

January 18, 2024

24-088

2024 PATRON AWARD NOMINATION

PREPARED BY: Christina Kline, Executive Director, PCC Foundation

APPROVED BY: PCC Foundation Board of Trustees  
Dr. Adrien L. Bennings, President

STRATEGIC THEME: Belonging: Transform our learning culture toward creating a sense of belonging and well-being for every student

REPORT: In 2007, the PCC District Board established the Portland Community College Distinguished Patron Award to recognize extraordinary levels of service to the College. Nominees are made by the PCC Foundation and the PCC President and then submitted to the PCC Board for approval. The award, an annual college honor presented by the PCC Board of Directors, goes to a person or organization that has made a significant contribution to ensure student access to education. Since 2012, commencing with the first gala, the award has been presented during the PCC Foundation's annual gala. The Patron Award will be presented during the 2024 PCC Foundation Gala on April 27, 2024, at the Hyatt Regency Portland at the Oregon Convention Center.

To date, Patron Award recipients include: Richard and Sharon Helzer; Doreen S. Margolin (posthumously, 2007); Norma Jean Germond (2008); Barbara Raz; Mary Holmström (2009); Lee and Virginia Finders (posthumously) (2010); The James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation (2011); Intel Corporation; The Oregon Community Foundation (2012); No award in 2013; Ross Lienhart and Sheila Edwards-Lienhart (posthumously) (2014); The Renaissance Foundation—Irving Levin and Stephanie Fowler (2015); Meyer Memorial Trust (2016); Betty Duvall (2017); Robert Wimmer and Howard Butzer (2018); Chris and Tom Neilsen (2019), PCC Retirees (2020); Anne Naito-Cambell; The Honorable Margaret Carter (2021); No award in 2022; Craig H. Neilsen Foundation (2023)

2024 Nominee: Congressman Earl Blumenauer

Congressman Earl Blumenauer has been a longtime advocate and supporter of Portland Community College (PCC) and its students. Congressman Blumenauer's first role in elected office came as a member of the PCC Board of Directors. In addition

to his role on the PCC Board, he has been a champion of PCC initiatives throughout the years, supporting funding for higher education and students. Most recently, Congressman Blumenauer championed Community Project Funding that went to PCC to support AI Development across programs and a learning lab where students can engage in a hands-on environment. Additionally, Congressman Blumenauer championed transportation solutions for the 82nd corridor, which serves the PCC Southeast Campus, and worked with PCC to host U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg on campus.

A lifelong resident of Portland, Oregon, Congressman Blumenauer served as a Multnomah County Commissioner and member of the Portland City Council. His tenure was marked with innovative accomplishments in transportation with light rail, bicycles and the streetcar, planning and environmental programs and public participation helped Portland earn an international reputation as one of America's most livable cities.

He was elected to the US House of Representatives in 1996 from Oregon's 3rd Congressional District. He is currently a member of the Ways and Means Committee, Ranking Member of the subcommittee on Trade and a member of the subcommittee on Health. Congressman Blumenauer is also serving as a senior member on the Budget Committee. He will not be seeking reelection this year.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The PCC Board of Directors present the 2024 Patron Award to Congressman Earl Blumenauer alongside Denise Frisbee and Senator Michael Dembrow.