the workforce of McLennan County.

The Holiday Dinner is a time when we are able to honor our outgoing board members for their years of service. It has become a tradition for the MCC Foundation to recognize their gift of service by giving them a beautiful bowl, handmade by a local artist and MCC Professor, Niko Weissenberger.

This year, we are honored to thank outgoing board members Ted Teague and Bill Dietz (pictured with Executive Director, Kim Patterson), along with Alfred Solano, Missy Larson, and Priscilla Stinnett for their outstanding service. Their guidance has positively impacted not only the Foundation, but also the futures of countless students in our community.



Remember to Connect with us Online!



www.mclennan.edu/foundation





Un Legado de la Literatura

A Legacy of Literature

Wilbur Ball's legacy is interwoven into every aspect of McLennan Community College. As the founding President of MCC, Dr. Ball is one of the giants upon whose shoulders our great college stands today.

Raised in the Rio Grande Valley area of Texas, Dr. Ball was fluent in both English and Spanish. He was also an avid reader of literature in both languages.

After his passing, Dr. Ball's wife donated his collection of more than 100 Spanish books to MCC. This collection contained a variety of literature, classics, and language-learning books, and will be a perfect addition for our students.

Pictured above are three MCC Librarians happily displaying a new collection of libros en espanol! We are grateful to Mrs. Ball, pictured below at the Hearts in the Arts Gala with Dr. Ball, for her generous donation to our students.

To support the students and mission of MCC and honor Dr. Ball's great legacy, please [donate today](#) to the MCC Foundation and memorialize his rich life.



Sometimes the bumps in life's road can derail even the most dedicated students. That is why the MCC Foundation offers the [McKown Emergency Grant](#) to students experiencing a qualified emergency. At certain moments, even the smallest assistance can make the difference in a student's success. [Click to hear from Presidential Scholar Kaden Huff](#) about his experience at MCC and with the McKown Emergency Grant. To support students like Kaden overcome obstacles to their education, [click here](#).



MCC faculty member Brad Turner authored two great books on Waco history. Both books are for sale in MCC's on-campus bookstore, and all proceeds from the sale of these books support student scholarships. Brad is pictured above with colleague Frank Patterson.

The first month of this arrangement has already seen significant book sales, and respective contribution to the Turner Family Scholarship fund.

Visit campus today and check out "Lust, Violence, Religion: Life in Historic Waco" and "Cotton Bales, Goatmen, & Witches: Legends from the Heart of Texas", or [contribute directly to the Turner Family Scholarship here](#).

Exciting News from Across Campus

Students Use Particle Analyzer

McLennan Community College students in the Geology Department are now able to study the presence of microplastics in naturally occurring substances such as our drinking water, thanks to a recently received gift to the MCC Foundation. Dr. Joe Yelderman of Baylor Geosciences donated a used Particle Size Analyzer to the MCC Geology Department. Students in Dr. Elaine Fagner's class will soon apply the equipment to the classroom. The Malvern Hydro 2000 mastersizer particle analyzer is a wonderful innovation that will continue to serve our students for years. Thank you, Baylor Geosciences!



Steinway Series Features Alum

In January, the Foundation proudly hosted the Winter Steinway Series concert featuring MCC Alumna Dr. Angela Yoon and Dr. Jason Terry. The Steinway campaign, launched in 2009, replaced all pianos on campus with Steinway pianos, making MCC one of three institutions of higher learning in the state to be an All-Steinway school, and only the third community college in the nation to achieve this distinction. Our ongoing Steinway Series of concerts celebrate that excellence.

Dr. Angela Yoon is a proud alumna of McLennan Community College. She credits MCC with helping her find her voice because it was here, in a music appreciation class, where she was encouraged to foster her immense vocal talent. Dr. Yoon earned her Associate of Arts in Music from MCC before transferring to Baylor University and earning a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance. She went on to Indiana University, where she earned a Master and a Doctorate of Music, both in Voice Performance.



Dr. Yoon's professional bio says she "is interested in creating interdisciplinary musical experiences for the audience through collaborating with other fields, such as visual art, science, social justice, history and even political science." She and Dr. Terry performed their WWI program, *Broken Harmony: Reconstruction Art*.

In honor of the amazing performance by Drs. Yoon and Terry, a generous friend of MCC established the new "Drs. Angela Yoon and Jason Terry Endowed Music Scholarship" at the MCC Foundation. This endowed scholarship will provide a generous award to a music student studying at MCC every year, in perpetuity. Generous donors like this one, and so many others, put excellence within reach for many. We are humbled by and grateful for your support.





Below: The Hawkinses in front of a double-helix sculpture they supported.



Pictured above: A calmly bubbling water feature provided by Jim and Nell Hawkins adds to the soothing beauty of the MCC campus.

Jim Hawkins

A Legacy of Impact

It has been said that everything is bigger in Texas. I guess it is good that the late Jim Hawkins called this community home, because his name carries a grand reputation. People from all across the community recognize the Hawkins name, and nearly every one has their own experience.

Jim and Nell Hawkins have been active in the greater Waco community long enough to have forgotten more about Waco than most of us will ever know. Jim was a successful businessman and deal-maker since the 60s. As a leader in the community, he was influential in the establishment of McLennan Community College in 1965, when he chaired the finance committee for the bond campaign. Motivated by a lack of affordable education in the community, Jim, along with family and friends, spearheaded a movement that brought to fruition our great college.

Jim and Nell have continued to champion the excellence of MCC throughout the institution's history. Our science building sports a beautiful, two-story sculpture of the double helix structure of DNA. This campus enhancement is the result of a generous donation from Jim and Nell.

As recently as this year, Nell Hawkins, a Board Member for the MCC Foundation, chose to Chair our Hearts in the Arts Gala committee, helping us have the most successful year in the Gala's 21-year history.

Jim's financial acumen and love of deal-making were legendary in their own right. Countless stories could be—and are—told across the community about the incredible impact Jim had. Evident in each one of these memories is the incredible character of the man, himself. Jim was kind, honest, and generous. Students all over Waco have been indelibly shaped by him. Our sincerest hope is that the legacy of a man larger than Texas itself will continue to form our students for generations to come.

We invite you to honor Jim's life and legacy by supporting the Jim and Nell Hawkins Presidential Scholarship at the MCC Foundation. [Click here.](#)

Gifts to the Foundation

August 16, 2022 - September 30, 2022

In Honor & In Memory

It has come to our attention that the recent Fall edition of McLennan Highlander Quarterly left out some of the generous donors. We appreciate your patience as we use this issue to recognize those we missed.

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Make a gift

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October 1, 2022 - February 28, 2023

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October 1, 2022 - February 28, 2023

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October 1, 2022 - February 28, 2023

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The McLennan Community College Foundation is committed to enriching the college and the communities it serves by supporting its 7,500 students, 800 faculty and staff members, and by improving facilities on our 200-acre campus. The MCC Foundation Board of Trustees leads the Foundation in these endeavors.



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Not pictured: Nell Hawkins, Donald K. Lewis, Elisa Rainey, Betsy Reeder (Past Chair), Debbie Sartain, and Earl Stinnett.

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