LAUNCHING EXTRAORDINARY FUTURES
FOR MANY STUDENTS, going to college can seem as impossible as walking on the moon. By providing rich educational experiences at an affordable cost, Portland Community College sends students on incredible journeys of learning.

The PCC Foundation would like to recognize the generosity of our friends and donors in helping promising students shoot for the stars. Founded in 1982, the PCC Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to mobilizing donors to support scholarships for students, as well as program, curriculum, and staff development.

We believe that all students in our region should have access to an excellent education and the support they need to succeed — regardless of their ability to pay.
DEAR FRIENDS,

This year, the sky was the limit.
Together with our donors and partners, the PCC Foundation reached higher and created more opportunities for students than ever before.
In the pages of this report, you will have a chance to read just a few of these stories of transformation and fulfilled dreams from our students, alumni and donors. These incredible stories illustrate how investing in the possible – in the dreams and aspirations of our talented students – can reap outcomes beyond what was ever imagined.

Higher education has the power to transform not just individual lives but whole communities. By offering affordable, diverse educational opportunities to anyone who wants to learn, PCC serves a vital role – and your support has a broad impact.

This year your generosity set new records, helping raise more than $3.6 million to benefit PCC’s programs and students. Our number of alumni donors has risen 10-fold in the last decade, and employee giving has doubled. This year we also broke through the $1 million mark in scholarship support, serving more than 1,000 deserving PCC students – many of whom are the first in their families to attend college.

As we celebrate these milestones, we are reminded of the profound effect that your support has in helping PCC students achieve their goals. Many thanks for all you have done and all you will do to support Portland Community College.

With gratitude and dedication to our mission,

Kimberly B. Cooper
Foundation Board President
2014–15 PCC Foundation

Sylvia Kelley
Interim President
Portland Community College

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Michael and Alice Powell Help First-Generation College Students Find Their Footing in Higher Education

It makes sense that a passion for education and bookstore ownership go together. Michael Powell can confirm this. His family’s Powell’s City of Books, which encompasses an entire city block in its flagship location, is a beacon for bookworms from all over the world.

Powell and his wife, Alice, are supporters of PCC’s Future Connect Program, which provides scholarship, education, internship and mentorship support to first-generation college students.

“If you can give people a foothold into the college experience they are launched for life,” Powell says. “Without that experience, their odds of success fall dramatically. Future Connect makes college financially doable – and the connection to the students and administrators of the program is very nice for us.”

Powell, who passed ownership of Powell’s to his daughter, Emily, in 2012, is dedicated to that connectivity – so much so that he and Alice turned down a chance to hear President Obama speak in person because they were scheduled to talk with Future Connect’s newest cohort.

That dedication was inspiring to Zoe Senner, a student in the Future Connect Program who is working toward a degree in political science. Senner, who has always been passionate about social justice and whose ultimate goal is to earn a position in a career that involves advocacy for the queer community, spoke in front of her cohort and the Powells when they came to visit the Future Connect class.

“We had been learning how to use our life experiences to create our own ‘public story,’” Senner says. “Stories can have a global impact, especially when first generation and minority students share theirs because it helps others to feel they are less alone. So far the opportunity to share my story with the Powells has stuck with me the most.”

Future Connect students like Senner are paired with a success coach who helps guide them through the college experience, from signing up for classes to guidance on personal issues and career options. For Senner, and the other almost 1,000 Future Connect students that the program has helped so far, that support was crucial.

“I would have been lost without my coach,” Senner says. “In fact I doubt I would still be in college if it were not for the support of the Future Connect team.”

Helping provide these experiences for students has a special resonance for Powell, who has also served on the PCC Foundation Board and who has been intensively committed to civic involvement in his home city.

“A college degree is a critical step, and it’s as important a thing as someone can do,” he says. “If you want a healthy city you have to have an involved citizenship.”
I doubt I would still be in college if it were not for the support of the Future Connect Team.

~ Zoe Senner

Michael Powell gives Future Connect students a tour of the rare books room at Powell’s City of Books in downtown Portland.
FOR STUDENTS LIKE SALVADOR CASTAÑEDA, SCHOLARSHIPS BRING UNEXPECTED OPPORTUNITIES

It wasn’t until Salvador Castañeda toured PCC’s brand new Swan Island Trades Center that he realized a degree in a field he loves – construction – might be possible for him.

Castañeda had just graduated first in his class from Constructing Hope, a free program in Portland that provides people with training in the construction industry. His graduation speech caught the attention of Dan Wenger, PCC’s Dean of Arts and Professions.

“Dan invited me to come to Swan Island for a tour,” Castañeda says. “He asked if I was interested in any of the classes there. I told him I was interested in all of them.”

Castañeda also earned a scholarship from the PCC Foundation, a gift he never expected. “Had it not been for the scholarship I would never have been aware of the opportunities and resources available through PCC.”

One of the Swan Island Center’s biggest supporters has been Ken Madden and his family. Madden is the owner of Madden Industrial Craftsmen, a company that provides temporary tradespeople for contractors throughout the region. His family also owns Madden Fabrication, which is responsible for seismically retrofitting the Crater Lake Lodge, as well as building the Portland Loos that dot downtown.

For Madden and his family, supporting the Swan Island Trades Center, as well as creating an endowed scholarship for students in the Building Construction Technology program is a choice that affects the nation’s future.

“Those skills have built our infrastructure. It’s substantive and the backbone of the U.S. economy,” Madden says. “We see people who have come out of the scholarship system – who wouldn’t otherwise have had the money to learn the trades – talk about their life history and how scholarships have made a big difference in their lives. It’s very moving.”

Now Castañeda, who even as a child took apart small appliances to see how they worked, is progressing toward his associates degree in building construction technology. He’s also an instructional support technician at Swan Island where he supplies equipment for classrooms and helps students with hands-on problems, such as identifying which tools to use for whatever they’re working on – whether it’s putting together sheet metal or installing HVAC systems.

He’s eyeing a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering, something Wenger has encouraged him to work toward.

“Electrical engineering really intrigues me,” he says. “It’s definitely something I want to do. It’s something I didn’t even realize would be possible before coming to PCC.”
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING IS SOMETHING I DIDN’T EVEN REALIZE WOULD BE POSSIBLE FOR ME BEFORE I CAME TO PCC.

~Salvador Castañeda

Ken Madden visits with trades student Sal Castañeda at the Swan Island Trades Center.
Shay James has made a career giving back to students in Portland’s public schools

Shay James’ life changed when her grandmother told her about PCC’s Portland Teachers Program (PTP). “When I heard about the program and the scholarship that goes with it, it struck me,” James says. “I thought, ‘I could do that. I could be a teacher.’”

Portland Teachers Program, a partnership with Portland Public Schools and Portland State University, among others, prepares teachers to be culturally competent in the classroom, and focuses on historically underrepresented groups.

For James, the motivation to teach rose from memories of her childhood experiences as one of the few black students in Tigard-Tualatin schools. While James recalls some of her teachers saying things that were racially insensitive in the classroom, she took strength from those teachers who mentored her and took the time to get to know her.

“I was pretty shy. I still am,” James says. “Teachers who got to know me learned that my reservedness was a shyness, and by learning who I was they could figure out how to engage me.”

Shy or not, James has made a career of engaging students, and creating inclusive and equitable classrooms. After completing the Portland Teacher’s Program, she went on to get a bachelor’s in history and a master’s in education from Portland State. She taught for several years before eventually becoming principal at Franklin High and has served as the senior director of college and career readiness for Portland Public Schools since 2014.

“I want to have a system that is intentional and works for all kids. I want them to have solid plans so they can connect the dots and be ready for college and career,” James says. “I went into administration so I could have a wider opportunity to close the gap, and have an impact on all students.”

PCC’s Portland Teachers Program was an integral step along the way for James. It placed her with a cohort of students with similar experiences, and gave her the tools she needed to succeed in her collegiate career.

“PTP felt like home. It was a place where people were like me and conversations could be real,” she says. “I’m not sure if I could have done it without it.”

Because of James’ extensive achievements and dedication in the field of education, in 2012 she received PCC’s Diamond Alumni Award – the college’s highest honor for its alumni.

For James, giving back as an educator and as a donor to PCC through the foundation, is ingrained in who she is. “Giving back is one of the core tenets of the program. If you’re in PTP, you believe that to your core.”
I want to help kids connect the dots so they’re ready for college and for a career.

~ Shay James
Soaring to success

Soaring To Success

After serving 35 years with the Oregon Army National Guard, Bob Frasco had lots of experience repairing and crewing U.S. Army helicopters before landing at PCC. Despite his extensive knowledge, he didn’t have the certification required to work on commercial aircraft outside of the military. Using G.I. Bill funding, Frasco went back to school to get the degree he needed to advance his career.

Frasco enrolled in PCC’s Aviation Maintenance Technology (AMT) Program, an industry-respected name which offered the certification he needed. As a student with extensive practical know-how, Frasco became a natural mentor to his less-experienced classmates. After graduating from the program, he stayed on and continued supporting students as a staff member – a role he’s been in ever since.

“I never thought of teaching as a career, but I enjoyed it so much that all of my other plans just sort of fell away,” he says. “Now I can’t imagine doing anything else.”

Frasco currently supports and teaches in PCC’s AMT Program as an instructional support technician. He helps students with everything from interfacing with a computer-based aircraft turbine engine start simulator, to repairing aircraft sheet metal structures.

Like Frasco, many students in the program have prior experience working on aircraft because of past military service.

“We have a varied mix of students. Some have experience repairing aircraft for the military or grew up cleaning spark plugs in their grandpa’s garage,” Frasco says. “Others are learning their way around mechanical things for the first time. It’s especially rewarding to work with these students.”

Frasco not only gives back to the program with his time as a technical support person and part-time instructor, but also as a donor to the PCC Foundation. PCC employees have a longstanding tradition of giving back to the students they serve in this way – and their generosity continues to grow. The college experienced a 20% increase in employee giving during the 2014–15 academic year, with the average gift size increasing by 30%.

“I truly believe that every person who wants to learn should be able to come to school and gain the skills they need to earn a living wage,” he says. “I can’t think of a better investment than PCC – you can’t measure the benefits in dollars.”

The course of Frasco’s life was changed by his experiences at PCC and he’s amazed by the transformations he’s witnessed in the lives of students.

“I’ve seen students come here not knowing the difference between a wheel bearing and a sparkplug. Two years later they’re ready to earn a living wage as a certificated aircraft mechanic,” he says. “I don’t know where else you can find that kind of transformation. PCC really does change lives.”
In two years, students are ready to earn a living wage as a certified aircraft mechanic. PCC really does change lives.

~ Bob Frasco

Bob Frasco poses next to a FJ33-4A model turbofan engine, a learning engine donated to PCC’s AMT program by Williams International.
Nathan Young was already deeply involved with PCC’s building construction technology program when a conversation he had at the PCC Foundation’s annual Golf Invitational made him up his ante.

“After we teed off we went down to the green and started talking to the volunteer there, who was a scholarship winner,” Young says. “He told us how a $1,200 scholarship changed his whole life and gave him the chance to go to school. Well that’s just a no brainer. We can change lives, and we were hooked.”

After that tournament in 2002, Young, who is the CEO of Nathan D. Young Construction as well as MODS PDX, increased his gift by five fold.

“It’s such a small amount of money relative to what it does for others,” he says.

A scholarship provided by golf invitational donations certainly helped Edwin Martinez, who is aiming to get an AAS degree in building construction technology next year. While he was at PCC, Martinez’ father broke his foot and was unable to run his construction business. Martinez took over the full-time position. At the same time, he was working weekends at Sears and doing his homework during classroom breaks and lunch hours.

“The generous contribution has given me the strength to keep on going through difficult times,” he says. “To me, the scholarship is not just a scholarship; it’s an reminder that hard work and perseverance really do pay off.”

Young first got involved with the building construction technology program when he was just a couple of years into running his own business, which he started in 1998. He began hiring graduates from the PCC program, and was soon asked to serve on its advisory board, which he has since chaired.

Young was impressed not only with the skills students from PCC learned, but with the passionate faculty and small class sizes.

“It’s a critical, phenomenal program for people to find out what they can do. Not everyone is going to be a computer guy,” Young says. “We’ve gotten rid of the ability for students in high school to stay connected to education. I know lots of guys who stayed in school because of metal shops and wood shops. They are now running their own businesses or earning a living wage as framers. At the end of the day they can say ‘I built that.’ And I think there’s no other job that’s as satisfying.”
It’s critical to help people find out what they can do with their lives. Not everyone is going to be a computer guy.

~ Nathan Young

Nathan Young at the Heron Lakes Golf Course, which hosts the annual PCC Foundation Golf Invitational.
The gala’s galactic theme underscored the bold vision and ingenuity of students like Keith who dare to shoot for the stars.

A pillar of the gala was the presentation of the PCC Patron Award, which honors a person or organization that has made a significant contribution to PCC to ensure access to education for students. The 2015 recipients were Stephanie Fowler and Irving Levin of The Renaissance Foundation, a private philanthropic organization that creates opportunities in part for first-generation, low-income students.

“We believe that education is the critical path to success, and dreams should not be limited by limited resources,” said Stephanie Fowler. “Thank you to PCC and to the PCC Foundation for this honor.”

A hush came over the room as Keith Jones took to the stage. The student leader and graduate of PCC’s honor college delivered the keynote address at the PCC Foundation’s annual gala, An Evening for Opportunity.

In front of 500 donors and supporters of the college, Keith told the story of how a scholarship from the PCC Foundation changed his life. Formerly a homeless high school dropout, Keith found the motivation and confidence he needed while studying at PCC. This fall he will attend Pacific University and plans to study educational policy. He hopes to research methods for engaging students of color in the math classroom, an area of study he began investigating at PCC as part of his honors capstone project.

“PCC has changed everything for me,” he said in his remarks. “It’s given me ambition. It’s given me confidence. It’s given me hope.”

Spearheaded by honorary gala chairs Junki and Linda Yoshida, An Evening for Opportunity raised a record-breaking $425,000 to support scholarships and student success programs. The generosity of all those who attended will create scholarships for hundreds of PCC students.

Special thanks to our event sponsors: Yoshida Group, Jon V. Jaqua and Kimberly B. Cooper Advised Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation, Carol and Max Lyons, Hillsboro Aviation, Pamplin Media Group, Wells Fargo, Intel and NW Natural.

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PCC has changed everything for me. It’s given me ambition. It’s given me hope.

~ Keith Jones
Congratulations to 2015 Patron Award Winners Stephanie Fowler and Irving Levin!

PCC scholarship recipient Frances Fagan transferred from PCC to Yale University this Fall.

Thank you gala sponsors!

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David Hahm from Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters tees off at the PCC Foundation Golf Invitational.
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This scholarship has given me the opportunity to overcome my fears and get the education I need so that I’m able to teach others in the future.

~ Felecia Padgett, Central City Concern Scholarship recipient
I wish there were more words I could say to express my appreciation. I’m studying to become a doctor so I can learn how to save lives, and my education is a gift I will always be thankful for.

~ Cheyenne Strickland, Juan Young Trust scholarship recipient
Knowing there are people in the world generous enough to give a struggling student a helping hand motivates me to work even harder, so one day I may be able to pay it forward to another student like myself.

~ Andrew Jozwiak, J&J Inc. Scholarships recipient
I'm forever grateful to be a part of college life.
I've been an honors student for three terms in a row, and your help and support makes me try my hardest.

~ Carmen Campuzano, Beaverton Woman's Club scholarship recipient
This scholarship has given me a renewed sense of purpose and appreciation for the opportunities that I have found since I’ve come back to school at Portland Community College.

~ Natalie Divine, Columbia Pacific Foundation Scholarship recipient
I was looking at job postings online when I received the email notifying me that I’d been selected to receive this award. I literally screamed out loud with joy as relief filled my heart that my dream was not over!

~ Judy Johnson, New Directions scholarship recipient
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Thank you for a record-breaking year!

This year, the combined generosity from our jurisdictional partners and hundreds of individuals, foundations, and businesses resulted in more than $3.68 million in cash and in-kind contributions—a 40% increase over last year.

Although income from investment activities was sluggish in comparison to prior years, the foundation’s net assets grew 5% to over $12.7 million dollars by the end of June 2015, and the foundation’s endowment and affiliated net accumulated earnings accounts increased to approximately $6.7 million.

Foundation support provided nearly $2.7 million in PCC scholarships and program assistance—a 60% increase from last fiscal year. Funds supported many programs across PCC including Future Connect, the Cascade Festival for African Films, and STEM Initiatives, such as Robotics camps, MakerSpace camps, and hands-on computer build programs for promising students.

Many thanks to you, our donors, for your belief in PCC and for helping students realize their academic dreams.

Special thanks to our new supporters

645 New Supporters
9,500 Alumni reached in first annual phone-a-thon
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Financial outlook

Revenue
- $3.68M Contributions
- $726K College In-Kind Gifts
- $180K Investment & Other Revenue

Expenses
- $1.6M Program Support
- $197K Fundraising
- $303K Administration
- $726K College In-Kind Support

Contributions
- $1.14M Scholarships
- $807K 2011
- $782K 2012
- $865K 2013
- $997K 2014
- $1.14M 2015

Our growing scholarship program...
Thank you for launching extraordinary futures!