



Ybor City Campus Celebrates its 35th Annual Student Excellence Awards

The Ybor City Campus student awardees arrived in record numbers for the 34th Annual Student Excellence Awards Ceremony (formerly known as the Honors Convocation) held at the Tampa Airport Hilton. There were over 275 students, guests, faculty, and staff members in attendance at this memorable event. The ceremony committee planned an event that acknowledged the accomplishments of the Ybor honor students. The evening began with hors d'oeuvres and music performed by the Ybor Campus Jazz Band, which created an elegant environment that was perfect for the opportunity to interact with College President Dr. Gwendolyn Stephenson, Ybor City Campus President Dr. Shawn Robinson, Student Services Dean Dr. Linda Herlocker, Dean of Associate in Arts Programs Dr. Emery Alford, and Dean of Associate in Science Programs Mr. Jack Evans, along with the faculty, staff, and guests.

The Jazz Band continued to play while dinner was being served. After dinner, students who held a minimum of 30 college credit hours and a 3.5 GPA were presented individual awards for academic excellence. Others were given awards for leadership

and service including pins showcasing the Ybor City emblem of the lamp post. Dr. Robinson, the campus deans, the nominating professors, and the club advisors bestowed the honors to the awardees. Ms. Cynthia Brady did a wonderful job assisting the campus president with the academic and service awards for TRIO Student Support Services.

Members of the Ybor SGA's Executive Board—Christine Brooks, Oswald Shodeinde, and Leatrice Sullivan—expressed their appreciation of the leadership and guidance they received from SGA Advisor Mrs. Edna Jones Miller by honoring her with a special presentation and a plaque.

The success of the Student Excellence Awards Ceremony was the result of the teamwork of the Ybor City Campus committee members representing Student Services, TRIO Student Support Services, faculty, staff and students. The committee included Margaret E. Petway (chairperson), Cheryl Borman, Cynthia Brady, Barbara Calhoun, Luz Lono, Edna Jones Miller, Judy Nolasco, Cheryl Ward-Herds, Leatrice Sullivan, and Renee Washington.



Chamber Golf Tournament Benefits HCC

The Ybor City Chamber of Commerce held its 2008 Golf Tournament at MacDill South Course last month. The annual tournament benefits Hillsborough Community College—Ybor Campus by providing a scholarship to a second-year student in the motion media program. Founded three years ago by then Chair of the Board Wes Miller, the chamber's tournament is a great networking opportunity for Ybor business leaders.

The tournament has grown to 60 players and includes teams sponsored by many Ybor City organizations, including an HCC—Ybor team, led by Dr. Shawn Robinson. The winning team this year was Tampa Sweethearts Cigar Co. captained by Arturo Fuente Jr. Top sponsor was The Law Office of Scott Haas, P.A., whose practice is located on 7th Avenue, right in the heart of the Historic District.

This annual event funds a chamber scholarship named in honor of Dr. Lois Gaston, former president of the Ybor Campus and longtime member of the chamber's board of directors. "It is a real pleasure to present the Dr. Gaston Scholarship each August to a deserving student," said Tom Keating, president & CEO of the Ybor City Chamber. "Lois was a great friend of the chamber and strong supporter of the arts in Ybor." This year's tournament was so successful that the Chamber doubled its contribution to the scholarship from \$500 to \$1,000.



Summit International Students Arrive at Ybor City

On August 9, 2008, 16 international students representing Brazil, Egypt, Indonesia, Pakistan, South Africa, and Turkey arrived on the Ybor Campus. This is the second year for HCC—Ybor to be hosting students that are part of the Community Colleges for International Development (CCID) and the State Department, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) program. The CCI programs (Community College Initiative—Summit and Community College Initiative—Egypt) have placed approximately 180 students across the United States at CCID member schools.

Our 16 students are studying for a certificate in business management and will complete all course requirements in a year. One of the key aspects of the CCI programs is for students to learn about freedom, democracy, and personal (social) responsibility. In addition to their coursework, the CCI students will participate in a variety of activities to increase their awareness about life in America. Throughout the year, students will visit the county courthouse, participate in various volunteer activities and on-

campus events, attend the state fair, attend board meetings, and participate in a ropes course to learn more about leadership skills. Different from the initial program, this year's students will not be placed with host families, but will spend the duration of the program living together in private accommodations in Ybor City. The role of the mentor families will be to spend time helping the students become acclimated to Tampa. This will be a wonderful opportunity to personally teach these students about American culture as well as for the mentor to learn about another culture.

This year, the international students will live in Ybor City so they are close to campus and can become immersed in campus life and campus activities. Please welcome the international students to HCC and Ybor.