Get Ready for a Great Time at the Yellowjacket Classic Golf Outing!

Mark your calendar for the Yellowjacket Classic on Friday, June 14. Your participation will support RCTC Athletics and aid the RCTC Foundation’s programs and initiatives. Help us recognize the contributions and successes of past Yellowjacket players and great coaching staff. Share in the food, fun and prizes at Willow Creek Golf Course. Additional information and registration details are available at www.rctc.edu/foundation.

Lunch and Learn at Local High Schools

The RCTC Foundation recently hosted LUNCH AND LEARN sessions at Rochester high schools by providing subway sandwiches, chips and water to juniors and seniors over their lunch hour. Posters were put up in the schools this past December inviting students to a LUNCH AND LEARN session in January to get tips about scholarships, financial aid, and maneuvering through the college process. Lisa Baldus and Roxy Roadway from the RCTC Foundation teamed up with RCTC College Transitions Coordinators at these visits and were joined by several RCTC students who shared their college experiences.

SPECIAL THANKS go to the RCTC students listed below for sharing their experiences at the sessions.
- Alvin Chanthee, Welcome Center
- Edgar Chavira, Campus Activities Board
- Cadie Engelking, Welcome Center
- Hannah Schwieters, Welcome Center
- Samantha Laderer, Student Senate
- Mike Lampson, Student Senate

The Foundation’s mission is to build a successful future through higher education and we were thrilled to contribute to the College’s outreach efforts. All application fees at these sessions were waived by the College. As a result of this enrollment initiative, visits were made to John Marshall, Mayo, Century, Golden Hill Area Learning Center and Rochester Off Campus Charter High School and 22 students submitted applications to RCTC at these session.
A new scholarship has been established with the RCTC Foundation by Debbie Knaup, RCTC Business Office Accounts Payable. The Darlyne Podein Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of Debbie’s great-aunt who was an avid concert goer. The scholarship will be awarded to a student who is actively enrolled in Concert Choir, Concert Band, Aires, or Jazz Band, regardless of his/her major area. Scholarship candidates must be a current RCTC student with a minimum 2.0 GPA.

Music plays a central role in many people’s lives by providing influential encouragement, knowledge, entertainment and even relaxation. RCTC is honored to have played a role in the life of Debbie’s great-aunt and her act of kindness is an investment which benefits the students and programs of RCTC and truly makes a difference in people’s lives.

Also, recently established was the Yvonne Romero Art History Scholarship by Dr. Yvonne Romero of Rochester. In Fall of 2011, Dr. Romero attended RCTC’s Art History class taught by Catherine Egenberger and felt that the class had so enriched her life that she wanted to create an annual scholarship fund for students at RCTC. The scholarship is awarded to a student who is actively enrolled in an Art History Course, or who has completed an Art History course regardless of his/her major area of study. Additional considerations for the award go to students with a minimum grade point average of 2.0, who are from disadvantaged background and have financial need.

The Foundation Scholarship program has considerably grown over the past 50 years, thanks to members of the RCTC Family who have established and/or contributed towards scholarships.

Want to establish your own scholarship? Or do you belong to a group that is interested in starting an Annual Scholarship? Contact the RCTC Foundation at (507) 281-7770.

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Congratulations to the RCTC Men’s Basketball team for winning the MCAC/Region 13 title and advancement to the NJCAA National Tournament in Loch Sheldrake, NY on March 14 - 16, 2013!

Facebook

Like us on facebook... we want to hear from you. Also, check out our upcoming events and let us know if you can join in the fun!

Facebook.com/RCTCFoundation

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Scholarship News

May 9th

Join us at the RCTC Foundation Spring FUNraiser on Thursday, May 9 for an enjoyable evening at Johnny Mango’s. The event will feature Mediterranean themed cooking classes, wine tasting, prizes, and much more. Learn how to make Spanish Spring Salad with Avocado Cilantro Dressing, Seared Salmon with Zinfandel-Blackberry Jus-Li Sauce, Spanish Brown Rice, Festival Blend Vegetables, and Heart Healthy Strawberry Shortcake, all while sampling too. The cost of the event is $25.00 and reservations can be made online at: www.razoo.com/story/Rctc-Foundation-Spring-Funraiser or by sending a check to the RCTC Foundation at 851 30th Avenue SE, Rochester, MN 55904.

Your purchase not only guarantees you a fun-filled experience, but it will also benefit students by providing scholarship and program support to students who might not otherwise have the resources to pursue higher education. Most RCTC students juggle multiple responsibilities—balancing work, family and career preparation. Especially in difficult times, a scholarship can make all the difference. Without this support, many deserving students are unable to pursue their dream of higher education. Help us deepen our impact on our state and community by making an investment in our students. These men and women will help shape Minnesota’s future. If you have any questions, please contact the RCTC Foundation at (507) 281-7771.
2013 Beat the Odds

Beat the Odds is an annual fundraising event and scholarship program that honors youth who have overcome significant odds to become personally and academically successful. On January 31, 2013 nearly 500 people came together to celebrate five inspiring students who have Beat the Odds. Congratulations to our latest Beat the Odds recipients:

**Caroline Adams:** Caroline grew up in a loving two-parent family, but all was not perfect. Both of her parents are disabled and cannot work. Her mother has suffered with epilepsy from early childhood and required many brain surgeries throughout her life. Caroline had to grow up very quickly and quietly; she spent much of her childhood being quiet and not acting up. In her junior year, Caroline decided to attend RCTC for post-secondary education. She is on track to earn her high school diploma from Triton High School and credits toward a liberal arts degree this spring.

**Maurice Cain:** Maurice is a 19 year old senior at Mayo High school who lives with his mother and younger sister with disabilities. Three years ago his mother was diagnosed with a chronic illness that has required several surgeries and many visits to doctors. Maurice is willing to leave his friends and activities to go home and stay with his sister, Miracle, whenever his mother needs his assistance. Maurice has had to blaze his own path, and has done an amazing job despite numerous life circumstances that would have easily derailed most people’s dreams. He will graduate from Mayo this spring.

**Candace Gould:** Although, Candace has faced years of abuse, poverty, and the changing of schools as a Junior, she has succeeded in just about every way a student can. She excels in academics and athletics. Candace will graduate from Chatfield High School.

**Mitch Ristau:** When Mitch was 13, he suffered a debilitating accident on the family farm and lost a leg. After missing a lot of school, having to work through many doctor appointments with some trial-and-error procedures, and dealing with the pain and everyday issues that come with a prosthetic leg, Mitch has definitely beat the odds. He will graduate from Fillmore Central High School.

**Sim Sotheanet (Net) Youk:** Net was born in Cambodia and grew up witnessing shootings on the street and innocent children being injured. When Net was 8 years old, his parents immigrated to the United States leaving Net and his sister with a grandparent in Cambodia. After four years, Net and his sister joined his parents in the United States. Net has been faced with many challenges and has beaten the odds through his determination to get a great education and volunteer his time with community service to make his family proud.

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**Q: How do I donate?**

**A:**

- Make an online donation at: www.razoo.com/story/Rochester-Community-College-Foundation
- Make a 3-5 year pledge to fund an endowed scholarship
- Include RCTC in your estate plan

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**President Supalla to Receive Prestigious Award**

We are proud to announce that President Don Supalla has been selected as a recipient of the prestigious Michael Bennett Lifetime Achievement Award by Phi Theta Kappa International. Retiring college presidents, campus chief executive officers and state community college directors are nominated by their Phi Theta Kappa chapters and selected for this award based on the outstanding support they’ve provided to Phi Theta Kappa over many years. This is what RCTC’s Phi Theta Kappa Omnicron Chapter had to say in their nomination submission:

“President Supalla has far surpassed any requirements in the Hallmark areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Fellowship, and Service. We are not nominating a president. We are celebrating the essence of a righteous man that has contributed so much, in so many ways and areas, to Phi Theta Kappa, education, community, and humanity.”

Don will be presented with this distinguished award at the Phi Theta Kappa 96th Annual Convention this spring in San Jose, California.
The RCTC Foundation staff dedicated some time for outreach after finishing up the Beat the Odds fundraiser and the online portion of the 2013/2014 general scholarship application process.

As the RCTC Foundation Executive Director, my job is to share who we are as an organization and what our mission is. Over the last three months I met with many community groups and leaders to explain the work we do and who benefits from it. At the end of each presentation, people generally asked the same questions. They wanted to know what new RCTC programs have been added to keep up with the advances in science and medicine. These questions came as no surprise due to Mayo Clinic and IBM having very long shadows.

Here are a few new programs and classes of interest to the Rochester community and RCTC Alumni: Administrative Clinic Assistant – Diploma, Advanced Hospital Nursing Assistant – Certificate, EMT – Certificate, Health Sciences Broad Field – Associates, Mobile Application Development – Certificate, and Welding Technology – Certificate.

Because medicine, science, and technology play such a significant role in the lives of Rochester residents more will be shared upcoming newsletters on these new programs as well as the STEM Village campus construction project.