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Sailing to Success Event Raises More than \$55,000 for LWTC Students

Thursday, 20 November 2008

The Lake Washington College Foundation's fifth annual Sailing to Success fundraiser event raised more than \$55,000. All the money raised at the event will go directly to Lake Washington Technical College (LWTC) student scholarships and the LWTC Student Emergency Scholarship Fund.

"It's so rewarding to see how people can come together at an event like this during these difficult economic times and truly help make a difference in our students' lives," said Dr. Shirley Metcalf, LWTC vice president of college advancement.

The Hawaiian-themed event, recently held at LWTC's Kirkland campus, was attended by more than 200 people. It featured a formal dinner prepared by LWTC's award-winning Culinary Arts faculty and students, as well as hundreds of silent and live auction items. The money raised at this year's event more than doubled the amount raised at last year's event.

The Foundation provided more than 35 scholarships to LWTC students in 2007 and directly helped an additional 20 LWTC students through the LWTC Student Emergency Scholarship fund.

"The Foundation scholarships took a huge financial burden off of me and made it much easier for me to focus on school," said Heidi Cole, a student in LWTC's Social and Human Services program who received several Foundation scholarships.

The Lake Washington College Foundation (www.lwtc.edu/foundation) is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization established to raise money and provide support for LWTC students, faculty, staff and programs. The Foundation annually awards scholarships to students for help with tuition, fees, books and childcare.