



## Lansing Community College Foundation/Alumni Association

March 2016

### DONOR PLEDGES TO MATCH GIFTS TO THE ALLAN MAAR SCHOLARSHIP

A Foundation donor has generously agreed to match dollar-for-dollar any new gifts to a scholarship honoring the memory of LCC Professor Allan Maar. With his passing in 2013, Maar left a legacy of laughter, learning, and support for students. He is remembered for beginning the program - now the Center for Transitional Learning - that assists students needing developmental support, GED preparation, and courses that help students prepare for academic success.

The donor is a former student of Professor Maar who visited the LCC Foundation and told an emotional story of how much Maar meant to his academic and career success.

*"Allan Maar was the tipping point of my life. He was the catalyst that sparked my education, the fuel for my flaming desire to learn. Mr. Maar was passionate in his endeavors to teach for success.*

*I entered Lansing Community College after serving in the military. I was accepted under probation. I had to take one year of basic English, Reading and Math before I could take an accredited course. This was to make up for what I hadn't bothered to learn in high school.*

*I entered Allan's class with a 6th grade reading level and probably a commensurate vocabulary. Allan gave me the tools and instructions to improve my skills and to succeed in college. He mentored me and became my friend as well as teacher. As a result of his guidance and support, I was able to take an accredited class the next semester.*

*Within 3 years, I graduated from LCC with an associate degree in electrical engineering and went on to Western Michigan University to complete a degree in engineering. I had a career as a sales engineer, regional sales manager and retired as director of my company's Southwest Region.*

*I wish that I had kept in touch with Allan during his lifetime to thank him for giving me such an important start in my career.*

*I have decided to help fund the Allan Maar Memorial Scholarship to endowed status as it will be used to help students who had similar situations as me. This will also help students gain an education who do not have the financial backing that I did through the GI Bill."*

Please help us honor Allan Maar and his legacy of helping students achieve their dreams by contributing to the Allan Maar Memorial Scholarship at: [lcc.edu/givetoscholarships](http://lcc.edu/givetoscholarships) and select "Allan Maar Scholarship".



Allan Maar

## RECORD NUMBER OF STUDENTS APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

The Foundation has received a record number of scholarship applications for the upcoming 2016-17 academic year. Our online scholarship application has increased access for students and simplifies the process; resulting in a 12% increase in applications. This trend is expected to continue. That's the good news...

The not so good news; we will be able to award scholarships to only half of the students who applied. **We are asking for your help to close this gap.** Please consider making education possible for LCC students by making a donation at: [lcc.edu/givetoscholarships](http://lcc.edu/givetoscholarships)

## SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT THANKS DONOR

The LCC Foundation asks scholarship recipients to send a personal note to the donor recognizing their generous support and how much it means to them. Here is a recent thank you from the Claude Watson Scholarship recipient:

*"I am writing to give you my utmost thanks for the Claude Watson Scholarship. I was very elated to find that you awarded me a scholarship for the 2015-16 school year.*

*I am currently working for my dad as a carpenter to supplement my years at LCC. I have a concrete plan to attend Lansing Community College for 2 years and receive an associate degree in Computer Science. I will then transfer to Grand Valley State and obtain my bachelor's in Computer Science. With my degree I will gain some real world experience at a reputable company and move on to building a business of my own! I am very fond of successful entrepreneurs and have wanted to be one myself for some time. With your generous contribution to my financial needs, you have put me on a good and right track toward my goal.*

*For your selfless giving to me and other students, I applaud you, for many students nowadays need that support and cannot say enough for it. This scholarship has inspired me to work harder at my education/career so that I can not only benefit in the long run, but hopefully receive more scholarships for future semesters. Thank you!*

*Sincerely, Samuel"*

If you are wondering what you can do right now to help students who are trying to go to school but do not have the funds to do so, please make an investment in success. To give online visit: [lcc.edu/givetoscholarships](http://lcc.edu/givetoscholarships).

## DID YOU KNOW?

Lansing Community College has 9 intercollegiate sports teams. Men's Baseball, Cross Country and Outdoor Track & Field. Women's Basketball, Cross Country, Outdoor Track & Field, Softball and Volleyball.

**Since 1957, LCC Stars have won a total of 19 NJCAA National Championships.**

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: PAMELA DITCHOFF '79

*Courtesy of the Lansing Community College Lookout*



Pamela Ditchoff

Pamela Ditchoff said she never thought she would have the resources to pursue a proper education. Lansing Community College not only helped her receive an education, but also put her on the path of becoming an award-winning writer and author.

Ditchoff, 65, now lives in Nova Scotia, Canada, with her husband, David. She has three children. She attended LCC from fall of 1977 to spring of 1980, where she studied liberal arts.

She spoke about someone she considered a mentor during her time at LCC. "David Zimny taught an honors course, political science," Ditchoff said. "His enthusiasm was contagious. He presented his class cutting edge papers and ideas."

"One of the required books was a collection of political science fiction. Our class discussions on those stories were the most interesting and memorable discussions I had in my years at LCC."

[Full Feature Here](#)

## LCC MEN'S BASKETBALL WINS BACK-TO-BACK CHAMPIONSHIPS



If you would like to make a donation to LCC Athletics please visit: [lcc.edu/givetoathletics](http://lcc.edu/givetoathletics)

For more information on LCC athletics please visit: [www.lccstars.com](http://www.lccstars.com)



For the second consecutive season the LCC Stars Men's Basketball team has won the District 9 Championship propelling them to the NJCAA National Tournament where they are the #2 seed. The tournament will be played in Danville, IL March 15-19. The national tournament consists of a 16 team field of district champions from around the country.

The Stars capped off their district championship run by beating 8th ranked Muskegon Community College on Saturday, March 5 at Delta College. The Stars were led by tournament MVP Javon Haines and Freshman Isaiah Green (all-tournament team). You can follow the tournament [here](#).

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