



**Beau Leal**  
*2017-2018 Kane Family  
Foundation Scholar*

“When I was informed that I had been awarded the Kane Family Foundation scholarship, I was overwhelmed with gratitude; knowing that

someone out there believed in me as much as I believe in myself.” The scholarship opportunity allowed him to look back in retrospect; not just to contemplate where he had come from but to ponder the events that led him to where he is today.

Beau was raised in a family of drug addicts. It was no wonder that he got caught up in that lifestyle and allowed himself to be influenced by the environment.

“They say you have to hit rock bottom before you can look up and that was the case with me.” “I feel blessed to be in the position that I am in today, proud to say that I was able to walk away from the depths of ruin and thanks to the support of many, I have overcome my demons; and now possess a positive outlook on life.”

Beau is more determined than he has ever been and there is no doubt he will succeed. He realizes that without the help of others, he could not be the man that he is today. He extends his gratitude for the help he has received from Pueblo Community College. “I will be forever indebted to the Kane Family Foundation and the PCC Foundation for their investment in my future educational aspirations.” Beau is adamant that when he is through with his studies, he plans to commit to paying the generosity he has experienced forward. He is convinced that he can be an inspiration to future PCC Foundation scholars.



**Michelle Brassel**  
*Jennie & Albert Gersick  
Foundation Scholar*

I am grateful to have been one of the few selected to participate in the PCC Nursing program. My goal is to become a hospice nurse and thanks to the generosity of others I can envision my reality.

I am grateful to the PCC Foundation for doing what they do best and finding the funding for hundreds of scholarship awards for PCC students!

I am grateful to my scholarship donors! Without their gift of a scholarship donation, I would be forced to juggle my education while working full-time. This scholarship opportunity allows me the freedom to focus on the nursing program and treat it as my job.

I represent those PCC nontraditional students who are committed to fulfilling their dreams and making their lives and the lives of their family and their community better. Because of the generosity of others, our dreams will become realities.

I look forward to the day when I can give back to the PCC Foundation and lend my support to a student who seeks to achieve his or her reality!



*You Hold The Key  
to Higher 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 generosity. It is because of donors like you that the PCC Foundation is able to continue to provide scholarships and assist with programming funds for Pueblo Community 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.

Happy Holidays!  
The PCC Foundation

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this holiday season*



**Pueblo**  
FOUNDATION

Community College





### Holiday Greetings to YOU!

As the President of the Pueblo Community College Foundation, I am honored to offer my support to the Foundation that was established in 1981 as a way to financially support the students and academic programs of Pueblo Community College. It is no secret that this

Foundation has played a major role in the ultimate success of Pueblo Community College. During its 36 years of operation, the PCC Foundation has raised over \$16 million to support the advancement of academic programs at PCC and it has been successful in obtaining the funding necessary to award over \$5 million in scholarship awards for those students working to obtain certificates and associate degrees at PCC.

During the past academic year (16/17), PCC awarded 2,282 students with associate degrees or certificates infusing Southern Colorado communities with a highly-educated workforce. During that time, the PCC Foundation awarded 229 scholarships to deserving students. Those scholarship awards equaled over \$400,422. I am delighted to inform you that during the current academic year (17/18), the PCC Foundation will award over \$700,000 in scholarship awards; making this year our largest award season ever! Although the jump in this current year's scholarship funding is impressive, too many students who applied for scholarships did not receive the funding necessary to pursue their educational aspirations. The PCC Foundation is committed to reaching even deeper into our communities in the coming year and asking for support; insuring that we can provide even more scholarship opportunities in the future!

The Foundation has received another grant opportunity from the Colorado Department of Higher Education via the Colorado Scholarship Initiative (COSI) to support our **Return to Earn** scholarship program. This means that the PCC Foundation will have another opportunity to support those students who have had to interrupt their educational endeavors due to a "life happens" occurrence. We know that there are thousands of students who have had to put their PCC education on hold and if we are successful, we can offer a re-start to hundreds of students who are now ready to reenroll and complete those few classes needed to obtain

their college degrees. The COSI grant allows us the opportunity to reach out to hundreds of those students and offer them the key to their ultimate success.

Legacy Bank has taken the lead to insure that we meet this **Return to Earn** scholarship match, offering \$20,000 toward the \$61,000 COSI match. If we are successful in obtaining the remaining portion of this match; the Foundation will be able to offer \$120,000 in scholarship awards for the 18/19 academic year!

I am coming to you NOW to ask for your support of not only the **Return to Earn** scholarship program but for our other scholarship opportunities; designed to assist those current and future students who are pursuing their education in Pueblo, Canon City, Durango or Mancos/Cortez. Your generosity will support those students who are looking to Pueblo Community College as a vehicle to enhance not only their lives but the lives of their family members and ultimately the overall economic well-being of our southern Colorado communities.

The PCC Foundation Board of Directors and Staff are committed to raising the dollars needed to support scholarships and programs at Pueblo Community College. We are asking for your involvement with us by making a financial gift to the Pueblo Community College Foundation during this *Season of Giving*. Please be as generous as your means will allow so that you can be a part of changing the lives of many of our students who are committed to achieving educational success.

On behalf of each of us and thousands of students, who are enrolled on the PCC campuses in Pueblo, Canon City, Durango, and Mancos/Cortez, we thank you for your support of Pueblo Community College and the PCC Foundation. We hope that you will consider joining with us NOW and help in offering a life-changing gift to our PCC students this year!

All the best for the holiday season!  
Paul Willumstad  
President  
PCC Foundation



**Dr. Patty Erjavec**  
*Pueblo Community College President*  
*PCCF Foundation Board Member*

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?



**Walter Schepp**  
*PCC Foundation Board Member*

A BETTER LIFE FOR ALL. Naturally PCC graduates will have a better life, but how about the rest of us? Most PCC grads continue to make their career in their home community. Business owners benefit by having better trained employees. Retailers benefit with

customers with more disposable income. Real estate benefits with better housing possible. Probably less crime benefits all. Families with modest resources benefit economically by having their children living at home for the first two years of college. Seniors benefit with better medical care from more trained nurses in hospitals and nursing homes. And, ultimately, the graduates' children will be able to afford a better education and continue to build a better society.

The greatest benefit is to those with the least financial resources, from families unable to help financially, having been out of high school for an extended period, having to work while going to college, or single parents making the tough decision to better themselves, a modest scholarship can make the difference in achieving all of these goals.

You can help make a better life for all, including yourself.



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 Ave. Pueblo, CO 81004**

To make a secure online donation, please visit our website at [www.puebloccfoundation.org](http://www.puebloccfoundation.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 \_\_\_\_\_
- Return to Earn Scholarship
- 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 Community College Foundation.  
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*You Hold the Key to Higher Education this Holiday Season!*