

The Trojan Times

A publication of the Colby Community College Endowment Foundation



IT'S AUCTION TIME

Jennifer Schoenfeld, Executive Director

The largest fundraiser to date is the annual Scholarship Benefit Auction. The auction has an established tradition as one of the best social events of the season. This year's auction is April 14, 2018, at the City Limits Convention Center in Colby. The theme is "A Night of Picasso."

The Foundation has high aspirations and set a goal of raising \$100,000. Last year local businesses, friends and alumni donated \$60,000 in items to be auctioned.

Proceeds add to the number of scholarships we provide each year and contribute to our operating budget. Within the last three years additional gifts at the auction allowed the college to purchase much needed busses, renovations to the Fit Lab, and offset the cost of current renovations to student housing.

We would love to have you join us for the scholarship party auction this year, and we are always looking for new items to auction. Tickets are \$40 per person or \$300 for a corporate table of eight. Doors open at 4:45 p.m. and the buffet dinner begins at 5:30. Tickets tend to sell out quickly, so plan to RSVP no later than April 6 at (785) 460-4684 or foundation@colbycc.edu.



Library Gets New Look

The H.F. Davis Memorial Library and the adjacent Comprehensive Learning Center got some much-needed updates last summer. In addition to new paint and furniture, approximately 40-year-old carpet was replaced.



The library was closed for most of June into early July of 2017. The Northwest Kansas Regional Library System helped move more than 30,000 books, government documents, and other publications. Funding for the nearly \$40,000 project was provided by a variety of grants, the CCC Endowment Foundation, the Greater Northwest Kansas Community Foundation, and the Northwest Kansas Regional Library System.

Horse Production Continues Success

Daily operations at the college's agricultural center provide students wanting a career in equine management with multiple options. The experiences in breeding, foaling, training, nutrition and health management allow pathways to enter the industry or transfer into a bachelor's curriculum.

In recent years those in the program have also represented CCC at production sales, participated in 4-H project meetings, and hosted FFA horse judging contests, the kids corral at EquiFest of Kansas, Girl Scout merit badge days, and summer horsemanship camps.

Most students in the equine program ride on the equestrian team. As only one of two Kansas community colleges with a squad, CCC travels to Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming to ride against much larger schools. Men and women of all skill levels have the opportunity to ride and succeed in divisions consistent with their ability in hunt seat and western horsemanship. CCC reduces student costs by furnishing horses and tack for practice and utilizing competition horses provided by the host college.

In addition to individual national qualifiers, success came to the 2015 and 2016 teams as they were team champions at the Junior College Equestrian

Championships (JCEC). Beyond competition, students have an opportunity to become certified riding instructors through the Certified Horsemanship Association.

The program director and equestrian coach is alumna Shanda Mattix, who has served at CCC since 2009.



Send us your news:

www.colbycc.edu/updates

CCC Endowment Foundation

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Mark Schultz ('91)

After earning an associate degree from Colby Community College and a bachelor's degree in marketing from Kansas State University, Mark Schultz drove to Nashville to pursue his dream of becoming a singer/songwriter. Five years of hard work led him to a sold out show at the famed Ryman Auditorium (Grand Ole Opry) and a self-titled debut album that earned him a record deal. From there, the Colby High School graduate has built a storied contemporary Christian music career spanning more than 18 years in which he has sold over two million albums and landed 10 No.1 singles.



Adopted at two weeks old, Schultz has also become an advocate for children and adoption. He believes that serving and supporting children in need is part of his life's purpose. In 2007, he biked across the country from California to Maine to raise money for orphaned and abandoned kids. Along the route, he performed 15 concerts in 10 States with proceeds totaling a quarter of a million dollars for widows and orphans.

"I'm grateful for my time growing up in Colby and attending CCC," Schultz said. "They gave me the confidence I needed to have success on a national stage. I owe a lot of my work ethic to my teachers and coaches in Colby."

Today, he lives in Nashville with his wife Kate and three children, Ryan, Gus, and recently adopted Maia Mae.

Historic Season for Cross Country

The Colby Community College women's cross country team took first and the men placed second at the Region VI Championships Oct. 30 in Garden City. With the finishes, each team also captured Kansas Jayhawk Community College Conference western division titles. Coach Cameron Rieth was named the Region VI Women's Cross Country Coach of the Year as well as the Region VI Coach of the Champions.

"What an incredible journey," said Rieth. "We have been talking about this from day one. We were not the favorites to win, but the course and weather conditions were made for who we are. Both of our teams are scrappy and feisty competitors."

The CCC women last won the region championship in 1999 when Kirk Hunter's squad won the national championship. It marked the first KJCCC title for the men since James Ortiz was the coach in 2014.

At the NJCAA Division I Championships, the women placed sixth out of 42 teams and the men twelfth out of 40 teams.

"They all ran their hearts out and several of them came away with a personal best," Rieth added. "As a coach, that is all I can ever ask for. I am honored to have been able to coach this group."



President's Update

Dr. Seth Carter

We hope you had a happy and safe holiday season. In recent months, Colby Community College (CCC) experienced a number of notable accomplishments. We were able to improve several areas with new flooring and paint, and we repaired or replaced several roofs on campus and at the college farm. The Associate Degree Nursing program received reaffirmation of accreditation, and we reached a five-year high for summer and fall enrollment (2017). CCC was also just recognized as one of the most affordable community colleges in the nation by AffordableColleges.com, which is paramount to our mission of providing high-quality education at an affordable rate.

Moving forward, CCC is exploring a centralized advising system, so every student experiences the same high level of attention to their respective educational goals. Beginning in March 2018, remodeling on another dorm area will begin (completing the fourth dorm in the last three years).

There are a number of exciting things going on at Colby Community College, and as my third year closes, I continue to reflect on how privileged I am to work with individuals who care about the success of students and how fortunate I am to live in a community that supports the college. My family and I are blessed to be here. Take care, and best wishes in 2018.

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**Colby Community
College Endowment
Foundation**

**1255 South Range Ave.
Colby, KS 67701**

The Colby Community College Endowment Association was chartered under the laws of the State of Kansas on September 25, 1964, as a non-profit educational corporation to encourage, receive and administer gifts and bequests for the benefit of Colby Community College, its students and its staff.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Four individuals were welcomed to the CCC Alumni Hall of Fame in November. The class of 2017 includes retired instructor Larry Koon, alumna Maret Schrader, former basketball coach Bin Graefe, and standout runner Betty Rotich.

Koon taught behavioral sciences at CCC from 1968 to 2007 and instructed nearly 21,000 students. During his tenure, he was named Student's Best Friend, received a student-selected Kansas National Education Association award, the Kansas Area Special Olympics Volunteer of the Year, and the Tangeman Award for Teaching Excellence. He also served on the Colby Community College Endowment Foundation board from 2009 to 2014.



Koon



Schrader

Raised in Colby, Maret (Peterson) Schrader graduated from CCC in 2007 and currently teaches ninth-grade language arts at Seaman High School in Topeka. She was recently selected as a member of the Kansas Teacher of the Year team by the state Board of Education and serves as an ambassador for education in Kansas.

Graefe led the Trojan men's basketball team from 1976 to 1980. He was the school's first coach to win 20 games in a season and posted an overall record of 89-43. During that era, 11 players moved on to play Division I basketball.



Graefe

Rotich was a seven-time NJCAA All-American in cross country, indoor track and outdoor track between August 2006 and December 2007. She currently holds seven CCC school records in the cross country 4K and 5K, indoor mile, indoor 3,000m, indoor 5,000m, outdoor 5,000m and outdoor 10,000m. After transferring, she posted 5,000m and 10,000m outdoor track times that still rank among the top five in University of Alabama history.



Rotich

Additional details on the class of 2017 as well as Hall of Fame nomination information can be found at www.colbycc.edu/alumni.