

'Distinctively Stockton Hammonton Proud Scholarship' Campaign Raises \$34,100, More than 30% to Goal

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Galloway Township, NJ -The Distinctively Stockton Hammonton Proud Scholarship Campaign has raised \$34,100 in gifts and pledges in its first quarter, over 30 percent of the way to establishing a \$100,000 scholarship fund for students who attend high school in Hammonton.

"The generosity and hometown pride of Hammonton residents is striking," said President Herman Saatkamp of The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. "From Charles and Lynn Kramer's Leadership gift that helped to open the Kramer Hall instructional site in Hammonton in 2013, to the donors stepping forward now, we see a strong commitment to helping other residents achieve their dreams of a distinctive Stockton education."

More than 85 percent of Stockton students receive financial aid, and those who attend either Hammonton High School or St. Joseph's High School would benefit from this new endowment. The college plans to raise at least \$100,000 in new gifts for the fund by June 30, 2015.

Last year, over 220 students from Hammonton attended Stockton, and while five of them received scholarships through the College Foundation, many more are in need.

Many Hammonton residents, community leaders, businesses and organizations have supported the campaign thus far.

As a way to thank 37 of the most generous contributors to the scholarship, Stockton will name the pillars in Kramer Hall in their honor.

The facility, located at 30 Front St., is a beautifully refurbished three-story former shoe and clothing factory which was built in the early 1900s and became the National Garment Factory in the 1950s. Kramer Hall features state-of-the-art classrooms, seminar rooms, a computer lab, and an Art Gallery. The building's original wooden pillars represent the history of Hammonton and the college's present and future in town.

Pillar recognition will begin at giving levels of at least \$10,000 and \$5,000 to the campaign, said Dr. Philip Ellmore, Chief Development Officer and director of the College Foundation.

The pillars in the 1st floor Art Gallery would be named in honor of those who donate at least \$10,000, Dr. Ellmore said. Commitments of at least \$2,000 a year, for a minimum of 5 years, are eligible for recognition.

-continued from page 1-

Commitments of at least \$1,000 a year, for a minimum of 5 years, are eligible for recognition on the remaining pillars throughout the building. Only a limited number of pillars are available at each giving level.

Once the initial \$100,000 goal is met, the endowed scholarship will provide an annual award of approximately \$4,000, which will continue in perpetuity.

To display its commitment to Hammonton, and to encourage continued private support, Stockton would use institutional scholarship funds to match those produced by the fund to provide \$8,000 a year for Hammonton students. Stockton will provide these matching funds for 10 years or until such time that the fund allocation meets or exceeds \$8,000. Over time, additional gifts will continue to grow the endowment, increasing the amount of the award(s) and strengthening the impact for students, said Dr. Ellmore.

For more information about the campaign, click <u>Distinctively Stockton Hammonton Proud</u> or visit stockton.edu/hammonton.

For more information about becoming a **Pillar of the Hammonton Community**, please contact:

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