

# LEGACIES

Central Oregon Community College Foundation • Winter 2014

## Meal of the Year – Celebrating 36 years of supporting students

Meal of the Year, the COCC Foundation's gala fundraising event, is marking its 36th anniversary this year. During nearly four decades, it has grown and evolved to one of the most popular events in Central Oregon.

"From its very beginning, Central Oregon has always supported and valued education, and this is the underpinning of the Meal of the Year events," reflects Trish Smith, a member of the Foundation's original special events committee. "Supporting student scholarships benefits the entire community. There's no downside."

In 1979, the first year of this ongoing signature event for the Foundation, the year dubbed Rolling on the River, was held at the Great Hall in Sunriver and featured various forms of games of chance. Guests would buy chips and use them for gambling and/or buying donated prizes.

Those events raised about \$5,000 to \$6,000 dollars, remembers Trish. "We were delighted to have 100 people attend."

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Due to the distance, the venue was moved to various locations in Bend—the Inn at 7th Mountain, the Bend Armory, the College's Pinckney Center and finally to the Mazama Gymnasium. It also became an elegant affair.

"The guiding premise in the early days of the Meal of the Year was that in order to draw the whole Central Oregon community in, the evening had to be impressive and memorable. The decor, the food and the entertainment

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Miller Family Legacy

### Commitment to COCC Foundation spans three generations

The Miller family's legacy of involvement with the COCC Foundation reaches back to the Foundation's beginnings almost six decades ago. Charley Miller, president of Miller Lumber, recently recounted his family's three-generation history in Bend and support of the Foundation.

After graduating from a teacher preparation college in central Wisconsin, Charley's grandfather, Harry A.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## True Legacies in Central Oregon

### A message from Dr. Middleton



*Dr. James Middleton*  
COCC President

While the technical definition of a “legacy” is a gift linked to one’s will or estate, the term has a related but slightly different meaning to me. I look at a legacy gift as any contribution that lives beyond our own time – one that has a lasting impact on individuals, organizations or society as a whole.

The spirit of the community and advocacy of COCC is a decades-

long legacy developed by college founders and nurtured through the COCC Foundation and its leadership. The commitment and deep connection between the College and the community has established COCC as a college “of the community,” not merely “in the community.” This bond has been the bedrock upon which financial legacy support has been built. This spirit and the support have transformed the lives of thousands of students, many of whom in turn have given their time, advocacy and treasure to the students who followed them to COCC.

It is often said that individuals are not as aware of the uniqueness of their own everyday environment. Coming to COCC and Central Oregon from “the outside,” I was able to truly witness this spirit, one that, along with

the dollars generated by the citizens of our fairly small region, eclipses that of most community colleges in the nation.

The legacies have been developed by both small and large gifts to COCC. Clearly some major gifts have been transformational for COCC facilities and scholarship resources. Our campus sites would not exist without legacy gifts – Robert and Joyce Coats donated a significant portion of the COCC Bend campus real estate and the Bean Foundation made the Madras Campus possible.

The legacy gifts to the COCC Foundation from Frank and Julie Jungers, Marjorie Smith, Margaret and Robert Turner, Paul and Fran Wille and Carol Mason were other major contributions that have transformed COCC and will have perpetual impact on the lives of students and COCC’s service to the community. Their greatest legacy, though, is setting the example, the standard, for others to follow.

While campus grounds and buildings are important, the real impact of legacies come to reality in the lives that were changed – students who have had access, who have succeeded, who have in turn become assets in their communities.

The legacy established by COCC founders, kept vibrant by COCC Foundation members over the decades and made real through COCC’s advocates and support, is a story of which to be proud. I am humbled to have been a part of this unfolding and growing story – this continuing record of stewardship and commitment to changing students’ lives and the quality of our communities.

#### GENERAL

I would like to contribute:

- tuition for one year (\$3,400)
- tuition for half the year (\$1,700)
- books for one term (\$500)
- other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me information about:

- Volunteer opportunities with the COCC Foundation
- Planned or estate giving through life insurance, life income plans, wills or bequests

#### PERSONAL INFORMATION

I am:  COCC Alumni  Past COCC Scholarship Recipient

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my donation to remain anonymous

#### PAYMENT METHOD

Check enclosed payable to COCC Foundation or charge my  Visa  MasterCard

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_ Billing Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Mail form to: COCC Foundation, 2600 NW College Way, Bend, Oregon 97701

## Writing a Will

### A message from your foundation director



*Jim Weaver, COCC Foundation  
Executive Director*

Writing a will can be a rich expression of your values. Besides making your loss easier on your family and friends – by likely causing a straightforward settling of your estate – it is also a way to make a statement about what you found important and want to perpetuate. When that statement involves a charity or charities cared for during life, it is life transforming and inspiring.

Here are examples from Central Oregon Community College Foundation -- the lives of students and their families have changed forever because of them:

- *The Hattie Reish Memorial Scholarship* each year allows a student to complete the registered nurse program at COCC. It is named after a nurse who worked in Bend from 1939 to 1966 and was a lifelong advocate of professional women.
- *Marjorie Smith* was born and raised in Bend and began attending COCC when she was in her 40s in 1956. She went on to become a teacher and taught in Bend during the 1960s and 1970s, travelling the world during the summer to learn about other countries so she could impart that knowledge to her students. She left the COCC Foundation over \$800,000 for scholarships (“I had to work while attending COCC and a scholarship would have made such a difference: I want to make it easier – possible – for others.”) The scholarships are named after her, her parents and her two brothers and go to areas of study that were special to them.
- *Mary Dillon*, who worked in an appraiser’s office in Northern California, bought distressed properties. When she retired, she sold the properties and moved to Bend where she lived until she died in 1986. She gave \$586,000

to the COCC Foundation for scholarships, likely because she came to believe in the College after retiring here. The endowment has grown to \$700,000; this year eight students are attending COCC because of her endowment.

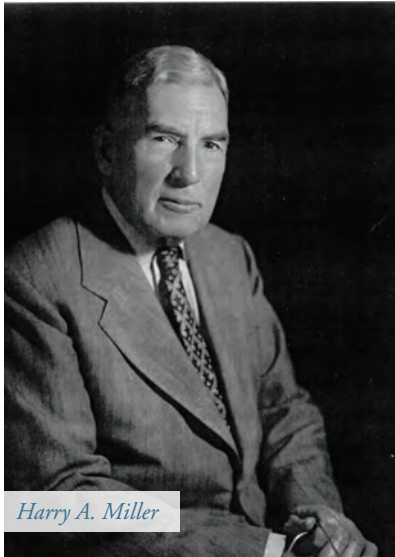
- The two largest estate gifts ever given to the COCC Foundation, each close to \$3,000,000, were from Carol Mason and from Bob and Peg Turner:
  - ◆ Carol moved to Bend in 1996 because she loved skiing and the outdoors. She bought a number of rental properties and, over the years, found that many of her tenants were attending COCC. She was impressed with their determination and the challenges many of them were overcoming, as well as finding herself impressed with the quality of the education they were getting from COCC. I met her when she had decided to leave most of her estate for scholarships and, during our two-year friendship, took her to events where she heard student scholarship recipients speak. It uplifted and excited her. Best, the gift of an education will now live on in her memory for scholarship recipients forever.
  - ◆ Bob and Peg met while in college in the Midwest, during the depression, a time when Peg said they “did not have two nickels to rub together.” He served as a PT boat captain in the Pacific during WWII, and they later ran a successful print business in California. They often camped in the mountains outside Bend, and retired here in the 1980s. They came to love the College and left their entire estate to the COCC Foundation. This year their endowment is providing \$35,000 in emergency aid to students and also funding over 20 scholarships.

Whether the estate gift is \$50,000 or \$500,000, what matters is changed, empowered, transformed lives.

Please consider leaving a gift to the charitable cause or causes you believe in, and have a will and keep it current with your wishes. Seventy percent of Americans die without one, so make sure you are part of the 30 percent who do.

## Miller Family Legacy

Commitment to COCC Foundation spans three generations (continued from front page)



*Harry A. Miller*



*William E. Miller*



*Charley Miller*

(Ham) Miller, came to Bend in 1910. Following in his father's footsteps, he joined forces with two associates to start a lumber company in 1911. Two years later, he bought out his partners, starting the century-old family-run business, Miller Lumber.

Prior to leaving for Washington, DC to act as hostess for her bachelor uncle, Sen. Weldon B. Heyburn of Idaho, Sarah Heyburn decided to visit her brother in Bend.

"Apparently back then when the stagecoach would arrive in Bend, the single young men would be on hand to greet the new arrivals," explains Charley about how his grandparents met. Sarah decided to stay in Bend and teach school. She and Ham later married and raised four children.

As the COCC Foundation was being organized in the mid-1950s, Ham gave a \$4,000 gift to the COCC Foundation to be used for scholarships.

"I think education was important to both Ham and Sarah, and that was instilled in their children," says Charley. "My understanding is that he made the initial contribution to fund a scholarship in the name of his son Charles E. Miller, who died in the Bataan Death March during World War II."

Another son, William E. (Bill) Miller, also served in World War II and then attended Stanford University before returning to Bend to work with his father. In 1966 he assumed the presidency of Miller Lumber. His eight children worked in the business, starting out dusting and emptying ashtrays before working up to positions in the store, yard or office.

Bill was a member of the committee that met in 1955 to plan the direction of Foundation. He was active in the development of the Foundation and served on its original board from 1962 to 1969.

"He saw the benefit of education and its positive impact on the vitality and livability of the region," says Charley. "I think he contributed to his brother's scholarship fund into the 1980s."

After graduating from Oregon State University, Charley became general manager and now serves as company president. He has served on the COCC Board of Directors since 2007. He chaired the successful \$41.58-million bond campaign in 2009. In addition, he has volunteered to read and evaluate scholarship applications for many years. The family has continued to contribute at the Meal of the Year fundraising event, and in other ways as well.

## Meal of the Year and Taste of the Town Events Save the date

Would you like to have fun while making a difference? The Taste of the Town and the Meal of the Year fundraising events are scheduled for Friday, Feb. 28 and Saturday, March 1. Both evenings benefit the Foundation's scholarship program, which supports the dreams and aspirations of COCC students by raising funds for scholarships. Last year more than 1,000 people attended both events, raising more than \$265,000 for student scholarships.

Friday night's Taste of the Town will showcase some of the region's favorite local restaurants, who will be offering bite-size samples of food. Complementing the delicious food will be music by the High Street Band and dancing, a silent auction and the opportunity to change

a life by giving to the scholarship fund. The event begins at 6 p.m. in the Mazama Gymnasium on the COCC campus. Tickets are \$25 per person in advance ([www.thetasteofthetown.org](http://www.thetasteofthetown.org)) or \$30 at the door.

At Saturday's gala Meal of the Year event, guests will be treated to wine and a sumptuous four-course dinner, created and served by Cascade Culinary Institute students and chefs, as well as a live and silent auction. Doors open at 5:30 pm at the Mazama Gymnasium. Tickets are \$125 per person or \$1,250 for a corporate table of 10. For reservations, contact the COCC Foundation at 541-318-3783.

## Pauline Peotter

### Foundation scholarship leads to 35-year career at Portland State University

When Pauline Peotter graduated from Bend Senior High School in 1957, Gunsmoke was the most popular TV Show, Nikita Khrushchev was Time Magazine's Man of the Year and the fledgling Central Oregon College, now Central Oregon Community College, was offering evening courses in the basement of the high school.

Pauline wanted desperately to continue her education, but her mother, a teacher and single mom, was not able to afford the tuition. Through the College's Foundation she was granted scholarships for two years.

"I was so excited," recalls Pauline. "It was very validating because I had worked very hard to get good grades and this said, 'You're worthy.'"

Pauline says she didn't quite realize the implications at the time, but her scholarships to attend COC were analogous to "someone giving you the keys to your future."

When a neighbor gave 16-year-old Pauline a ticket for Oregon Shakespeare Festival's production of "Hamlet," a lifelong love of the theater was sparked.

She became actively involved in the local community  
*(Continued on page 9)*



Pauline Peotter

## Meal of the Year – Celebrating 36 years of supporting students

(continued from front page)

accomplished that,” recalls Neal Huston, a member of the COCC Foundation Board in the early and mid-1980s.

As first-class restaurants opened in Central Oregon, it was decided to ask the owners and chefs “to showcase their specialties in an elegant smorgasbord, which evolved into this signature event,” remembers Eric Alexander, executive director of the Foundation at the time. The early events, with themes such as Streets of Paris, San Francisco and Vienna, featured entertainment such as the Count Basie Band, the Portland-based Jefferson Dancers and a high-energy New York style fashion show featuring elegant models in furs (coordinated by Vickee Banta Schons).

“The response was overwhelmingly positive,” remembers Eric. “People came from all corners of the District and everyone agreed it was a hit.”

Neal, an architect, took on the challenge of creating backdrops and props for the themed events. “We started planning months ahead of time; it seemed we started building backdrops and set pieces a good six weeks prior to the event,” he recalls. “Due to the cavernous spaces for the events, the decor pieces needed to be large scale . . . and we quite often created a sky or ceiling within the spaces. The latter effort required the use of a cherry picker (mechanical lift) to reach the structure above for the attachment of panels, drapes, etc.”

Board members and volunteers spent many nights and weekends creating these sets. Trish remembers “painting parties” over the course of many evenings and weekends to create large murals.

“The trick in setting up for the event was to make sure everything was in place in time to allow us to rush home to shower and dress and make it back in time to greet the guests,” remembers Neal. “Of course we were younger then so we could still enjoy the evening and dance ‘til the bitter end before heading home to catch a few hours sleep.”

To involve more people as friends of the Foundation, Lynda and Max Merrill suggested an additional event



*Meal of the Year committee 1984*

*“People came from all corners of the District and everyone agreed it was a hit.”*

*-Eric Alexander*

with a minimal cost. The Taste of the Town, which is always the evening before the Meal of the Year, was started in the 1990s. The event features samples from area restaurants, live music and dancing.

The Meal of the Year took another turn in the late 1990s when Frank Jungers suggested to Trish: “We have to figure out a way to raise money without exchanging large pieces of art.” This idea led to the “L19” event, during which guests have the opportunity to raise their auction paddle to “buy” a scholarship or books for students.

“The generosity of the retailers, the restaurant industry and arts community has been instrumental to the success of the events,” says Trish. “The involvement of the College’s culinary school will help it to continue to evolve.

“I have lots of nice memories of the event,” she continues. “We worked hard to position the Meal of the Year as the granddaddy of all fundraisers, and it has exceeded our expectations.”

## Jaime Garcia

### Breaking the cycle of addiction through education

Jaime Garcia knew that his addiction to alcohol and drugs had trapped him in a vicious six-year cycle of encounters with the judicial system followed by returning to the addiction lifestyle.

“I thought there was no way out for me,” he remembers. “Then I decided that I needed help and asked my probation officer to help me to find a drug treatment program.”

Through his commitment to the treatment process, he was finally able to break free of his addiction. His next step was to enroll at COCC: “Education is important to me,” he explains.

“The scholarship means that I will be able to attend college and not have to worry as much about money,” says Jaime. “My goal is to get the best grades possible, and these funds give me more time to study.” He has been drug and alcohol free since he started attending college.

Last year Jaime volunteered to help set up for the Meal of the Year fundraising event. “The scholarship means a lot to me, so dedicating some of my time volunteering is the least I could do.” He plans to volunteer again this year.



His affinity for the outdoors and physical challenges led him to start working on an associate’s degree in wildland fire/fuel management.

“I have a three-year plan, and I’m dedicated to accomplishing my goals,” says Jaime. “Everyone at COCC is very willing to help with any questions. I especially like that tutors are available.”

During the summer, he works at GFP Enterprises, an emergency response company focused on wildland fire suppression and catastrophe management.

## Taste of the Town

### Tate and Tate Catering – seven years of support

For the last seven years, Tate and Tate Catering has been contributing their culinary expertise to the Taste of the Town event.

“We are happy to be a part of it,” says Barb Tate. “We believe in scholarships and helping people seek other avenues of making a living.”

They make unique samples every year, including both sweet and savory varieties. Barb says a favorite among attendees was a white bean mousse served in a cone and topped with bacon crumbles.

“We enjoy seeing everybody—other vendors and people

we know,” says Barb. “It’s a fun night.”

George Tate’s passion for food has followed him throughout his life—from his first taste as a restaurateur at Redmond’s old 86 Corral, to sharpening his skills at the Culinary Institute of America, and then to working as executive chef at Portland’s esteemed Heathman Hotel. In 1994 George and Barb Tate left big city life in Portland and reestablished their roots in their native Central Oregon. George started preparing small care packages of freshly made soups and breads for friends and family. By 2000, what started as a fun way to pass the time had sprouted into Tate and Tate Catering.

## Jennifer McCormick

### Nursing student overwhelmed by generosity of Foundation donors

Last year Foundation scholarship recipient Jennifer McCormick volunteered to check coats at the Taste of the Town scholarship fundraising event.

“What a phenomenal sight!” remembers Jennifer. “It was overwhelming to see all of those people supporting students at COCC.”

She plans to volunteer again at this year’s event: “I think it’s important for scholarship recipients to volunteer at the event because it provides the opportunity for the donors to see the people whose lives are being changed because of their generosity.”

Jennifer says that receiving the scholarship was an honor and an incentive. Not only has this financial boost helped her family offset the costs of her schooling, she says it has made her more focused as a student.

“It’s not just my money that I am spending to attain my goal, it’s money that others have donated to help another person achieve a goal. Getting good grades is important to me regardless, but it gives me a little extra push knowing my education matters to people that don’t even know me.”

Jennifer, who has worked in the health care field for 20 years, presently works full-time as a clinical research coordinator. She decided a couple years ago—with her boyfriend’s encouragement—that it was finally time to pursue her goal of becoming a nurse.

“My goal in high school was to be a doctor,” she remembers. “Instead I got married young, had two daughters



and life took some twists and turns. As much as I would still love to be a doctor (mostly to prove to myself I can do it), I really enjoy the nursing side more.”

She says she has had nothing but positive experiences so far at COCC: “From the students and staff to my instructors, everyone is very helpful, patient and down-right wonderful to work with. I am so pleased with COCC and the way my college career is shaping up.”

Jennifer has not yet chosen a specialization. “There are so many nursing fields that interest me. Oncology has a firm grasp on my heart yet pulmonology and cardiology are very appealing. I think as long as I’m taking care of patients, I could really enjoy any field of nursing. My final goal is to get a master’s degree in nursing and be a nurse practitioner.”

#### Would you like to receive Legacies electronically?

The Legacies newsletter is now available for distribution via email. To sign up for this option, please contact the COCC Foundation office at 541-383-7225 or [foundation@cocc.edu](mailto:foundation@cocc.edu).

#### Gift Specification

If you decide to benefit Central Oregon Community College through your estate plans, please be certain the gift is specified to come to the Central Oregon Community College Foundation (or COCC Foundation). To discuss this or any other aspect of the Foundation, please contact Jim Weaver at 541-383-7212 or [jweaver@cocc.edu](mailto:jweaver@cocc.edu).



## Scott La Roche

### Scholarship recipient on path to completing bachelor's degree

"I am very honored and proud to have received a Foundation scholarship," says Scott La Roche. "Thank you!"

For the last two years, he has volunteered to help with the set up for the Meal of the Year scholarship fundraising event.

"I have always felt proud and important to be a part of the set up," says Scott. "I have been very impressed with the professional and organized manner in which the Foundation volunteers worked with the scholarship recipients to get the entire gym ready for the event. Everyone had jobs to do and there was never any standing around wondering what to do next."

"The Foundation scholarship has really helped me and my family," says Scott. "First, it helps cover the cost of my tuition—along with other financial aid. Secondly, we pay off the gas credit card with whatever is left after tuition. That has greatly helped us because both my wife and I live in Prineville and take classes in Bend."

Scott now works full time as a field/network technician for a small telecommunications company in Redmond.



Scott La Roche

"COCC gave me the knowledge, skills and the opportunity to get this job!"

Of his experience at COCC, Scott says, "I have met so many wonderful people, students and staff alike. The faculty at COCC really cares about student success and it has kept me motivated."

He is planning on earning his bachelor's degree in computer information systems at either Oregon State University-Cascades or Oregon Institute of Technology.

## Pauline Peotter

### Foundation scholarship leads to 35-year career at Portland State University (continued from 5)

theater and also volunteered at OSF during the summers while her mom was taking classes at Southern Oregon College.

In 1958 Dallas Quick, the musical director at COC, was preparing a production of "Oklahoma" and asked Pauline to take on the stage direction.

"He was an incredibly generous teacher to trust me with that," says Pauline. "That opportunity changed my life."

Pauline continued her education at Stanford, earning a bachelor's degree in speaking drama and master's degree in playwriting.

After graduating, a Stanford alum offered her a teaching position in Portland State University's drama department,

which she turned down. But Asher Wilson was persistent: "He told me to come for one year and see," she remembers. She stayed for 35 years.

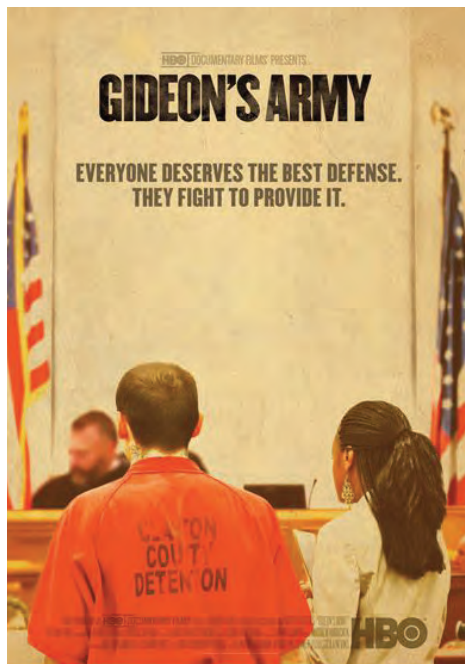
"In six weeks I had fallen in love with teaching . . . I loved those light bulb moments," she recalls. During her tenure, she directed 59 productions at PSU in addition to teaching classes in playwriting.

After retiring in 1998, she started building a house in New Mexico, took up ice skating and ran a film script consulting business.

"It's been a wonderful life, and I feel very blessed," says Pauline. "We all owe those who had the vision to start the College. I know it made all the difference in my life."

## Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program Events

To honor the work of advocates of social justice and nonviolent change, Central Oregon Community College Foundation's Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program is sponsoring several events as part of COCC's King, Gandhi, Chavez and Mankiller Season of Nonviolence. Additional sponsors include ASCOCC, OSU-Cascades Student Fee Committee, the Office of Multicultural Activities and the Oregon Community Foundation.



### Gideon's Army

A documentary film and discussion with director Dawn Porter

Dawn Porter

February 26, 4 p.m.

Wille Hall, Campus Center Building, COCC Bend Campus

FREE and open to the public.

The award-winning documentary "Gideon's Army" follows the personal stories of three young public defenders who are part of a small group of idealistic lawyers in the Deep South challenging the assumptions that drive a criminal justice system strained to the breaking point. Nearly 50 years since the landmark Supreme Court ruling that established the right to counsel, can these courageous lawyers revolutionize the way America thinks about indigent defense and make "justice for all" a reality? The film premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and debuted on HBO in July 2013.

*Dawn Porter was a practicing attorney at Baker & Hostetler and ABC Television Networks before beginning her career as a filmmaker. She is a graduate of Swarthmore College and the Georgetown University Law Center.*

### Defending America in the Age of Mass Incarceration

Dawn Porter

February 26, 7 p.m.

Wille Hall, Campus Center Building, COCC Bend Campus

FREE and open to the public.

America imprisons more people than any other industrialized nation in the world. The overwhelming majority of those who are arrested qualify for free legal representation from one of the nation's 15,000 public defenders. But these legal officers are struggling to keep up as more and more people are arrested each year. At a time when our nation's prisons are filled to overflowing with no end in sight, what can those who represent the poor teach us? Dawn Porter spent almost four years making a film about three remarkable public defenders on the front lines of a culture of mass incarceration. She shares her insights into the criminal justice system from this unique vantage point: the accused and those who represent them.



Dawn Porter

## Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program Events

### Beyond Bars: Rethinking Our Reliance on Prisons

A moderated discussion with Walidah Imarisha

Walidah Imarisha

January 30, 3:30 p.m.

Wille Hall, Campus Center Building, COCC Bend Campus

FREE and open to the public.

What role do prisons serve in our country? Is it possible to envision a world where people are safe and secure, and where there is accountability, without prisons? Does our prison system, in some cases, actually cause rather than reduce crime? Participants in this program will begin by exploring what they know about prisons. After a brief multimedia history of prisons and alternative justice systems, Imarisha will lead a conversation about alternatives to incarceration.

Walidah Imarisha has taught courses on topics as diverse as the history of the Black Panther Party, race and the history of prisons, and hip hop as literature at Portland State University, Oregon State University, and Southern New Hampshire University. She has facilitated writing workshops in schools, community centers, youth detention facilities, and women's prisons. She also filmed and codirected the film *Finding Common Ground* in New Orleans. She has taught in Portland State University's Black Studies, Oregon State University's Women's Studies and Southern New Hampshire University's English departments.



Walidah Imarisha

## How Did We Get Here? Human Origins, Evolutions and Migrations II Series Events



### Dead Fish Don't Lie: 13,000 Years of Fishes and Humans in the Columbia Basin

Dr. Virginia Butler

Department of Anthropology, Portland State University

February 7, 6:30 p.m.

Pozzi Education Center, Sunriver Nature Center, Sunriver

### How Did We Get Here? Clues from the Solar System

Z. Nagin Cox

Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NASA

TBA, 6:30 p.m.

Hitchcock Auditorium, Pioneer Hall, COCC Bend Campus

Tickets are \$8 for Nature Center members; general public is \$10. Students are free with ID card. Tickets are available through the Sunriver Nature Center and at the door.

For information, call 541-593-4394 or visit [www.cocc.edu/foundation/vsp](http://www.cocc.edu/foundation/vsp) or [sunrivenaturecenter.org](http://sunrivenaturecenter.org).

The series is sponsored by the Nancy R. Chandler Visiting Scholar Program, the Sunriver Nature Center & Observatory and the Oregon Community Foundation with support from the student governments of COCC and OSU-Cascades.

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## Meal of the Year

### A legacy of giving back to the community

The Meal of the Year honorees are selected for having made Central Oregon a better place to live through their charitable involvement in many arenas—Central Oregon Community College being but one. This year's Meal of the Year honorees, John and Nancy James, are exemplary examples of this ethic.

John has served on the High Desert Museum Board, and both John and Nancy are strong supporters of the museum. In addition, they both have served on Mountain Star Family Relief Nursery's board, and they are both supporters of Mountain Star, KIDS Center and Arts Central.

John has been a COCC Foundation trustee since 1995 and served as chair of the board. He has also served on the Juniper Ridge advisory committee, for the city of Bend, and on the site location committee for Oregon State University-Cascades.



*Nancy and John James*

These are but a few of their many ways of giving. They have quietly made this community a better place to live. The COCC Foundation is pleased for the opportunity to honor them at this year's Meal of the Year.