



# Lake Tahoe Community College Donor Investment Report

Spring 2019

The Lake Tahoe Community College Foundation promotes academic excellence among students at Lake Tahoe Community College. This excellence is made possible by the growth and development of new educational opportunities funded by generous donors in the community.

For the 2018/2019 academic year, the Lake Tahoe Community College Foundation focused primarily on raising funds for the Lake Tahoe College Promise program. Your generous support has exceeded the initial fundraising goal set for the program!



Give online today:  
[ltcc.edu/giving](http://ltcc.edu/giving)

## Lake Tahoe College Promise Program is First in the Country to Support Students from Two States

The Lake Tahoe College Promise program originated from LTCC's desire to bring California's Promise program to the Lake Tahoe Basin and particularly to include Nevada students.

Despite being a single community, the basin includes residents of both California and Nevada. This split residency presented a unique challenge to LTCC.

Thanks to donations from generous supporters, including a \$200,000 gift from an anonymous Nevada donor, students from both sides of the state line received the Lake Tahoe College Promise scholarship beginning in fall 2018.

LTCC is the first college in the country to offer a bi-state College Promise program to support local students!



# Thanks to the Lake Tahoe College Promise, These Three Students are Enrolled Full-Time at LTCC!



Students Trieton Kuenzi, Rachel Lowe, and Julio Loera-Hernandez have all benefitted from the Lake Tahoe College Promise Program.

## Student Profile: Julio Loera-Hernandez

Julio Loera-Hernandez was born at Barton Hospital and attended Bijou Elementary School in California then Zephyr Cove Elementary in Nevada. Currently enrolled as a pre-nursing major at LTCC, he's been able to continue his educational journey thanks in part to the Lake Tahoe College Promise program.

Government financial aid covered much of Julio's tuition, but the Lake Tahoe College Promise gave him additional funds to cover books and other school costs.

According to Wynn Walker, PhD, Julio's favorite teacher so far at LTCC: "Julio is very bright and energetic and always strives to do his very best. He did a great job and got an "A" in my very difficult Statistics class."

After LTCC, Julio plans to transfer to Sacramento State for his bachelor's degree then would like to continue on to UC Davis for a master's degree. From there, he would like to attend either dental or nursing school.

## Student Profile: Rachel Lowe

After graduating from Whittell High School with a 4.0 GPA, Rachel Lowe planned to postpone college. Instead, she worked and helped her mom pay the bills.

But her mom, who has a master's degree in education, encouraged Rachel to get her AA. Rachel looked into taking classes, but as a Nevada resident, she didn't have the money for the cost of tuition. The day before classes started, Rachel heard she qualified

for the Lake Tahoe College Promise and her tuition would be free! She then enrolled full-time at LTCC for fall 2018 and maintained a 4.0 GPA in the fall and winter quarters. The Lake Tahoe College Promise was life-changing for Rachel because it gave her the ability to attend school full-time.

## Student Profile: Trieton Kuenzi

Trieton Kuenzi was born to teenage parents and grew up on Tahoe's South Shore. Thanks to caring teachers, he made it through school and excelled in classes where he connected with the teacher and the subject matter.

Trieton graduated from Whittell High School in spring 2018 while working full-time as a night manager at a local motel. He's interested in computer science and planned to study on his own while continuing to work. That all changed when he learned he was eligible for the Lake Tahoe College Promise! The tuition support made college a reality for Trieton. He now studies engineering and computer science at LTCC! He is doing exceedingly well and has maintained a 3.6 GPA over the past two quarters.

Trieton plans on continuing at LTCC for another two years before transferring to UNR to study towards a degree in computer science engineering.



# Your Donations Fund Student Success Grants to Improve the Learning Experience



Students using netbooks provided by Student Success Grants to take the Calculus final during the winter quarter.

The LTCC Foundation focuses on raising funds to enhance student learning. To that end, it set up the Student Success Grants in 2016. The grants give LTCC departments, faculty, and staff the financial support to purchase equipment or offer experiences designed to improve students' learning in the classroom and out in the field. Thanks to donor generosity, the Foundation awarded \$15,000 to Student Success Grant recipients in 2018.

In Fall 2018, Student Success Grants supported geology, athletics, mathematics, and chemistry. The biggest Student Success Grant awarded this year funded the purchase of 20 Chromebooks for students in STEM and mathematics classes. Students now use these laptops during testing instead of the old T189 calculators that the department used for more than 20 years! When the Chromebooks are not in use for exams, students can check the laptops to use in the LTCC library.

## 2018 Approved Student Success Grants

Department	Project	Amount
Athletics – Tutoring program	Provide a math and an English tutor for winter and spring at the athletic program study hall to serve the 50 players, 10 of whom are currently high risk for ineligibility due to low grades.	\$2,624
Chemistry Lab Equipment	Instructors will select equipment to purchase either vacuum pumps or a chromatograph, which will allow more experiments to be completed in the LTCC chemistry and physics lab.	\$2,000
Equity Student Conference Attendance	Partial scholarship for two students to attend the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education (NCORE), which serves as the leading national forum on issues of race and ethnicity in American higher education. Faculty, staff and students who attend NCORE describe it as a life-changing experience.	\$1,500
Geology	Scholarship for students enrolled in Geology to offset trip expenses for 13 LTCC students for Geology 131AA: Grand Canyon. This 4 unit field-based course will introduce students to the geology, hydrology, natural history, and management issues associated with the Grand Canyon of the Colorado River. Funds will subsidize the cost of travel to Las Vegas to meet the outfitter. Attendees are full-time students who will be fundraising throughout the year and for many this will be a once-in-a-lifetime trip.	\$3,900
Mathematics – STEM Equipment	Funds purchased 20 Chromebooks to replace the T189 calculators that STEM math students at LTCC have been using for the past 22 years. The Chromebooks will be used during testing so students only have access to designated online resources. These 20 Chromebooks will be used in addition to the 10 currently in the library for the usual 30-student calculus class, pre-calculus and second year calculus. The Chromebooks will live in the library and be available for students to check out when exams are not scheduled.	\$5,000
<b>Total Amount Funded by the LTCC Foundation</b>		<b>\$15,024</b>

# South Tahoe High Graduate Given Unique Opportunities at LTCC

Fatima Dominguez grew up in town and graduated from South Tahoe High School. Now in her second year as a full-time LTCC student, she is the first in her family to attend college.

While working towards a degree in Spanish and fire science, Fatima works on campus at the financial aid office and at a local restaurant. This work helps her gain practical experience and cover the cost of her education, alongside the scholarships and grants she receives.

After LTCC, Fatima plans to head to CSU LA to continue her fire science education and attend paramedic school.



Fatima Dominguez is the first in her family to attend college and is pursuing a degree in fire science and Spanish.

## Save the Date!



**Taste of Gold** returns on Saturday, July 20 from 6 to 9pm at LTCC's Demonstration Garden and Ledbetter Terrace.



Join us for a beautiful summer night wandering through the garden paths to support students and enjoy live jazz music, food, beer, and wine!

Sponsorships are available for the event and all proceeds go towards helping LTCC students. Contact [foundation@ltcc.edu](mailto:foundation@ltcc.edu) or call the foundation staff at (530)541-4660 x.654.

On Thursday, September 12 from 8:30 - 10am, President Jeff DeFranco will be delivering the **State of the College Address** at the Duke Theatre on the LTCC campus.