

Scholarships Paving the Way for Students' Higher Education Path

Thanks to the generous support of donors, the total amount of scholarships has grown each of the past six years. In June, LTCC will award \$275,000 in scholarships to current and transferring students for their educational costs in the 2023/24 academic year. Continuing and new donor support make it possible to provide even more students the opportunity to achieve a higher education degree debt-free.

Generous donors are making it possible for students to stay in school and focus on studying to earn their degrees sooner and with less debt. Many donors provide awards annually, and this year are joined by new supporters, including Boosting Hope Inc. and NBC, together offering \$10,000 in awards through the Boosting Hope and the Gene Upshaw Memorial Scholarship.

Boosting Hope, Inc. aims to support underserved students

who plan to transfer to a four-year university. The nonprofit organization will provide two scholarships of \$2,500 each to students who need access to other sources of support to make transferring financially viable.

This year will be the first time the Gene Upshaw Memorial Scholarship will be awarded to a deserving LTCC student. The \$5,000 award will assist a graduating student transferring to a four-year school to earn a bachelor's degree.

The recipient will be recognized at a press conference and receive the award at the American Century Golf Championship at Edgewood this summer.

"I am honored to have been chosen as the recipient of the Kiwanis Club of Sierra Tahoe Scholarship. Receiving this award reminds me that I don't have to go through this journey alone. Thank you so much for believing in me, my dreams, and my journey!"

— Astraea Marion



2022 Recipient Astraea Marion with Kiwanis Club of Tahoe Sierra representative Kelly Escobedo.

The Promise Program Team Provides Personalized Support to Ensure Students Thrive

January of this year marked the one-year anniversary for Antonio Benitez in the role of Director of the Lake Tahoe College Promise. Antonio and his team take a very hands-on approach to supporting the 216 students currently active in the Promise program. The Promise office is always stocked with snacks and drinks, and school supplies to keep students nourished and ensure they have the tools they need to succeed in their classes.

To encourage teamwork and give students an outlet to relieve stress, Antonio applied for and received a \$1,500 Student

Success Grant for community building and mental health support. The Promise office hosted a paint and destress activity during the winter quarter and purchased board games and a Nintendo Switch so students can visit the Promise office for a fun study break to relax, then refocus and get back to studying. To date, 90 students have benefitted from these services.

If Promise students fall below the minimum required GPA or the minimum 12 units, the Promise office reaches out to schedule a one-on-one meeting with Director Antonio. In the meeting, Antonio and

the student work together to create a student success plan. If the student is experiencing challenges with classwork, mental health, financial needs, or learning disabilities, then Antonio can direct them to additional campus resources including tutoring, Timely MD, the Basic Needs Center, and the Student Accessibility Center. The goal is to provide the tools for students to overcome these additional stressors, so they can focus on their studies and complete their classes. Of the active Promise students, 30 are on track to graduate this spring!

Celebrating Students' Success

Thanks to the support of the Lake Tahoe College Promise Program, Shakti Medina and Nathan Miller are both on track to graduate and earn degrees.

Student Profile: Shakti Medina

Shakti will be the first person in her family to graduate from community college and is committed to proving that dreams can become realities. She is a full-time student studying criminal justice and will graduate this spring. Shakti plans to pursue a bachelor's degree at California State University, Long Beach.

She feels that LTCC has prepared her to continue her education. She says, "The

benefits and the people" are the biggest assets, and "It's like a small community that offers one-on-one experiences and hands-on help." She participates in several student clubs and is the President of the Active Minds LTCC chapter.

Shakti is grateful for the opportunity to attend LTCC, particularly that the Promise Program paid for her tuition and books. While looking forward to transferring and continuing



her education this fall, Shakti will miss the supportive LTCC community, who want to see her and her fellow students succeed.

Student Profile: Nathan Miller

A year ago, Nathan didn't anticipate he would attend college. After overcoming several life hurdles, he was inspired to continue his education, but he still didn't know how to overcome the financial burden of paying for tuition and books. He considered taking one class each quarter and paying out of pocket, but he knew this plan would prolong his goal of using his education to make an impact on the community. Nathan then learned

about the Lake Tahoe College Promise program, which allowed him to start attending LTCC full time this year.

Nathan enjoys being a full-time student while also working full time helping others as a technician in a drug and alcohol rehabilitation facility. His work influenced his decision to pursue an Associate of Arts Degree in Psychology. Being 27 years old, Nathan was concerned about getting a late start compared to those attending LTCC right



after high school. But, he says "Everybody is treated the same. I have just as much opportunity, [and] I'm supported in making this huge change in my life."

Students Learn and Grow through Student Success Grants

Your generous support is providing educational and enriching experiences for students via the Foundation's Student Success Grant Program. With the grant funds, faculty and staff may purchase materials and fund activities while creating a sense of community, culture, and much more.

Thanks to your generous donations, faculty and staff received \$19,000 in Student Success Grant funds for the 2022/23 academic year impacting numerous programs and countless futures. Here are a few highlights:



Balance Ball Chairs

Ten new balance chairs in the library help meet the needs of a variety of students, including neurodivergent learners, student athletes, students recovering from injuries, and those looking for a break from sitting all day.



Equatio

Equatio Math Software allows students to read, write, and listen to mathematical material. This software gives students more opportunities to show their mastery in math in a way that best suits their learning style.



Promise Program Community Building

The Promise Program was granted \$1500 for community building and mental health support. The program held a Paint & Destress Night on February 2. 60 students attended the event designed to help students reduce stress while also helping develop

interpersonal skills and camaraderie with their peers. Student attendee Conner Asher commented "Thank you for hosting this. I will definitely join more events in the future."



Microtome

The microtome cuts thin sections of material to allow students to better view the anatomy and physiology of organisms on a micro-scale and see organs, cells, and even molecules under a microscope.

Upcoming Events

Scholarship Awards Lunch

Friday, June 23, at 11:30 am at Bally's Lake Tahoe Resort

The LTCC Foundation holds this ceremony every spring to award scholarships to continuing and transfer students. The scholarship awards are based on academic achievement, financial need, or specific interests such as course of study, clubs, or community impact. The donors and representatives who make the scholarships possible join the recipients to celebrate the students' accomplishments.



LTCC Foundation Speaker Series – Knowledge for Life

The Painting War - Dr. John Rosenberg
 Tuesday, July 25, 6 pm
 Duke Theatre



Literature, art, and music— all creativity, for that matter — arise from the interplay between harmonies and conflict, dissonance and resolution. In that sense, art is not merely an image of life, it is life in its richness, complexity, and paradoxes. Perhaps for that reason, art often probes conflict in its most exaggerated form: war.

This lecture will focus on three representations of war, Velazquez's Surrender of Breda, Goya's Third of May, and Picasso's Guernica. Dr. Rosenberg will explore the context for each painting, discover the values and attitudes embedded in style, and draw conclusions about what these images of violence tell us about peace.

Dr. John Rosenberg is Dean of the College of Humanities at Brigham Young University, BYU, and professor of Spanish at the University. He holds awards for his outstanding teaching at BYU and Cornell University.



Saturday, August 5, 2023

4:30 pm VIP Sponsor Party

5 – 6 pm Exclusive VIP Sponsor access to the event

6 – 8 pm Doors open to general admission ticket purchasers

The LTCC Foundation's annual fundraiser is the can't-miss event of the Tahoe summer! Join us under the trees on campus for a delightful evening of food, wine, and beer.



HONORING LISA MALOFF
 THURSDAY, AUGUST 17

Honoring Lisa Maloff Event

Thursday, August 17, 2023, from 4-7 pm
 Lisa Maloff University Center on the LTCC Campus

Please join us in remembering and honoring the "Angel of Tahoe," Lisa Maloff. We'll gather on Thursday, August 17, in the beautiful building made possible by Lisa's incredible donation, the largest in LTCC's history. Take a tour of the building and join us in recognizing Lisa's importance and lasting legacy.

State of the College Address

Thursday, September 14, 2023
 Duke Theatre

LTCC Superintendent/President Jeff DeFranco will welcome staff, faculty, and students at this year's State of the College Address. Big changes are underway on LTCC's campus thanks to \$40 million in state funding to support the construction of on-campus housing for low-income students.