

**A  
year of  
inspiration.**

**Holyoke Community  
College Foundation  
Annual Report  
2017-2018**



The HCC Foundation exists to provide support for programs and initiatives that enhance the quality of education and expand educational opportunities for HCC students.

# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We are pleased to share with you the Holyoke Community College Foundation Annual Report. This report demonstrates the breadth of community support and engagement that fuels our students' success and provides exceptional programs, facilities and resources so they can thrive.

With your support, we were able to provide more than \$200,000 in scholarships to HCC students in the past year. Your contributions also enabled the foundation to distribute approximately \$1 million to HCC in funding for technology, student initiatives, faculty development, campus improvements and more through grants, private gifts and sponsorships.

This year marked the 50th anniversary of the HCC Foundation, which was established to ensure that the college would forever remain a pillar of our community and a place where individuals could unlock their potential and achieve their educational and career goals. Through the dedication of our founders, the leadership of our Board of Directors, and the generosity of our donors, we have been able to do just that for over half a century.

No matter how your gift is made, we recognize that it is not just a check, or shares of stock, or a charitable trust – it is a statement, a promise, and a commitment of support to our students and our college. It is personal, and it is inspiring. Thank you for sharing your passion with us.



Amanda E. Sbriscia  
Vice President, Institutional Advancement  
Executive Director, HCC Foundation



# Financials

## Foundation Assets: Ten-Year History

### Holyoke Community College Foundation, Inc., Statement of Financial Position

JUNE 30, 2018, WITH COMPARATIVE TOTALS FOR 2017

| <b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>   | <b>2018</b>         | <b>2017</b>         | <b>LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>       | <b>2018</b>         | <b>2017</b>         |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents   | \$1,183,535         | \$70,119            | <b>Current Liabilities:</b>             |                     |                     |
| Prepaid expenses  | 6,582               | 13,554              | Accounts Payable                        | \$867,829           | \$1,182,362         |
| Grants and pledges receivable—within one year                               |                     |                     | Line of Credit                          | 2,500,000           | -                   |
|   | 179,865             | 67,313              |   |                     |                     |
| <hr/>   |                     |                     | <hr/>                                   |                     |                     |
| <i>Total Current Assets</i>   | <i>1,369,982</i>    | <i>150,986</i>      | <i>Total Current Liabilities</i>        | <i>3,367,829</i>    | <i>1,182,362</i>    |
|   |                     |                     |   |                     |                     |
| <b>Other Assets:</b>  |                     |                     | Deferred rent revenue                   | 600,743             | -                   |
| Grants and pledges receivable—after one year                                |                     |                     |   |                     |                     |
|   | 26,588              | 37,820              | <hr/>                                   |                     |                     |
| Investments   | 13,360,891          | 13,410,255          | <i>Total Liabilities</i>                | <i>3,968,572</i>    | <i>1,182,362</i>    |
| Refundable Advance held by Community<br>Foundation of Western Massachusetts | 20,887              | 19,452              |   |                     |                     |
| Land and land improvements, net   | 5,451,954           | 1,528,919           | <b>Net Assets:</b>                      |                     |                     |
| Collections   | -                   | -                   | Undesignated                            | 397,847             | 169,621             |
| <hr/>   |                     |                     | Invested in Property                    | 2,951,954           | 1,528,919           |
| <i>Total Other Assets</i>   | <i>18,860,320</i>   | <i>14,996,446</i>   | Board Designated                        | 1,600,000           | 1,600,000           |
|   |                     |                     | <hr/>                                   |                     |                     |
| <b>Total Assets</b>   | <b>\$20,230,302</b> | <b>\$15,147,432</b> | <i>Total Unrestricted Net Assets</i>    | <i>4,949,828</i>    | <i>3,298,540</i>    |
|   |                     |                     |   |                     |                     |
|   |                     |                     | Temporarily restricted                  | 5,683,159           | 5,192,436           |
|   |                     |                     | Permanently restricted                  | 5,628,743           | 5,474,094           |
|   |                     |                     | <hr/>                                   |                     |                     |
|   |                     |                     | <i>Total Net Assets</i>                 | <i>16,261,730</i>   | <i>13,965,370</i>   |
|   |                     |                     | <hr/>                                   |                     |                     |
|   |                     |                     | <b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b> |                     |                     |
|   |                     |                     |   | <b>\$20,230,302</b> | <b>\$15,147,432</b> |

**Foundation for the future.**  
**Through your generosity, we**  
**will position HCC and the region to**  
**thrive in the years ahead.**

# Total Liabilities and Net Assets





# The Frost Society

We thank members of the Frost Society for their vision in naming the HCC Foundation in their estate plans through a will, trust, retirement plan, life insurance policy, or life-income gift. Their thoughtfulness will enable future HCC students to succeed and allow the college to *Educate. Inspire. Connect.* for generations to come.

Anonymous

Attorney Paul D. Boudreau '67

Patricia L. Bonnett '82

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Joanna L. Brown

William Burgart

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Constance A. D'Elia

Joyce D. Desorcy '88\*

Gregory R. '88 and Nadine A. '85 Dubreuil

Carl '56 and Shirley Eger

Shirley L. Fallon\*

Attorneys John J. and Deborah Ferriter

Attorney Maurice J. '52 and

Margaret M. Ferriter

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Juliette Tomlinson\*

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Nancy A. Spagnoli '83

Cynthia A. Sutter '90

Donald R. Taber\*

Victor E. Thomas, Sr.\*

Richard P. Towne, Jr.

Peg L. '58 and Gary Wendlandt

Gail T. Wright '75\*

Joseph T. '54 and Angela '54 Wright

\*deceased



# Tribute Gifts

Dr. Francis M. Baker\*  
Dr. David M. Bartley  
Gary Beluzo  
Paul D. Boudreau '67  
Francis J. Cataldo\*  
Frank F. Collins\*  
Maureen J. D'Amico\*  
William Dwight\*  
Michael T. Fortier\*  
Marcel P. Godin '48\*  
Jeffrey Hayden  
Gloria J. Maddox\*  
Peter M. McHugh\*  
Audrey Mileskey-Lareau\*

Sue Ellen Panitch  
Janet G. Polvino\*  
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Christina Royal  
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Ruth A. Skuse\*  
John A. Sullivan\*  
Alan T. Taupier '55\*  
Donald E. Vitkus\*  
Peg L. Wendlandt  
Joseph T. Wright  
Bonnie Zima Dowd  
\*deceased

**Lives  
that inspire.  
Honoring  
special people  
while providing  
vital support  
to HCC.**

# Foundation Board of Directors

## 2017-18

\*Paul Boudreau, Esq. '67, Partner, Ryan Boudreau – *Chairman*  
 \*John Driscoll, Esq., Partner, Resnic, Beaugard, Waite & Driscoll – *Vice Chairman*  
 \*Paul Silva, Sr. – *Treasurer*  
 \*Timothy Grader, Leasing Manager, Holyoke Property Management – *Secretary*

William Bagshaw, President, New England Archives  
 Mark Baran, Vice President, Westfield Bank  
 David M. Bartley '54, HCC President Emeritus  
 Terence Bresnahan, President, Bresnahan Insurance Agency  
 Timothy Deshaies '90, Vice President and Director of Retail Operations, Florence Savings Bank

Paul Dinn, President, Dinn Bros.  
 Joshua Garcia, Municipal Services Manager, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission  
 Michael Ginley '82, Retired  
 Susan Goldsmith, President, Marcus Printing  
 John Hazen '84, President, Hazen Paper Company  
 Ted Hebert '71, President, Teddy Bear Pools & Spa  
 Jonathan Jasmin, HCC Student  
 Francis M. Kane '56, Retired  
 James Lavelle '84, General Manager, Holyoke Gas & Electric  
 Ellen Majka, Professor, Holyoke Community College  
 Elaine Marieb '80, Author \*\*  
 John McAndrew '88, Financial Advisor, Edward Jones

Corey Murphy, President, First American Insurance Agency  
 Sue Ellen Panitch, Community Activist  
 Lucy Perez '87, HR Administrator, Springfield Public Schools  
 Joseph Peters '70, Retired  
 Evan Plotkin, President, NAI Plotkin & Associates  
 Elaine Pluta '92, Former Mayor, City of Holyoke  
 Gary Rome, President, Gary Rome Hyundai  
 Christina Royal, Ph.D., President, Holyoke Community College  
 Amanda Sbriscia, Executive Director, HCC Foundation  
 Lynn Starr '95, Executive Vice President, Easthampton Savings Bank  
 Joseph Wright '54, Retired

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Patrick Bresnahan '57, Retired  
 Nora Burke Patton, President, Burke & Co.  
 Donald Chase '70, Retired  
 Maurice Ferriter '52, Ferriter & Ferriter  
 Robert Fowler, Retired

Joseph Gosselin '68, Commonwealth Packaging Corp.  
 Lester Halpern, Whittlesey & Hadley, P.C.  
 Judge Daniel Keyes, Retired\*\*  
 Benjamin Marcus, Retired  
 Edward Murphy, First American Insurance Agency

Patricia Nelen, Retired  
 Louis Oldershaw, Retired  
 Richard Towne, Retired  
 William Wagner '71, President, Chicopee Savings Bank

## Past

Robert Antrasian  
 Francis Baker \*\*  
 Ned Barowsky  
 Charles Bowles  
 Erica Broman  
 Eduardo Carballo  
 Helen Casey '82  
 Hilda Colon '84  
 Lisa Davis  
 Hubert deRenzy  
 Amy Dopp  
 John Doyle '51\*\*  
 Donald Dupre\*\*  
 Barry Farrell '81  
 Heriberto Flores  
 Robert Gelinis

David Glidden  
 Kenneth Howard  
 Bellenden Rand Hutcheson\*\*  
 Sanford Jeames  
 David Kalicka  
 Karen Keirstead  
 Michael Kirwan  
 Jack Lacey  
 Patrick Leary  
 Michael Lefebvre '83  
 Russell McNiff  
 William Meara  
 Bill Messner  
 Elizabeth Mineo  
 Charles Moran  
 David Morton '79

Deborah Panitch  
 Mark Parent  
 Anne Potter  
 Oscar Ramos '93  
 James Rood  
 Brian Rosenkranz '88  
 Jeffrey Sattler  
 Elizabeth Schofield '83  
 Anthony Scibelli  
 Thomas Senecal  
 Anthony Soto  
 Eric Suher  
 Alan Taupier '55\*\*  
 Paul Tourville '73  
 Cynthia Tucker  
 Michael Wilson '90

\*\*Deceased

\*HCC Foundation Board Officers



# Scholarships

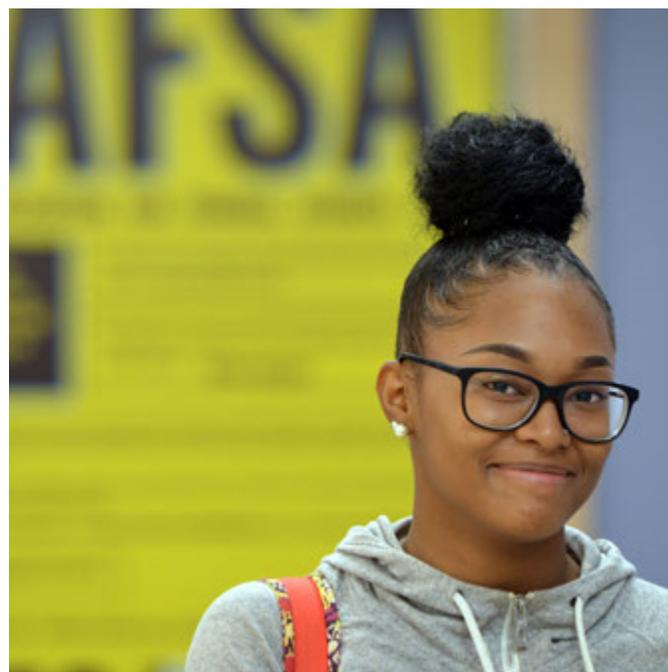
Providing opportunity. Recognizing success. Igniting passions. Scholarships enable deserving students to achieve their dreams of a college education. We are incredibly grateful to the alumni, friends and businesses whose gifts have inspired thousands of HCC students over 50 years.

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| Rosetta Jacque Aldrich Scholarship             | Deborah Ferriter Memorial Scholarship                  | Bess Kaplinsky Scholarship                                    |
| Alumni Association Scholarship                 | Maurice '52 and Peggy Ferriter Scholarship             | Nathan Kaplinsky Scholarship                                  |
| Henry S. '71 and Carol Andrus Scholarship      | First Niagara Scholarship                              | Doris M. Kemble Nursing Scholarship                           |
| Adeline and Jacob Barowsky Scholarship         | Anna Fitzgerald and Ruthann Bagshaw Fulton Scholarship | Martha E. Keochareon Nursing Scholarship                      |
| Mischa Barowsky Scholarship                    | Rosemarie Cataldo Fitzpatrick Scholarship in Nursing   | David M. Killeen Memorial Scholarship                         |
| Dr. David M. '54 and Bette Bartley Scholarship | Carolyn Fontaine Scholarship                           | Michael J. Kittredge III Scholarship                          |
| John E. Berger (JEB) Scholarship               | Fontaine Family Fund                                   | Arthur W. Knapp Scholarship                                   |
| Berkshire Bank Scholarship                     | Billie Foster and Bertha Weinberg Memorial Scholarship | Doris Rathbun Knight Scholarship                              |
| George E. Boudreau Scholarship                 | George E. Frost Scholarship                            | Judith Kramer Goldberg Scholarship                            |
| Spencer C. Bridgman Scholarship                | Fund a Future Scholarship                              | Yvette E. Laporte Scholarship                                 |
| Gary Brochu Transfer Scholarship               | Lucille Gill and Thomas Gill III Scholarship           | Marguerite I. Lazarz Memorial Scholarship                     |
| Kathryn "Kitty" Broman Scholarship             | Israel and Matilda Goldberg Scholarship                | Sr. Bernice Lebel Scholarship                                 |
| Paul Buckwalter Scholarship                    | Frances H. Gosselin Scholarship in Nursing             | David LePage Scholarship                                      |
| Eleanor V. Burns Scholarship                   | Joseph V. Gosselin Scholarship                         | Danna Niedzwiecki Lockwood '08 Scholarship                    |
| Elena and Frank Cataldo Scholarship            | Green Key Honor Society Scholarship                    | Gloria G. Lomax '75 Scholarship                               |
| Chicopee Savings Bank Scholarship              | Hampden Paper Company Inc. Scholarship                 | Alfred C. Loomer '83 Scholarship                              |
| James F. Connors Scholarship                   | Carol Hardy Business Scholarship                       | Ellen Lynch Scholarship                                       |
| Connors Scholars Award                         | Hasbro Scholarship                                     | Elaine Marieb New Directions Scholarship                      |
| LouEllen Dabbs Scholarship                     | Hazen Paper Company Scholarship                        | Vincent and Patricia McElroy Memorial Award                   |
| Maureen D'Amico '82 Memorial Scholarship       | Jolayne Hinkel Memorial Scholarship                    | John and Anne McHugh Scholarship                              |
| Anne-Marie Darcy Memorial Scholarship          | Hispanic Resources Scholarship                         | Ruth McIntyre Scholars Award                                  |
| Delaney House Scholarship                      | Holyoke Gas and Electric Department Scholarship        | Ruth McIntyre Transfer Scholarship                            |
| Raymond J. and Helen T. Deshaies Scholarship   | Holyoke Water Commissioners Scholarship                | Chief Thomas P. McNamara Jr. Memorial Scholarship             |
| John DiNapoli Memorial Scholarship             | Linda Howes Scholarship                                | Bill and Eleanor Messner Scholarship                          |
| Claire Gingras Doherty Award in Nursing        | Laurie Jean Hunter Memorial Scholarship                | Massachusetts Mortgage Bankers Association (MMBA) Scholarship |
| Maurice A. Donahue Scholarship                 | Mickey and Jennie Jedziniak Memorial Scholarship       | Edward F. and Catherine C. Moriarty Memorial Award            |
| John "Jack" Doyle '51 Memorial Scholarship     |  | James D. Moriarty Music Fund                                  |
| Elia Dreyfuss Scholarship                      |  | Mark Mozgala Scholarship                                      |
| William Dwight Scholarship                     |  |   |
| Shirley and John Fallon Scholarship            |  |   |

Anabel B. Murphy Scholarship  
 Kenneth J. Murphy Sr. Scholarship  
 Mutt and Jeff Scholarship  
 Jan Alicia Nettler Scholarship  
 Jorge Neves Memorial Scholarship  
 Richard R. and Janice D. Nickerson  
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 Franklin Morris O'Connell Scholarship  
 James Joseph O'Connell Scholarship  
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 Panitch Family Scholarship  
 Panitch Family Transfer Scholarship  
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 Stephen Pollock Scholarship  
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 Dorothy Provost Memorial Scholarship  
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 Richard Leon Provost '49 Art  
 Scholarship  
 Dr. Richard Leon Provost '49 Psychology  
 Scholarship  
 Roger and Caroline Putnam Scholarship  
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 Captain Paul H. Racine Memorial  
 Scholarship  
 Pamela K. Reed '04 Memorial  
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Richardson Scholarship  
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 Scholarship  
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 Scholarship  
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 Patrick J. and Margaret V. Sheehan  
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 SSG Clint J. Storey "Pay a Good Deed  
 Forward" Scholarship  
 John Sullivan Scholarship  
 Cynthia A. Sutter '90 Scholarship  
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Donald Taber Art Scholarship  
 Alan Taupier '55 Alumni Achievement  
 Scholarship  
 John Taupier Scholarship  
 Teddy Bear Pools Scholarship  
 Victor E. Thomas Sr. Scholarship  
 Unity Humanitarian Scholarship  
 Peg '58 and Gary Wendlandt Scholarship  
 Peg '58 and Gary Wendlandt Health  
 Scholarship  
 Westfield Bank Scholarship  
 Angela '54 and Joseph '54 Wright  
 Scholarship  
 Bobby Wright Scholarship



# Donors

We acknowledge the following donors whose gifts, made between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018, enabled the foundation to finance scholarships, programs, technology and facilities, student initiatives, faculty excellence, and other special projects that elevate the HCC experience for all students.

## FALLON SOCIETY

*Lifetime total of \$25,000+*

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| L.G. Balfour Foundation                          | Hampden Papers, Inc.                                    | O'Connell Oil Associates               |
| Bank of America                                  | Hasbro Games  | Dr. Deborah Panitch                    |
| Carla Becker                                     | Jeffrey and Mary Hayden                                 | Dr. Victor and Sue Ellen Panitch       |
| Bentley-Holden Fund                              | Thomas N. and Jane Hazen                                | Amelia Peabody Foundation              |
| Berkshire Bank Foundation Pioneer Valley         | Hazen Paper Company                                     | People's United Bank                   |
| The Beveridge Family Foundation, Inc.            | Ted G. '71 and Barbara A. Hebert                        | PeoplesBank                            |
| The Boston Foundation                            | Nan and Matilda Heydt Fund                              | Peter Pan Bus Lines                    |
| Attorney Paul D. '67 and Elizabeth D. Scheibel   | Holyoke Gas & Electric Department                       | Portland Community College             |
| Dr. George E. Boudreau '66                       | Holyoke Housing Authority                               | Lowell and Kim Putnam                  |
| Brian M. '85 and Cynthia A. '84 Burns            | Holyoke Intermodal Facility, LLC                        | The Republican-Springfield             |
| Steve H. Chevalier '89                           | David Howes   | Patricia A. Seely '76                  |
| City of Chicopee                                 | Robert H. Johnson LLC                                   | Eugene M. and Marcia Sheehan           |
| Chicopee Savings Bank                            | KeyBank   | Michael R. '64 and Joan M. Sobon       |
| Chicopee Savings Charitable Foundation           | Michael J. Kittredge Jr. '73                            | State Street Bank and Trust Company    |
| Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts    | Rita B. LaMere Memorial Foundation Trust                | TD Bank                                |
| Damon and Maria D'Amico                          | Lazarz Memorial Scholarship                             | Tides Foundation                       |
| Irene E. and George A. Davis Foundation          | Lego Children's Fund                                    | United Bank Foundation                 |
| Timothy R. Deshaies '90                          | Dr. Elaine Marieb '80                                   | United Way of Pioneer Valley           |
| The Dowd Insurance Agencies                      | E. Marieb Charitable Foundation                         | Urban Research Park DCE, LLC           |
| Easthampton Savings Bank                         | Robert C. and Susan S. Martin                           | Dianne Vapnek                          |
| Attorney Maurice J. '52 and Margaret M. Ferriter | Massachusetts Turnpike Authority                        | Verizon                                |
| Fidelity Charitable Foundation                   | MassLive.com  | Peg L. '58 and Gary Wendlandt          |
| Lester and Carolyn Fontaine                      | MassMutual Insurance Company                            | Westbank                               |
| Fontaine Bros., Inc.                             | Stanley R. and Jean S. Melvin                           | Westfield Bank                         |
| Goldberg Family Foundation                       | Bill and Eleanor Messner                                | Woronoco Savings Charitable Foundation |
| Joseph V. '68 and Diane Gosselin                 | Colette B. Moriarty                                     |  |
| Greater Holyoke Partnership                      | Mutt & Jeff Scholarship                                 |  |
|  | National Council for Community & Education Partnerships |  |
|  | Northeast Utilities                                     |  |
|  | Mary Rose O'Connell                                     |  |
|  | The O'Connell Development Group                         |  |

## PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE – GOLD

*\$5,000 - \$24,999*

|   |
|---|
| Chicopee Savings Charitable Foundation        |
| Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts |

Ted G. '71 and Barbara A. Hebert  
Holyoke Intermodal Facility, LLC  
Dr. Elaine Marieb '80  
E. Marieb Charitable Foundation  
Robert C. and Susan S. Martin  
Stanley R. and Jean S. Melvin  
Bill and Eleanor Messner  
PeoplesBank  
Peter Pan Bus Lines  
Six Flags New England  
Michael R. '64 and Joan M. Sobon  
Teddy Bear Pools & Spas

### **PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE – SILVER**

**\$2,500 - \$4,999**

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Attorney Paul D. '67 and Elizabeth D.  
Scheibel  
Brian M. '85 and Cynthia A. '84 Burns  
Lou Ann Daly  
Jeffrey and Mary Hayden

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Perez '87  
Bentley-Holden Fund  
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Trevor K. Chan '06  
Vince A. Daboul '85  
Barbara Dimauro  
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Donald and Nancy S. Dwight  
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Maine Community Foundation/Kenneth  
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Alex Morse for Mayor Committee  
Dr. Deborah Panitch  
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 Christina Royal, Ph.D.  
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 Maurice Samuels  
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 Amanda E. Sbriscia  
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 Village to Village Foundation  
 Voya Foundation  
 Westfield Bank  
 Whalley Computer Associates, Inc.  
 Joseph T. '54 and Angela '54 Wright

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 Aramark  
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Berkshire Bank Foundation Pioneer  
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 Freedom Credit Union  
 Margot Glass and Pablo Yglesias  
 HCC Phi Theta Kappa  
 City of Holyoke  
 The Kids' Place  
 John Kingston Dwight  
 John R. '73 and Laurie E. '73 Linzi

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 WHYN

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 Ingeniux  
 Mary Ellen Kaeding '83  
 Steven P. LeFebvre '79  
 Dr. Michael J. '77 and Sandra E. '77  
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 Marcia Mitchell  
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 Lawncare, Inc.  
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 Northeast Security Solutions, Inc.  
 Northeast Wholesale Food Distributors  
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 Pellegrini, Seeley, Ryan and Blakesley,  
 P.C.  
 Dr. Anthony J. and Geraldine Pellegrino  
 Alberto and Monica Perez  
 Joseph L. '70 and Janice Peters  
 NAI Samuel D. Plotkin & Associates  
 Matthew Pothier  
 Resnic, Beauregard, Waite & Driscoll  
 Thomas W. Robert '85  
 JoAnne Rome  
 Ross, Webber and Grinnell Insurance  
 Anthony Sbalbi  
 Martin F. and Margaret L. Schoenemann  
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 Thomas F. '68 and Joyce M. Tisdell  
 Voya Financial Advisors, Inc.  
 Stanley G. Waletkus '71  
 Peter G. Warren '73  
 Edward J. Welch, Jr.  
 Whittlesey  
 WMAS Radio  
 Wyckoff Country Club

## HOMESTEAD SOCIETY

**\$100 - \$249**

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 Anthony J. Albano '83  
 Amherst Golf Club  
 Appleton Corporation  
 JeanAnn Armitage '76  
 Christine E. Backus '72  
 Stephen D. Bailey '77  
 Brian F. Baker  
 Steve and Nancy Bakos  
 Logan Bane  
 Joan M. Banner '87  
 Mark W. and Pamela L. '79 Baran  
 Robert R. Baran '94  
 Phyllis W. Barrett  
 Barry J. Farrell Funeral Home  
 Dr. David M. '54 and Bette Bartley  
 Thomas and Judith R. Beers  
 Berkshire Theatre Group  
 William J. Bevan '71 and Mary Mulvaney  
 '85  
 Cynthia A. Bishop '84  
 Ronald J. '78 and Laura Blajda  
 Samuel Blank '71

Elbert Bowler '08  
 Terence M. and Deborah Bresnahan  
 Bresnahan Insurance Agency, Inc.  
 William '68 and Rosalind S. '68 Brezinski  
 Kathleen M. Bronner '77  
 Danielle M. Brown '83  
 Joanna L. Brown  
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# The Foundation at 50

By JANICE BEETLE

After completing his military service in 1952, Joseph T. Wright wanted to take advantage of the GI Bill. One day, wearing his U.S. Army Air Corps uniform, he visited the office of George E. Frost, then the director of Holyoke Junior College.

"I walked in and said, 'I really want to go to college, but I don't know a thing about it,'" Wright recently recalled.

"I can help you with that," Frost said.

Throughout Wright's two years at Holyoke Junior College – later to become Holyoke Community College – Frost continued to help Wright and the many other students who he mentored over the years. In 1968, though, it was Frost who needed assistance.

The former Holyoke High School building on Sargeant Street, where the college had been established, burned down on Tuesday, Jan. 4. Frost – and other city leaders – turned to Wright for help launching a corporation that could raise money to rebuild the college on a new campus.

The Friends of Holyoke Community College was incorporated as a nonprofit on Aug. 1, 1968. Charged with fundraising, it was one of the first organizations of its kind in the country affiliated with a community college. Wright became a founding board member. At 88, he only recently stepped down, having served the organization – now known as the HCC Foundation – for all of its 50 years.

"It's spectacular how the foundation has grown," says Wright, now an emeritus board member. "It's one of the most successful community college foundations anywhere."

The Holyoke Community College Foundation is certainly one of the most successful community college foundations in the state, according to Amanda Sbriscia, vice president of Institutional Advancement for HCC and the foundation's executive director. With total assets of more than \$20 million, including investments of \$13.4 million, HCC has the largest

endowment of any community college foundation in Massachusetts.

The HCC Foundation, like its antecedent, The Friends of Holyoke Community College, exists solely to support students and the mission and programs of HCC. In its early years, the foundation helped pay for the development of the original two buildings (A and B, now Frost and Donahue) on the new Homestead Avenue campus. Since then, through capital campaigns, public investments and private donations, the foundation has helped support the construction of every other major building project in HCC history, such as The David M. Bartley Center for Athletics & Recreation, the Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development, the Picknelly Adult and Family Education Center on Maple Street, the Center for Health Education on Jarvis Avenue, the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute on Race Street, and, most recently, the Center for Life Sciences, which opened on the first floor of the Elaine Nicpon Marieb Building for the start of the Fall 2018 semester.

Over the years the foundation has provided nearly \$2.8 million in student scholarships while also investing in classroom equipment and technology for select academic and student support programs.

"The community is so invested in the foundation and in the college. It's quite impressive," Sbriscia says. "People are passionate about our mission and the work we do, and that translates to life-changing financial support."

A 30-member board now oversees the foundation. David Bartley, an alumnus from the class of 1954 and the college's second president – he took the reins after Frost – is one of the current board members. Many say it was Bartley's passion and innovation that enabled the foundation to thrive.

Elaine Ironfield, who served as the foundation's executive director in the 1980s, explains that after the Homestead Avenue campus opened in February 1974, city leaders considered the work of the Friends corporation complete. The \$200 remaining in its



*Angela Wright '54, left, and Joseph Wright '54, second from right, established one of the first foundation scholarships at HCC. Here they are with 2017-2018 scholarship recipient Manpreet Kaur and HCC Foundation board member Frances Kane '56.*

coffers was given to the HCC Alumni Association, and the Friends became inactive.

In the early 1980s, Bartley appointed Ironfield, a faculty member at the time, to run the HCC development office. Her charge included a mandate to revive the fundraising corporation.

“We had enough of the original board members in Holyoke who were still available and willing to come together,” Ironfield says. “The Alumni Association gave the \$200 back.”

In 1985, the name of the organization was changed to the Holyoke Community College Foundation Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, and the state approved the amendment on July 30, 1985. The board at that time included Wright '54, his classmate Bartley '54, Maurice Ferriter '52, Patrick Bresnahan '57, and the late Alan Taupier '55.

Bartley, now 84, says the foundation became a mechanism through which leaders of HCC could introduce the college to members of the community. His goal was to reach more than alumni.

“We had to find some way, other than just relying on the state, to provide money,” he says. “This was a project for the community.”

Ironfield says a consultant who helped them get started advised, “You’ve got to tell your story.”

Over the next few years, HCC played host once or twice a week to friends of the college and businesses in the area. They were treated to a breakfast and then offered a tour of the campus.

“People needed to see what we did,” Ironfield says. “We’d talk about the college and what was happening there, and we’d take them into the classrooms.”

“That was just common sense – to show people what we had,” Bartley says. “We needed to show it off.”

Bartley often made the point to potential donors that HCC provided a steady stream of transfer students to Mount Holyoke, Smith, Westfield State, and the University of Massachusetts. And he was careful to note that HCC serves the region.

“We are not the Holyoke community college,” he would say. “We are the regional community college, located in Holyoke. We serve Holyoke, Westfield, Chicopee, Northampton. This is not just for Holyoke.”

Francis Kane '56, a longtime member of the foundation board, says Bartley called the foundation’s growth campaign “friend-raising.”

“Patiently, he brought different groups in for tours,” he says. “The college became better known. It did raise friends and dollars at the same time. It was well thought out by President Bartley and Elaine Ironfield. They worked extremely well together.”

Ironfield says the foundation began to really build support in the late 1980s. Individual and corporate gifts began to flow in. Through the work of the foundation board, Ironfield and Sbriscia’s predecessor, Erica Broman, the foundation saw steady and impressive growth in its endowment, which is now close to double what it was a decade ago.

In 1987, the foundation awarded its first scholarship – the only one that year.

Wright, and his wife, Angela, who met one another while studying at Holyoke Junior College, founded the Angela ’54 and Joseph ’54 Wright Scholarship, one of the first of the roughly 140 scholarships the foundation manages today. Other early scholarships were established by George Boudreau ’66 and his brother Paul ’67 – a former chair of the foundation board – Elena and Frank Cataldo, and the late professor emerita Elaine Marieb ’80.

“We saw establishing scholarships as our primary mission,” says Ironfield, noting that in the past 20 years, Broman, now at Westfield State University, brought huge growth to the foundation, in part as a result of \$1 million capital campaign gifts from Yankee Candle founder Michael Kittredge ’73 in 2003 and Marieb in 2014.

“Those were key milestones and set the foundation on the path it’s on now,” says Ironfield, a longtime donor herself. “How can you ask people for money when you aren’t giving it yourself? I believe in the foundation. I believe in the college.”

Kane says the scholarship program was a critical piece of the foundation package as it allowed the college to hold events at which donors had the opportunity to meet grant recipients.

“That really turns on donors,” he says. “It’s much more powerful than asking for money for desks.”

In May 2018, 215 HCC students received financial awards through scholarships established by alumni, board members, businesses and members of the community.

Further evidence of the foundation’s impact is visible on donor plaques throughout the HCC Kittredge Center, the Center for Health Education and other HCC buildings.

“This growth has enabled HCC to respond to the needs of our community,” says Sbriscia. “Every day, foundation funds inspire our students and help them thrive, whether that’s through facilities, equipment, programs or scholarships.”

Wright and his wife, Angela, continue to support the original scholarship they created as well as several others. Each spring, they attend the scholarship banquet and meet the students who benefit from their generosity.

“That’s a must,” he says.

He continues to be impressed by Frost’s vision for HCC. In the early days, he notes, Frost recruited professors with Ph.D.s to teach part time. Many were department chairs from premier private colleges, such as Smith and Mount Holyoke.

Wright credits his HCC education for preparing him to transfer to Boston University and launching his career in retail. By the time he retired, he was executive vice president of the New England division of Waldbaum Inc., the supermarket chain.

His loyalty to HCC is unwavering.

“I had a meeting recently with a friend at Boston University, my alma mater,” Wright says. “I said to him, ‘Don’t send me any appeals. My heart belongs to Holyoke Community College.’”

He adds, “Whenever I get the chance to talk to HCC students, I tell them, ‘Never forget the opportunity you got here that laid the foundation for the rest of your life.’ George Frost did that for me.”

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*At right, top to bottom: “We had to find some way, other than relying on the state, to provide money,” says former HCC president David Bartley ’54, who resurrected the nonprofit fundraising corporation Friends of Holyoke Community College, which ultimately became the HCC Foundation.*

*George E. Frost, HCC’s first president, enlisted the support of alumni to raise money to rebuild the college after a 1968 fire consumed the former high school on Sargeant Street where it had been established.*

*Amanda Sbriscia, left, HCC vice president of Institutional Advancement, talks to Elaine Ironfield, who served as executive director of the HCC Foundation in 1980s.*



To learn more about how you can support Holyoke Community College, please contact us by phone at 413.552.2182, by email at [foundation@hcc.edu](mailto:foundation@hcc.edu), or write to us at:

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