Edison Foundation Raises over $56K for Student Scholarships with Annual Holiday Evening!

The Edison Foundation at Edison State Community College held its 20th annual Holiday Evening on Wednesday, November 29, to help raise money for student scholarships. The evening featured John Tesh as the headlining entertainment for the night. Nearly 450 guests attended the annual gala, where they enjoyed hors d’oeuvres, drinks, and the company of others. While a majority of the guests in attendance were local, several out-of-state guests attended to see the evening’s entertainment as Tesh performed his special holiday show, “Grand Piano Christmas.”

Proceeds from this special evening benefit the Edison Foundation’s General Scholarship Fund, which directly assists recent high school graduates and those returning to the classroom to start, change or advance their careers.

“Each ticket sold is helping support students through scholarship opportunities,” said Rick Hanes, Executive Director of the Edison Foundation. “I have each guest to thank, as well as, the evening’s presenting sponsors, Emerson and Premier Health–Upper Valley Medical Center, for making this event a success. Every dollar counts when it comes to helping students achieve their dreams.” This year’s event raised $56,800, which will assist countless students in the upcoming academic year.

To commemorate the 20th annual Holiday Evening at Edison State, special recognition was given to the founding sponsors Cliff and Joyce Alexander, William and Wanda Lukens, Thom and Pat Robinson, Richard and Linda Scott, and Thomas and Sandy Shoemaker, all being the impetus for this scholarship-raising event.

The Edison Foundation plays a critical part in removing financial burdens from our students and allowing students to realize their potential and achieve their dreams.

Dr. Doreen Larson, President

Also contributing to the success of the event were the evening’s co-chairs, James and Ginny Thompson, of Botkins, who were instrumental in helping to facilitate the success of the event.

“By your presence, you have chosen to share your gift with many current and future students of Edison State.”

Tesh performed classic holiday hits such as “Silver Bells,” “Jingle Bells,” and “Meli Kalikimaka” as well as his original NBA tune, “Roundball Rock.” Tesh was accompanied on stage by woodwind performer, Mark Visher, who played the flute and saxophone. In addition to performing, Tesh combined humor and spirituality to tell his inspiring life story, complete with the ups and downs.

The celebration of the holiday season includes past performances by world-renowned musician Tim Janis, The Texas Tenors, Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, Harry Connick Sr., Marvin Hamlish, Australia’s The Ten Tenors, Straight No Chaser, The Toledo Symphony Orchestra, and former Tonight Show band leader Doc Severinson.
Edison State Scholarship Recipients Recognized at Banquet.

**Edison State Community College** in partnership with the **Edison Foundation** recognized over 70 students during a banquet on Thursday, October 5. The scholarship banquet is held annually to provide recipients with the opportunity to meet the patrons that made their scholarships available.

Following networking and dinner, Taylor Adami, Computer Information Technology instructor at Sidney High School and Upper Valley Career Center Satellite Program, spoke encouraging words to the scholarship recipients about her path to success.

Adami talked about her experience as a high school student and taking the next step to higher education. “As a 2010 graduate of Troy High School and Upper Valley Career Center, I was one of those people who never really gave much thought to what I wanted to do after high school. After being asked by my teacher what I had planned to do, my initial thought was that I’m just going to start my own business doing what I love, I’m not going to go to college.”

“But after sitting down with my teacher, it turned out that I was able to get scholarships and 26 of my credits transferred to Edison State. I had my first year done and out of the way for the degree that I wanted.”

Adami went on to express her gratitude for the donors who made her scholarships possible. “It was a great motivation to receive these scholarships. It made me think that I can continue my education, become something great, and succeed in life. I graduated in 2012 from Edison State with minimal debt.”

Adami went on to receive a bachelor’s degree from Wright State University and she most recently completed a master’s degree in marketing communication from Franklin University. “I’m going to continue my education to get a master’s in education to support my long-term goal of becoming a superintendent,” added Adami. “If I didn’t receive these scholarships, I’m not sure I would have found my ambition in life and discovered what I want to do.”

Made possible by the Edison Foundation, **Edison State Community College**, and local organization sponsorships, recipients honored were awarded a total of nearly $130,000 in academic and need-based scholarships. Scholarships awarded will aid in students’ pursuit of higher education at **Edison State Community College**.

Founded in 1993, the Edison Foundation has raised millions of dollars, primarily given through scholarships to **Edison State** students. For more information about the Edison Foundation and scholarship opportunities, visit [www.edisonohio.edu/Foundation](http://www.edisonohio.edu/Foundation).
Edison State Alumni Tailgating Events Happening In Your Neighborhood!

Edison State Community College held a variety of alumni events aimed at bringing together the alumni of Edison State. From Friday night tailgating at the many local football games to fun and food at area establishments, the pictures tell the story. For more information on how to get involved or to see when Edison State Alumni Assoc. is having their next event, contact the Edison State Alumni Office at 937-778-7806, visit alumni@edisonohio.edu, or follow us on Twitter @EdisonStateAlum.
State Approved Registered Apprenticeship at Edison State.

Fall semester 2017 marked the initiation of Edison State as a State approved Registered Apprenticeship Sponsor by leveraging funds through the State of Ohio and partnering with the regional industry! Edison State has a long-standing relationship with a variety of companies to support apprenticeship programs under their State approved sponsorships, including Emerson in Sidney and FRAM in Greenville. Under these partnerships Edison State proctors tests for the related hours of instruction in the electrical, tool maker, and machine repair apprenticeships.

Part of the Emerson partnership includes a fifth year of cross training, for which Edison State provides a Tech Online program, a blend of online learning and hands-on labs. Currently, there are three (3) individuals in their fifth year: two electricians learning machine repair, and one machine repair apprentice learning electrical skills. As part of the FRAM partnership Edison State has three (3) Fram employees enrolled in the Automation and Robotics Degree program as electrical apprentices.

The new Edison State Registered Apprenticeship Sponsor program builds upon the pre-apprenticeship programs at both Upper Valley Career Center and the Miami Valley Career Technology Center along with enhancing the apprenticeship potential for industries throughout the region. During the Fall 2017 semester the Edison State program has a Mama Rosa’s apprentice maintenance mechanic, who is an Upper Valley Career Center alumni, enrolled in the Edison State Continues Growth in the New Agribusiness Program at Darke County Campus.

The demand of the agricultural industry in Darke County continues as Edison State Community College builds on its new agribusiness program launched in the fall of 2016. Students enrolled in the program interact in courses including agribusiness, agricultural finance, international business, animal science, and agronomy, alongside participating in internship and industry observations.

The program has come to fruition after initial inception and rigorous planning over the past two years. “We conducted a feasibility study, analyzed the data, developed program outlines, and started individual course development,” said Chad Beanblossom, Dean of the Darke County Campus of Edison State.

The program resides at the college’s Darke County campus while also serving residents of Miami, Shelby, and surrounding counties. “All residents of this region are connected to agriculture in some way, and the overall goal of this program is to provide students with an option to gain knowledge in a field of study they have been so deeply connected to their entire lives,” added Beanblossom.

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Charger Volleyball Players Earn All-OCCAC Honors

Recently finishing out their great season with a winning record, two Edison State Community College volleyball players have been named recipients of post-season awards from the Ohio Community College Athletic Conference (OCCAC) for the 2017 season.

Sophomore Kasey Helmstetter (Wapakoneta HS/ Wapakoneta, OH) earned First Team All-OCCAC honors.

Helmstetter, a middle blocker/right side hitter for the Chargers, earned more than 350 kills and 220 blocks in her two-year career.

Freshman Noel Ufferman (Fairbanks HS/ Marysville, OH) received All-OCCAC Honorable Mention honors and was named to the OCCAC All-Freshman Team. Ufferman, a setter for the Lady Chargers, provided more than 650 assists and 173 digs during her freshman year.

The women’s volleyball team finished 20-8 overall and 10-6 in their conference. For more information or details about Edison State athletics, visit: athletics.edisonohio.edu.

Edison State Charger Country Alumni Night

Our Edison State Charger basketball team is off to a great start! As the excitement increases with each victory, we want to extend a special invitation to all of our alumni. The Edison State Alumni Association along with Edison State President Doreen Larson are excited to invite all Edison State Alumni to our “Charger Country Alumni Night” on January 17, 2018, with the men’s basketball team competing against Wright State Lake Campus.

All Edison State Alumni who pre-register for Charger Country Alumni Night receive FREE admittance into the game, FREE pre-game food and drink, along with a FREE Edison State Alumni gift. The Charger Country pre-game runs from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Reserve your ticket(s) for this great event by contacting the Edison State Alumni Office at 937-778-7806 or alumni@edisonohio.edu.

The Athletic Department is searching for basketball pictures, news articles and stats for the years 1977-2017. Any information you can share with us will be returned to you and is greatly appreciated.

Contact Nate Cole (athletic director), Andrea Francis (marketing communication specialists) at the college or Jim Hemmert (voice of the Chargers).

Nate Cole—937.381.1555
Andrea Francis—937.381.1561
Jim Hemmert—937.570.2486
“Charlie the Charger” Debuts as Edison State’s Mascot!

You see them everywhere... at sports games, schools, events and even trade shows. Mascots are becoming an increasingly popular image across many campuses today. Edison State Community College recently unveiled their long anticipated mascot, Charlie the Charger, and it is being touted in various channels and athletic events. Charlie will be used to showcase the growing and impressive athletic teams of Edison State.

Mascots symbolize courage, strength, speed and leadership. The idea behind building a recognizable mascot, such as Charlie the Charger, will help build a visual representation of what Edison State believes to be a great part of our school... our athletic program! You’ll be seeing much more of Charlie the Charger around campus and if you take in a basketball game, you can’t help but notice Charlie the Charger overlooking center court.
Registered Apprenticeship at Edison State continued...

Factory Automation Certificate program to complete his hours of instruction. Also going on this fall, Plygem in Sidney has five (5) maintenance mechanic apprentices enrolled in the Factory Automation Certificate program.

This new program at Edison State is part of the College Apprenticeship Consortium Project and supported by a $65,000 grant awarded to the college. Key objectives of the grant include:

1. to significantly increase the number and locations of registered apprenticeship embedded work experiences,
2. employ best practices in student and company registered apprenticeship support, and
3. to provide a simplified college-based point of entry process for employers to engage in registered apprenticeship programs.

While the initial focus of the Edison State Registered Apprenticeship Program is placed on manufacturing to meet the in-demand need, other industries will be pursued including information technology, healthcare, and business services.

Edison State’s Close Company Connections.

Marias Technology is a software testing and implementation company specifically tailored to insurance carriers and Managing General Agents. The company is based in Covington Ohio. More than 50 percent of the staff members at Marias Technology have attended Edison State.

Laura Bertini—Account Lead

Laura Bertini, who is now an Account Lead at Marias, earned an Associate’s Degree in Biology from Edison State. Starting on the Help Team at Marias Laura quickly progressed to Software Tester before moving up to Lead Software tester and Account Lead.

Aimee Keeler—Software Tester

Aimee Keeler earned an Associate’s Degree in Accounting from Edison State and now is a Software Tester with Marias.

Alycia Davidson—Intern

Alycia Davidson, who has been interning at Marias, is finishing her Associate of Arts degree studying Accounting and English at Edison State and will be starting full-time with Marias in January as a Software Tester. Edison State is proud to partner with Marias Technology by providing quality employees.

Wishing this holiday season is a joyous one!
Happy holidays from the Edison Foundation!

As the end of year quickly approaches, time is running short to make a 2017 tax-deductible gift to The Edison Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed to support the educational and community service goals of Edison State Community College. All gifts are appreciated and provide scholarships and academic program support.

**DONATION YEAR-END DEADLINES:**

**By check** – must be postmarked (U.S. Mail) by Dec. 29, 2017, or hand-delivered to our office on campus by 4:00 p.m. on December 28, 2017. Please mail gifts to: The Edison Foundation, 1973 Edison Drive, Piqua, OH 45356

**Gifts by credit card** – if sent by mail, must be postmarked (U.S. mail) by December 29, 2017; if made online, The Edison Foundation must receive transaction details by 4:00 p.m. EST on Dec. 28, 2017. The Edison Foundation accepts donations via PayPal on Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express. The secure URL is: www.edisonohio.edu/donate

**Gifts of stock** – to receive tax credit in 2017, must be received and handled by our broker (Fifth Third Bank). Contact Megan Dauber at 513-534-3557 or megan.dauber@53.com. For a year-end gift or to ask further questions, please contact The Edison Foundation at foundation@edisonohio.edu or 937-778-7805.

Thanks for your support of Edison State Community College through The Edison Foundation!

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**DID YOU KNOW...**

**WIRED** is an alumni e-newsletter published by the Edison State Alumni Association.

It contains alumni highlights, information and events which Edison State Community College supports and hosts on an ongoing basis. For more information or how you can become part of The Alumni Association, contact the **Edison State Alumni Office at 937-778-7806 or alumni@edisonohio.edu.**

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