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Event raises almost \$45,000 for the arts

Cyndee Mady
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Nearly 300 attended the multi-faceted "CCC Celebrates: A Midwinter Night's Dream—Under Construction" last Saturday evening to commemorate the Clackamas Campaign for the Arts, earning just under \$45,000 for the cause.

"I'm overwhelmed by the community support—so many people and so many cross-sections of the community from the southern portion of our district to the northern portion [participated]," said College President Joe Johnson. "It's an enormous turnout."

The elegant tone of the evening was set from the moment guests exited their cars with tuxedoed ushers lining the walkways, greeting and guiding guests to their destinations.

The prologue was staged in the Art Center, where visitors checked in and received programs and table assignments. Paintings adorned the walls and sculptures decorated tabletops, showcasing students' talent. Guests had a choice of Chardonnay or Pinot Noir, marking the first time in the history of the college that alcoholic beverages were offered at a campus event.

According to David Dickson, associate dean for college advancement, the decision to serve alcohol at fundraisers was made after extensive research, college comparisons and board approval.

An "Outdoor Sculpture

Garden" graced the pathway to Randall Hall and the sound of bagpipes cascaded from the adjacent wooded area as student Matthew Fleck serenaded guests en route to their next destination.

Act I commenced in Randall Hall with the addition of upscale hors d'oeuvres catered by Aramark, including fried shrimp, crab cakes and more.

At this time, guests bid on an array of silent auction items. For example, "An Evening of Art, Artists, Food and Friends" at the home of Chuck Clemans was valued at \$600, and opened with a \$100 bid.

A "Thirty Minute Classical Concert," with soprano LeaAnne DenBeste and pianist Naomi LaViolette, was valued at \$400 and opened at \$50.

While visitors perused the many eclectic auction items, students Brad Wager, jazz guitarist, and Nick Pittlin, pianist, provided musical entertainment.

Act II divided guests into two groups. Group one was ushered to the McLoughlin Theatre for a preview of the upcoming play, "The Odd Couple." The comedic timing had audience members laughing on cue in a standing-room-only crowd.

While group two viewed their teaser of the upcoming production, group one was escorted back to Randall Hall for more food, wine and music as they secured their silent auction bids.

Act III transferred guests to

"I'm overwhelmed by the community support—so many people [participated]."

Joe Johnson
College President



NIC DELZELL CLACKAMAS PRINT

'CCC Celebrates,' which featured student art and music, attracted nearly 300 guests. From left are Theresa Tuffli, community education director; Chuck Scott, retired associate dean; Elizabeth Howley, horticulture chair; Emily Orlando, English chair; and Jack Hammond, Foundation Board member and attorney for the college.

Randall Hall Gymnasium where student musicians accompanied guests settling into their seats.

The gymnasium was transformed by glittery stars and moons suspended in mid-air and painted backdrops, provided by the art department. Large round tables with linen tablecloths supported sculptured metal centerpieces.

"All the table pieces were sculpted by Rick True; [he] donated all of his time, work and effort," said Art Department Chair Dave Andersen. "It really is an incredible undertaking—the amount of time he spent on this."

True, CCC art instructor, attributes the event to the collaborative efforts of many.

"This event was coordination of a lot of really fine people on the campus—people that I really enjoyed working with, and this is the kind of thing I really love to do because it makes things grow; it makes things happen; it draws attention and it makes things bet-

ter for the future," he said.

During the finale, desserts were served with coffee while Johnson addressed the audience and introduced guest speakers Lynn Hamersly, CCC Celebrates chair; Chuck Clemans, Campaign for the Arts chair; and Paul Creighton, CCC alumnus.

As a highlight of Act III, Clackamas Community College Chamber Choir performed several selections under the direction of Lonnie Cline and received a standing ovation.

In a final twist, "Odd Couple" cast members performed a skit demonstrating that seats in their new theater could be purchased for \$1000 each and recognized with a name plaque. More than 50 seats had been purchased previously and many attendees expressed interest in the fundraising effort. John and Ginger Niemeyer, who have already made a sizeable donation to the college, were among those to take advan-

tage of the opportunity.

Last year, the Niemeyers pledged \$300,000 for the construction of the newly named John and Ginger Niemeyer Center for Communication Arts, which will house speech, theater and music programs and is scheduled for completion in fall 2004. They also set up an endowment through the Oregon Community Foundation for one million dollars, \$300,000 of which will be used for the arts.

As the evening concluded, an announcement was made stating that guests could take home ceramic turrets crafted by Nora Brodnicki, art instructor. The sculptures, depicting a construction scene, were placed at each table setting.

Director of Development Karen Martini, who was one of the primary organizers of the event, couldn't have been happier with the results, saying, "It exceeded my expectations!"



JOHN and GINGER NIEMEYER

Women's basketball ready to bite back at NWAACC tourney

Nic Delzell
THE CLACKAMAS PRINT

It has been a regular season to remember.

Going into the NWAACC tournament this weekend, the Clackamas women's basketball team finished their regular season with a Southern Division championship and a No. 2 ranking in the NWAACC Coaches' Poll.

The Lady Cougars (12-2, 22-4) traveled to Eugene on Feb. 21 to clash with Lane CC (11-3, 20-6). The Lady Cougars were handed their fourth loss of the season 81-74 as Lane stopped the Clackamas winning streak at 12 games.

"We didn't play as hard as we needed to, to beat one of the better teams in our league," Head Coach Jim Martineau said. "I actually think this loss might do us some good heading up to the NWAACC Tournament. We know that we can't just show up and expect to win. We need to play

hard the way we have been playing all year long."

Sophomore forward Ashley Cadotte busted the buckets with 18 points; she also grabbed seven rebounds. Lindsey Calmettes poured in 16 points and pulled down nine rebounds. Somer Erickson contributed 15 points followed by Cindy Alldrin who added 14 points. Sophomore post Sabra Dunn blocked five shots in the Cougar loss.

The Cougars scratched Mt. Hood CC (4-10, 8-18) on Feb. 18 by a score of 83-66.

"Mt. Hood played much better than the first time that we saw them," Martineau said. "Defensively we gave up way too many easy looks, offensively we struggled a little from the free-throw line, but shot the ball well overall."

Cadotte littered the scene with 25 points and 15 rebounds. Erickson punked the hoop with 23 points and had eight rebounds; Calmettes rocked the ball party

with 20 points. Dunn scored eight points and seized eight rebounds.

The Lady Cougars will travel to Kennewick, Wash., Friday through Monday to participate in the NWAACC Tournament. The NWAACC Tournament is a 32-team, double tournament that showcases the top four teams from each NWAACC division.

Clackamas, Lane, Chemeketa (10-4, 19-7) and Umpqua (10-4, 22-5) will represent the South in the NWAACC Tournament.

According to Martineau, Walla Walla CC (13-1, 21-4) out of the Eastern division will be the most dangerous opponent at the NWAACC Tournament. Walla Walla was able to steal the No. 1 ranking in the Coaches' Poll from the Lady Cougars on Feb. 22.

"Walla Walla played very well in a very tough Eastern Division," Martineau said. "They very much deserve the No. 1 ranking."

With a few days remaining before the tournament, the Lady

Cougars aren't taking any NWAACC foe lightly.

"We're just trying to focus on the

first game ... if we can get that one, then we will worry about the rest of the weekend," Martineau said.



AMY CASHMAN CLACKAMAS PRINT

Lady Cougars Cindy Alldrin (left) and Ashley Cadotte floss their basketballs during a practice on Feb. 24. The Lady Cougars will prepare for NWAACCs this week.