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Stockton Scholarship Benefit Gala Most Successful in Event History

Record-breaking Amount Raised for Academic Scholarships

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Atlantic City, NJ – The 27th Annual Stockton Scholarship Benefit Gala was attended Saturday by a sellout audience of more than 900. The region's top civic, business and community leaders, as well as Stockton students, faculty, staff and administration enjoyed the festivities, which included live and silent auctions and gourmet dining, in addition to live entertainment by rock and pop music legend Neil Sedaka.

The event raised a record total in excess of \$670,000 with proceeds supporting the College Foundation Scholarship Fund. As a result of the benefit and other fundraising efforts, the Foundation makes it possible to offer scholarships to talented student scholars.

President Saatkamp lauded the Gala Committee, particularly Chairpersons Mac and Kay Seelig of AC Coin and Slot and Globe Vending, and Honorary Chair Mark Juliano, COO of Trump Entertainment Resorts. He also praised the commitment of Co-Chair sponsors Atlantic City Electric, Avalon Carpet Tile and Flooring, Borgata Hotel Casino and Spa, Capaldi, Reynolds and Pelosi, Commerce Bank, *The Press of Atlantic City*, Trump Entertainment Resorts and Wachovia Bank.

"The event certainly reflects the excellent collaboration we have with our many community partners," Dr. Saatkamp added. He noted the College's expanded outreach in the region, such as the hospitality management program, the new Aviation Research Park that is being developed near the FAA William J. Hughes Technical Center, and the many community activities, classes and training programs at the Carnegie Library Center, Stockton's Atlantic City satellite location.

Highlighting the event were remarks by Stockton College students who are beneficiaries of the Foundation's scholarship program, including Myrlande Thelemaque, a senior biology major from Pleasantville. She will continue her studies at Stockton in the doctoral program in Physical Therapy. Ms. Thelemaque was an honor student at Pleasantville High School, where she ranked fourth in her graduating class.