

### Mary Lee

Kane Family Foundation  
Scholarship Recipient

Mary Lee is an amazing ambassador for both Pueblo Community College and for the Pueblo Community College Foundation. As a

2015-16 Kane Family Foundation scholar, Mary has been given the greatest gift of education; a two-year scholarship for tuition, books and fees.

Mary will graduate from PCC in May 2017 with an Associate of Applied Science Degree -- Physical Therapy Assistant.

In addition to acting as an ambassador for the PCC Foundation, Mary has been a Student Ambassador in PCC's Office of Recruitment for the past two years and she utilizes this platform to encourage other students to apply for PCC Foundation Scholarships.

As one of PCC's non-traditional students, Mary explains that "in my searching for a meaningful career, I took a very meandering and often unfulfilling path into higher education; wandering in and out of majors, and studying every subject under the sun. I racked up quite a few college credits; using up all the financial aid available to me.

"I am forever grateful to both the PCC Foundation and the Kane Family Foundation for freeing me from the chains of student debt. I only hope that one day I too will be successful enough to give, and to touch somebody's life as they have so indelibly touched mine."

As a Physical Therapist Assistant, Mary will be able to serve others, to help them heal and recover from illness and injury, and to teach them how to maximize their capabilities.

"I have always wanted to be in the business of helping others, and now I will. It is finally my time to have a rewarding career.

"On behalf of myself and all the other recipients of PCC Foundation Scholarships, thank you for investing in the Pueblo Community College Foundation so that it may continue to offer scholarships to students like me. Your financial support truly does make dreams come true!"



### Bethany Page

Return to Learn  
Scholarship Recipient

The PCC Return to Earn program was designed as a way in which to enable previous PCC students with the opportunity to take

advantage of enrollment within an organized program that offers them the help needed to obtain personal, financial and educational counseling.

Once completed, the students are eligible to receive financial assistance from the Return to Earn program; offering funding to relieve past educational debt and a scholarship to complete their educational studies.

Bethany is a recent graduate of the PCC Return to Earn program, and she is the first in her family to earn a college degree. She had enrolled in PCC a few years back but due to unforeseen circumstances, it took her a long time to fulfill the requirements needed to earn a degree.

"Because I took so long to get a degree, many of the programs ran out and I could not continue school. It was so frustrating, because I was only a few credits away from my degree. Financially I just couldn't do it."

As a PCC Return to Earn graduate, she can now include the words "associate degree" on her resumé and job applications.

Since its inception at PCC, the Return to Earn program has racked up some very impressive statistics. Nine scholarship recipients have already graduated from PCC, while 13 more will graduate at conclusion of Fall 2016 semester. 24 students are currently enrolled in the Return to Earn program, the majority of which will graduate in Spring 2017.

Your support of Bethany and the many other Return to Earn scholarship recipients can have an immediate impact on giving the gift of education to a student that is totally committed to finishing their education at PCC and joining the ranks of the southern Colorado workforce.

# Give the Gift of Education this holiday season

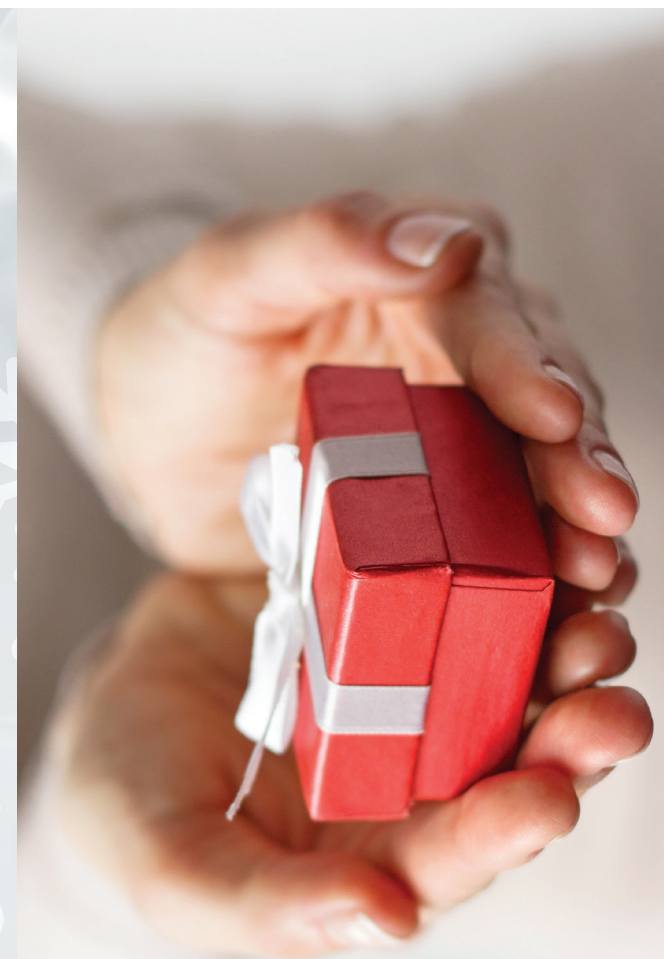
Your gifts have contributed to the success of numerous students and programs at Pueblo Community College. Your generosity creates a legacy of learning not only for your family, but also for those who benefit from your gifts. It is because of donors like you that the PCC Foundation is able to continue to provide scholarships and assist with programming funds for the College.

Much of PCC's student body is comprised of non-traditional adults, some of whom are single parents trying to make life better for their families. They are setting an example of success for their children. Many PCC success stories would not have been possible without the generosity of our PCC Foundation donors.

We know that you support causes, events, and programs for a variety of reasons. We hope that you will consider supporting the PCC Foundation this holiday season and join with us by investing in our efforts to create better lives and a stronger economy for the people of Southern Colorado.



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## Holiday Greetings to YOU!

As the president of the Pueblo Community

College Foundation, I am pleased to offer my support to the foundation that was established in 1981 as a vehicle to financially support the academic advancement of Pueblo Community College. During its 35 years, the foundation has awarded over \$12 million to PCC to advance the college and has been successful in obtaining the funding to award over \$4 million in scholarships for students working to obtain certificates and associate degrees.

During the past academic year, PCC awarded 1,286 students associate degrees or certificates, infusing our communities with a highly educated workforce. The foundation awarded 359 scholarships to 216 unique individuals, equaling more than \$350,000 in scholarship awards. Although impressive, many students who applied for PCCF scholarships did not receive the funding necessary to pursue their educational endeavors. Thus, we realize that we need to reach out to even more donors within our community to ensure that we can provide even greater scholarship opportunities in the coming year!

Thanks to recent grant opportunities from the Colorado Department of Higher Education through the Colorado Scholarship Initiative (COSI), the PCC Foundation now has the opportunity to increase the size and number of scholarship awards for the coming year. We have the possibility of offering an additional \$322,000 in scholarships to our students if we can successfully raise half of these dollars in the coming months. We ask for your support NOW during the Season of Giving with the intent of helping us to offer the gift of education to many more PCC students during the coming year.

- The PCC Foundation will soon be awarded \$61,000 in support of our Return to Earn students if we can match those dollars during this Season of Giving. If successful, the foundation will be able to provide \$122,000 in financial assistance to those students who had to suspend their formal education endeavors due to "life happens" circumstances. These students left PCC with debt and cannot return to learn until this debt is resolved. The Return to Earn scholarships are intended to defray the student's past-due debt and offer scholarship funding to help finish their education at PCC.
- In addition to the Return to Earn grants, PCC has been offered the opportunity to provide an additional \$104,000 in scholarships for production technician certificates and \$96,000 in Commercial Driver License certificates if donors will agree to match those COSI grant awards (\$52,000 and \$48,000, respectively).

The PCC Foundation Board of Directors and staff are collaborating in a joint effort to raise the dollars needed to match these valuable grant opportunities. Whatever you can spare, you can be a part of changing the lives of many of our students who are committed to achieving educational success.

On behalf of the PCC Foundation board of directors and staff and those 5,500 students who are enrolled on the PCC campuses in Pueblo, Cañon City, Durango and Mancos/Cortez, we thank you for your support. We hope you will consider joining with us NOW and help in offering a life-changing gift to our PCC students this year. Together, we can make the difference in the lives of those students and the overall well-being of our southern Colorado communities.

All the best for the holiday season!

Paul Willumstad  
President, PCC Foundation



**Dr. Patty Erjavec**  
*Pueblo Community College President, PCC Foundation Board Member, and PCC Foundation Scholarship Donor*

A gift to the Pueblo Community College Foundation is an investment in a well-educated community. Be it a scholarship, program, or special initiative, i.e., the Panther Student Pantry, our students are afforded the opportunity to learn in an academic environment whereby student success remains paramount!

I have the privilege of seeing the impact of the PCC Foundation support on a daily basis. I witness students working hard to accomplish their educational goals, but I also am acutely aware of the challenges and barriers many of them have as they strive to balance home, family, work, and school. The Foundation helps to ensure that our students are afforded every opportunity to persist and complete!

Ray and I believe in our community, we believe in our PCC students, and are honored to play a small role in the academic and student success of the next generation of citizens by donating to the PCC Foundation. Won't you join us?



**Dr. Isaac Pope**  
*Isaac S. Pope, a student at Pueblo Junior College from 1960-1962, was PCC's 2015 commencement speaker.*

There is always a critical point in one's life when they may need help from others. When my need came, I was fortunate to be a student at Pueblo Junior College. As a student on the Pueblo Campus, I received the nurturing and encouragement that I needed to set the course for my career objective to become a physician. I have always been thankful for that guiding light.

Having returned in 2015 as the PCC Commencement Speaker, I was delighted to see that PCC was carrying on its tradition of educational excellence. I had the privilege of touring the Pueblo Campus and seeing first-hand that each and every program offered is truly a gem; offering a wide variety of training for its students and an educated work force for the southern Colorado communities.

Donations to the PCC Foundation are investments in the future of those students attending PCC and a wonderful way in which to invest in the welfare of our community.

I am a proud donor to the PCC Foundation! When someone asks me where I came from, I begin at the beginning – my professional life began at PCC.



## Count me in to support the PCC FOUNDATION this Holiday season!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your year end donation to the Pueblo Community College Foundation and mail to 900 W. Orman Avenue, Pueblo, CO 81004.

To make a secure online donation, please visit our website at [www.pueblccfoundation.org](http://www.pueblccfoundation.org) and click the DONATE button to proceed to the credit card donation link.

Please direct my gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to:

Greatest Need of the PCC Foundation

General Scholarship

Named Scholarship \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Program Support  
Name of Program \_\_\_\_\_

PCC Student Pantry, which offers non-perishable food items and hygiene products for PCC students in need of immediate assistance.

My company will match my gift. Please contact me for information on this match.

The Colorado Enterprise Zone encourages job creation and capital investment in economically challenged areas by providing tax credits to business and projects to promote and encourage economic development activities. Although donations to the Pueblo or Fremont Enterprise Zones have restricted use, they can be used in many ways to benefit PCC. If you need more information on this donation option and the tax advantages available to you, please contact the PCC Foundation office at 719.544.0677

Pueblo Enterprise Zone (25% Colorado tax credit). Minimum \$250 donation. Make check payable to Pueblo Enterprise Zone \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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