

'Saddle Up' virtual auction benefits

Columbia Gorge Community College is bucking a statewide trend as one of Oregon's only community colleges with growing enrollment despite pandemic restrictions.

And that's all the more reason to raise money for student scholarships. With this in mind, mark your calendars and be ready to bid on great items starting Tuesday, May 4-11, as Columbia Gorge Community College Foundation hosts "Saddle Up and Celebrate," one of two annual scholarship fundraisers.

This will be a virtual auction, with all activities taking place online in keeping with COVID precautions.

"More than 70 students have applied for scholarships, and at this time we only have



Scholarship recipient Monica Chairez speaks, at left, and bidders vie for auction items at the 2019 Columbia Gorge Community College Foundation Saddle Up fundraising event. This year's fundraiser will be an online event due to continued COVID-19 precautions. Contributed photos



funds to award half of those," said Wendy Patton, CGCC Foundation executive director. "We do not want to turn the other half away. We need your help this year more than ever."

From now until April 28, the college foundation is inviting donations of items, experiences and services for the online auction. Event sponsorships are also encouraged.

Then, beginning May 4, everyone will be invited to log onto the auction site and participate.

"At the CGCC Foundation, we believe our entire community benefits when every student has access to the tools and resources needed to support success in school and in life," Patton said. "Your support allows the

foundation to further its mission of building dreams and transforming lives by creating opportunities for lifelong learning."

If you'd like to sponsor or otherwise contribute, please email foundation@cgcc.edu, or visit www.cgccfoundation.org to download a sponsorship form. For information, please call Wendy Patton, 541-506-6104.

HRCSD kindergarten registration open

The official window for kindergarten registration for the 2021-22 school year is open between Monday, April 12, and Friday, April 23. Families with children who will be 5 years old by Sept. 1 are eligible to enter kindergarten at a school within Hood River County School District (HRCSD).

Students at any grade level who need to enroll or re-enroll in a neighborhood school within HRCSD should also follow this registration window.

To enroll in school, families need to

contact their neighborhood school office to complete the necessary paperwork. Geographical boundaries determine the attendance areas for each school within HRCSD.

Following the guidance of the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), HRCSD recommends enrolling students in grades according to their age. In April and May, the school district will be sharing information regarding 2021 summer programs to help address academic needs for all its students.

HRCSD intends to offer in-person instruction Monday through Friday for a full day in the 2021-22 school year. The school district will continue to follow the guidance provided by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE).

Virtual orientation sessions will be held by each elementary school principal and staff for kindergarten families in May. Families who register their kindergarten students will receive the details of these sessions.

For more information, contact the HRCSD

administrative office at 541-386-2511 and/or neighborhood school offices:

May Street Elementary School
541-386-2656

Westside Elementary School
541-386-1535

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Vice President
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Lake Oswego, OR 97035
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