



December 2016

Building a Foundation

Newsletter of the Nicolet Foundation

Things You Need to Know Now – Top Stories

KNIGHT ON THE TOWN: MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

On October 15th the Foundation rolled out the red carpet to welcome Hollywood luminary and Nicolet alum Richard Lovett '78 and his family to the 2016 Knight on the Town.

The memorable evening featured live and silent auctions, dinner, entertainment by Nicolet students and presentation of the first Shining Knight Award. Representing the Foundation, President Susie Falk and board member Steven Arenzon, presented Mr. Lovett with the Award in recognition of his exemplary career in the entertainment industry and his commitment to helping the public schools in Los Angeles.



Thanks to our sponsors, listed below, and the over 200 who attended the event, the Foundation raised \$50,000 that will fund teachers grants and help bring new life to the digital media program, once state-of-the-art, but currently so outdated that it's been dormant for several years. More on that initiative below.

Sponsors: Silver - Go Riteway, First Bank Financial Centre, The Mandel Group. **Bronze** - Lisa Kohl '78. **Table** - Associated Bank & Associated Benefits & Risk Consulting, Live Nation, Milwaukee Brewers, Mueller Communications, R&R Insurance, Todd Gaulke

DIGITAL MEDIA LAB

About ten years ago Nicolet built a television studio but over time, interest in the program waned, personnel changed and it became unused and obsolete. This year two new courses, TV Broadcast and Sports Broadcast, have been added and interest in the program is growing. The first step was to equip students with a PACK (Portable Asset Capture Kit). Each kit contains the camera and necessary accessories to enable students to capture “assets” that can be used in a myriad of ways for classroom projects and more, benefiting the school and community. In September, the Foundation funded the purchase of 6 of these units totalling over \$7,000.

The second step is to upgrade the T.V. studio, and its equipment, into a media lab to teach digital literacy. Digital literacy - having the knowledge and ability to use a range of technology tools for varied purposes- is the skill that enables the use of technology strategically to find information, collaborate with others, produce and share original content, and use the Internet to achieve academic, professional, and personal goals.

With the help of a generous donation of \$10,000, and funds raised at the Knight on the Town, approximately ½ of the \$45,000 needed to upgrade the studio has been raised. The Foundation is continuing to raise funds through its end of the year appeal, currently taking place. If you would like to contribute to this project, please visit <http://www.nicolet.us/families/foundation.cfm>

HELP WANTED

Each year at this time, the Nicolet High School Foundation appeals to our community of parents, alumni and other stakeholders for donations to fund classroom needs and innovative programs that exceed the district budget. This year the district has asked for help in upgrading the digital media lab. By now you should have received a letter in the mail. We hope you will consider making a gift, in any amount, to help us complete this project. Or, if you prefer, donations can be directed to “Enrichment Grants.” These funds are used throughout the year to grant requests from teachers for classroom needs or programs that exceed their budgets.

Didn't receive/can't find your appeal letter - a copy is at <http://www.nicolet.us/families/foundation.cfm>

SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to acknowledge and extend HUGE thanks to the Pentair and Heller Foundations for their generous gifts of \$5,000!

GRANTING ENRICHMENT - YOUR DONATIONS IN ACTION

- With a grant from the Nicolet High School Foundation, sophomore English classes have been immersed in a **Mindfulness Program**. Once a week students are guided through simple practices and invited to learn tools that strengthen their resilience to stress. The program is facilitated by Minda Devorkin (MSW, E-RYT, RCYT) a yoga and Mindfulness teacher with over 12 years experience working with youth.
- Artist-in-Residence Jeff Shawhan returned to Nicolet for the third year in a row with a grant from the Foundation. Mr. Shawhan is a Ceramic Raku Artist and professor at Concordia College. Students learned advanced techniques in Raku firing that most would not normally be exposed to until college.
- The German Club and German Honor Society took on the issue of sustainability this fall. They have partnered with Hunger Task Force and



spent a day at their farm harvesting 5,000 cabbages that were distributed to needy families, and then ate a locally sourced lunch and talked about eating local as a way to increase sustainability. This winter they will participate in a food sorting day. A Foundation grant paid all expenses associated with these activities.

LOOKING FOR A UNIQUE HOLIDAY GIFT?

Gift Bricks are personalized engraved bricks that become part of the *Circle of Friends*, installed alongside the walkway in the front of the building. Bricks make special gifts for students or alumni, or can be used to honor or memorialize someone special. See the website to order a brick.

http://www.nicolet.us/cms_files/resources/brick_order_form.pdf



Wouldn't a brick, engraved with your son or daughter's name, make a GREAT gift!?

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<http://www.nicolet.us/families/foundation.cfm>
