"CAP is successful because it connects students and their families to the idea of college completion early in the primary school career," said Matt Wetstein, Cabrillo College President and Superintendent. "In doing so, we hope to ignite a spark in students that gets them involved in their community and in our College, leading them to reach the long-term goals that they want to achieve in life." (read more on page 4).
Cabrillo College is proudly celebrating our 60th year!

It’s hard to find people in the community who haven’t been touched by Cabrillo College. Whether you’ve taken classes yourself, have your teeth cleaned by one of our dental hygiene graduates, or has a neighbor who works here, Cabrillo is at the heart of our community. The foundation is proud to support our students with $990,000 in scholarship dollars this year, helping 1,358 students follow their educational dreams. “There’s no greater predictor of individual success than a good education. It’s an honor to partner with the community to foster this success in others by raising money to support deserving students at Cabrillo,” Owen Brown, Cabrillo College foundation President.

“I’m so proud that we worked together to open Cabrillo College and offer a college education to a community that prior to 1959, had to send their students out of the area. It’s been part of my life’s work to ensure that we had strong educational opportunities to our local citizens.”

— Hal Hyde, Founding Trustee of Cabrillo College
The Cabrillo College Foundation has received an anonymous gift of $1.7 million promised over the next five years to add Branciforte Middle School to the Cabrillo Advancement Program (CAP).

Once the investment has matured, this endowed funding will cover tutoring, mentoring, and all CAP activities for 70 students each year. CAP is a permanent program offered to the low-income youth of our county and has been funded primarily with private donations.

Liz Dominguez, who coordinates the program at Cabrillo, is thrilled to serve additional students. “Adding B40 is a dream come true! We welcome our new students and their families to CAP. I look forward to being part of our new students’ college bound journey.”

CAP is designed to increase the academic success of low-income students and to support their preparation for attending college. CAP includes 350 participants throughout Santa Cruz County. CAP scholars are selected through a process open to students who qualify for free or reduced lunches.

Beginning with the first year of middle school and continuing through high school, CAP students receive after-school tutoring and participate in counseling and extra-curricular activities that sustain their commitment to prepare for college.

Catherine Cooper, Emerita Professor of Psychology at UCSC, has been tracking and researching the program and she notes CAP students increasing ability to define a pathway to college, “Looking at surveys of students attending the Summer Institutes (students attending the Summer institute pictured left), we see middle school students focused on making good grades; while high school students looked ahead to college, worried about finances, and planned to apply for scholarships.”

Students who complete CAP receive $3,000 in scholarships upon high school graduation for their first and second years at Cabrillo.

Fatima Daniel is a CAP alumni who is transferring to San Jose State to pursue a career in Culinary and Hospitality Management. She credits the CAP summer institutes for igniting her passion with the culinary arts. “I was fascinated and loved it. At Cabrillo I became a full time culinary student. I hope to open a bakery business someday,” she shared with incoming CAP students. “Thanks to the donors and CAP staff for letting me a part of this wonderful experience.”
The Ow Family celebrated the 30th year providing American Dream Scholarships to local high school seniors to attend Cabrillo College.

Since inception, the Ow Family has awarded over $668,500 and in recognition of his vision and leadership, George Ow, Jr. was awarded Cabrillo’s first ever honorary degree.

“The foundation provided the college with $1.9 million dollars in support last year on behalf of our friends and neighbors in the community.

Scholarships lighten the financial burden of college and decrease student loan debt while also giving students more time to focus on their education and clearing the way for academic success for students like Mia. Mia is getting her AA in Science, with the aim of studying environmental studies when she transfers to a four year school. She is a grateful recipient of the Brian and Patti Herman American Dream Second Year Scholarship.

“I want to thank the donors for your generosity. You are greatly, greatly appreciated. This is an immense help to me. For a family like mine, $500 can be the difference between making our rent or losing our home. Words can’t quite express how helpful this help is.”

“The Ow Family has been proud to support our local high school graduates with scholarships to Cabrillo. We value education and the important role Cabrillo plays in Santa Cruz County. We are honored to have supported over 1,300 students in this way. We are deeply humbled to know that our family has inspired others in the community to start scholarships of their own this year!”

— William Ow, Past Cabrillo College Foundation President
Women’s Educational Success (WES) is an emergency grant program that awards students up to $750 in a financial crisis.

We are awarding $80,000 to Cabrillo students this year. From eyeglasses to car repair to broken laptops, students who one moment may consider dropping out are given a quick cash boost to continue their academic pursuits.

The WES Committee, also known as Best Friends, champion the annual WES fundraising campaign and raise funds each year to ensure we can award more money each year. The Sharanam Foundation and the Wedeen Hammer Group at Morgan Stanley matched gifts of $250 or more to the campaign up to $10,000.

Nursing student and single mom, Riley, is on the home stretch to fulfill her ambition to be a nurse. It’s been a sacrifice, giving up the income from work in the short-term to realize her long-term goals. She’s almost there and will graduate this spring. But last fall, the costs to verify her credentials so that she was cleared to do rotations in local hospitals nearly pushed her over the edge. Her nursing instructor helped her receive a WES grant that removed the additional burden of stress. Riley explains, “The nursing program is very expensive. In order to be successful in this program, you can’t work. Between studying and taking care of my family, I am very grateful and appreciative to the donors to this program.”

“Women’s Educational Success (WES) is an emergency grant program that awards students up to $750 in a financial crisis.

It’s amazing that they are able to provide these grants to students here. The stress of the nursing program is enough, but the financial stress, too, is an additional burden. Every little bit helps!”

— Rhonda Bonnett, Co-chair WES Committee
SUPPORT FOR “FIRST GEN” STUDENTS

Yuriko and her four brothers are the first in her family to attend college. “We’re getting to the next level,” she laughed. She’s a grateful recipient of the Colligan Family Scholarship that supports students who are first in their family to attend college. One hundred students received the $1,000 scholarship this year!

“I got the email that I was going to receive it. I was so excited — this is amazing! I really need the money. School is very expensive, books, lab fees, everything adds up. The money really helps.

I want to be a vet. I really love animals and I always wanted to pursue a career where I can help them.

I would like to say thank you for helping students like us. It can be really difficult. I’m a full time student and want to do my best, so it’s really hard to have a job, too. I really appreciate what they are doing and it makes me really happy.”

GUARDIAN SCHOLARS

The Guardian Scholar program at Cabrillo College provides services for students who have been in foster care at any point in their life and provides vital resources and a home-like space for these students. Kate McWeeney is in her third semester at Cabrillo and loves it. “Everyone is incredibly kind. And the school has so many options!”

She found the Guardian Scholar program while searching the website and is very appreciative of the staff, “Dejon and Carrie are so warm and parental. They make it so clear that they are here to help. The office is homey and warm — they even have snacks. It’s a great atmosphere. I was so fortunate to receive a laptop from the program! They help you plan and check to make sure that you are on track to make your goals. It’s hard to verbalize the impact. People in the program are really grateful for this support.”
President’s Circle members support the Cabrillo Foundation operations with annual gifts that enable the foundation to raise money to support scholarships, faculty and departments at Cabrillo.

There are so many wonderful benefits of being a President’s Circle member, but best of all is helping our departments at Cabrillo.

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PRESIDENT’S CIRCLE MEMBERS 2018–2019

President’s Circle Committee Co-chair — Michele Bassi

“Cabrillo College is such a great and affordable asset in our community. I’m honored to work with President’s Circle members who contribute both time and money to support the effort of providing the best education possible to our local students.”

— Michele Bassi, President’s Circle Committee Co-chair

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— Michele Bassi, President’s Circle Committee Co-chair
Carolyn Notaras graduated in the first class of Dental Hygienists at Cabrillo College in 1969. She went on to “scratch teeth” for the next 48 years enjoying the hands-on work and watching her patients grow from children to parents to grandparents. “It was hard to say goodbye,” she reflected on her retirement. In the early days of the AIDS epidemic, many hygienists left the field out of health concerns, but Carolyn picked up those shifts with compassion and strength working long days to care for her patients.

She has put Cabrillo and the Dental Hygiene program in her estate plans in recognition of the important role Cabrillo played in forging her path. Her father died while she was in school and if it hadn’t been for a $3,000 loan to attend school she wouldn’t have been able to continue. “Very thankfully, I was lucky enough to be a recipient which got me through the Dental Hygiene Program. Thank God for that loan it released the pressure and I was able to just come to school.”
Thank you for helping our students

Join us and help a student succeed!

Call us at 831-479-6338
Email us at foundation@cabrillo.edu
Visit our website foundation.cabrillo.edu
Send us mail
6500 Soquel Drive Aptos, CA 95003

“It’s wonderful to spend time with those who want to help our students. Please call, email, or drop by my office anytime. I would love to hear from you!”
— Eileen Hill
Executive Director

Last year our supporters gave generously to help Cabrillo College
Here is the impact:

Immediate Needs

$2 million was distributed to the college for student scholarships and college programs

Long Term Investment

This year $2.7 million is being invested for the long term benefit of students

The foundation has an endowment of $26 million ensuring we can help students for generations to come

Foundation for the future

1,358 students received scholarships

47 faculty received grants to improve classroom experience

Annual gifts make large impacts

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“Children have an innate sense of justice — how do we build on that?” So asked Julie Olsen Edwards early in her career as an Early Childhood Educator at Cabrillo. Together with the late Margo Trombetta and ECE colleagues, they created a curriculum for peace to nurture the joy and curiosity in human diversity.

The new installation of the Margo Trombetta Young Person’s Library at the Watsonville Center will support students who often must bring a child or sibling with them to take advantage of services at the library like tutoring. While the student receives assistance, the children can explore the age appropriate curriculum curated to bring real peace for future generations.

The library installation and much wider support of our ECE is made possible in part to the SD Trombetta Foundation, which is run by the Margo’s family.

“My family is delighted to continue supporting the work my sister Margo was so passionate about. I know she would be thrilled that this curriculum designed to foster and develop the very best in children now has an even wider audience.”

— Diane Trombetta, SD Trombetta Foundation