DONNELLY COLLEGE **SUMMER** 2010 A publication for Donnelly alumni and friends **60th Anniversary Concludes with 2010** Commencement Ceremonies, page 9 Singin' in the Rain: Donnelly's Outdoor Multicultural Festival, page 6 College Creates Alumni Hall of Fame, Honors First Six Alums, page 8 DC Student Achieves His Dream, Wants Same for Others, page 12

LEADER'S MESSAGE



Frances Sanders
Vice President

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MEMBERS CONT'D

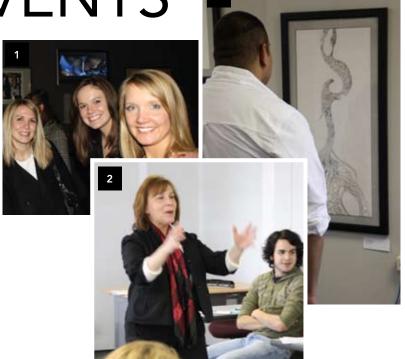
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Alfonso Zarate

AROUND DONNELLY

AROUND DONNELLY

RECENT EVENTS







1 | First Young Friends of DC event

On Wednesday, Mar. 24, more than 30 people gathered at The Drop restaurant/bar for appetizers, drinks, and a chance to network with young professionals from across the metro and learn how they can touch the lives of Donnelly students.

2 | Award-winning poet and journalist hosts workshop for Donnelly students

Judy Valente, award-winning poet and journalist, hosted a poetry workshop alongside her husband Charles Raynard, on Thursday, April 8. More than 40 students and community members attended the workshop, held in one of the large baccalaureate classrooms. Many student participants began writing poetry while at this workshop, and then went on to submit their work as part of the College's annual Poetry Festival held Wednesday, Apr. 28.

3 | Local and national artists display work at Donnelly

More than 100 visitors walked the halls of Donnelly on Friday, Apr. 9, to view artwork from more than 30 local and national artists, including poet and journalist Judy Valente and acclaimed photographer John Matt Dorn. Valente and Dorn also led a presentation titled, "Soul of a Camera/Eye of a Poet" following the exhibit opening, where Valente read poems that corresponded to beautiful photos taken by Dorn. Artwork remained on display throughout the Arts in the Heart celebrations during the month of April.

4 | Recipe Poetry Guild hosts another successful series of workshops

With the success of their workshops last fall, the Recipe Poetry Guild was invited to help Donnelly celebrate Arts in the Heart by hosting a series of poetry workshops on campus.

5 | Alumnae host a journaling workshop for Donnelly students

On Tuesday, Apr. 20, alumnae Pat Callaghan, '59, and Pat Antonopolous, '58, hosted a workshop to give tips and discuss the benefits of journaling and blogging.

6 | Community celebrates 2010 graduates at ecumenical service

On May 14, students, faculty and staff gathered on campus for an ecumenical service celebrating Donnelly's 2010 graduates. Both the associate and bachelor's degree graduates processed into the College's Meeting Room in their caps and gowns, followed by faculty members dressed in academic regalia.

OTHER EVENT INFORMATION

- Multicultural Festival, page 6
- Inaugural Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, page 8
- Upcoming Events, back cover

INTRODUCING OUR 2010-11 STUDENT AMBASSADORS...

Donnelly recently created a new Student Ambassador program, selecting a group of 15 students to represent the student body during the 2010-11 academic year.

The following students have been named 2010-11 Student Ambassadors: Teresa Vravena-Crellin, Jose J. Banuelas, Chris Cameron, Vesnel Francois, Ada Garcia, Karla Gomez, Danielle Heggie, Miro Heyink, Ivan Medrano, Antonia Quinonez-Galvan, Fernando Ramirez, Yar Riak, Ruth Rosales, Crystal Sudduth, and Jazmin Valverde.

As Ambassadors, these students will assist the College's Admissions Office in various capacities throughout the academic year by leading campus tours, participating in open houses and new-student orientations, and, most importantly, representing the Donnelly student body by serving as the face of the College at all recruitment and fundraising events.

"When recruiting new students, there is nothing more powerful than showcasing a current student's journey to college success," said Edward Márquez, Donnelly's Director of Admissions and staff member spearheading the new ambassador program. "Donnelly students, in particular, have truly inspirational stories and recognize the hurdles that once stood between them and earning a college education. When potential students see someone like themselves finding success in college, it puts their mind at ease."

Ambassador Ada Garcia, in particular, is eager to tell her story and assist future Donnelly students in making the decision of continuing their education.

"In high school, I wasn't planning to go to college," said Garcia. "After my high school graduation, I found myself sitting at home unsure of what to do next. I felt pressure from my family to get a job, but decided to check out Donnelly first because it was close to my home. I enrolled right away and knew that I had made the right decision because so many doors are opening for me that will lead me to my future success.

"As the first person in my family to go to college, I understand the nervousness and doubts that first-generation students have," adds Garcia. "As a Student Ambassador at Donnelly, I can help answer their



questions and, hopefully, make them feel comfortable and confident about making the decision to go to college."

As Ambassadors, students receive a scholarship, free Donnelly gear, and the opportunity to be first in line during book-buybacks.

"Most importantly, students are acquiring interpersonal and leadership skills that will help them excel in their future careers," said Márquez. "They will also have countless opportunities to network with professionals from throughout the region, which may lead to job references and career prospects."

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Despite a rainy afternoon, the show went on at Donnelly's first-ever outdoor Multicultural Festival on Saturday, April 24. Attendees sang and danced for hours in the College's front parking lot to celebrate the many diverse cultures that make up the Kansas City community.

More than 150 guests gathered to watch live musical performances. One performer, in particular, got attendees out of their chairs and on the dance floor: Miguel DeLeon with "Mambo World." DeLeon has been performing for more than 27 years, opening for artists like Tito Puente, Rubén Blades, Héctor Lavoe, and Sting.

"It was wonderful to see so many people come out in support of the great work Donnelly College is doing," said DeLeon. "Of all my travels and performances, this one ranks in the top ten because of the evident, heartfelt Donnelly spirit of the students and staff at Donnelly. This amazing spirit is in the air on campus and I was so happy to be a part of that."

Another live performance was from Trio Aztlan – a group that performs Latin folkloric music, specifically the traditional "bolero" style of Latin romantic music, rumbas and cumbias. The group is dedicated to promoting Latin music in the greater Kansas City metropolitan area and has been the house band at Manny's Mexican Restaurant on Southwest Boulevard for more than 18 years.

Guests also enjoyed watching traditional ethnic dances from countries such as Bhutan and Saudi Arabia.

Indoors, attendees were treated to an assortment of ethnic foods from local vendors such as Korma Sutra, Jerusalem Café, Ninfa's Mexican Restaurant and more. Guests could also enjoy povitica bread, taste traditional baklava and even sit at a Chinese tea table. Donnelly students proudly displayed traditional items from their cultures

"I was impressed how a cold, rainy day didn't even dampen the Donnelly spirit," said Paula Willett, Donnelly Board member. "Everyone there seemed to have a great time and the entertainment was spectacular."

Donnelly plans to make the outdoor Multicultural Festival an annual event, and hopes to bring in even more performers and activities next year.

Stay up-to-date on all of Donnelly's events by visiting donnelly.edu. View photos from the festival by visiting **donnelly.edu/mcfest.** •



Donnelly would like to thank the following sponsors of the Multicultural Festival:

Art's Mexican Products, Ahmed W. Awad, Corona Litho, Dos Mundos, Bob Gutierrez, Koch Bag & Supply Co., Korma Sutra, La Gran D 1340-AM, La Super X 1250-AM, Mark One Electric Co., Ninfa's Mexican Restaurant, Mohammad Pourakbar, and Reyes Media Group.



he sounds of laughter and excitement filled Donnelly's campus on Thursday, May 13, as more than 120 guests filled the Meeting Room to celebrate six very special alumni: Judge Thomas Clark, '58, Albert Roos, '63, Sister Connie Krstolic, OSB, '64, Father Dennis Wait, '66, John Mendez, '74, and Delia Hernandez, '84.

Dan Braum, '71, Alumni Board President, and George Breidenthal, '69, Chairman of the College's Board of Trustees, served as the evening's emcees.

"Since the Alumni Board was formed, we have wanted to establish an Alumni Hall of Fame," said Braum. "As we come to the end of Donnelly's 60th anniversary year, we felt there was no better time to begin this tradition."

The Alumni Board began by calling for nominations from the Donnelly community, looking for alums who help transform the lives of others and uphold the mission and values of their alma mater.

"We want to recognize those alumni, living or deceased, who have demonstrated actions expressing both the spirit and mission of Donnelly College," said Breidenthal. "Many of our alums have gone on to impact their communities in incredible ways, particularly our first six inductees. Without the support of our alumni, Donnelly would not have seen the success it has as a growing institution serving those in the urban core of KCK."

Read on to learn more about each of our honorees. Full bios on each of the 2010 inductees can be found at donnelly.edu/halloffame.

Judge Thomas Clark, '58

A Kansas City, Kansas, native, Clark graduated from Donnelly and went on to earn two baccalaureate degrees and then his law degree from the University of Kansas. Clark practiced both criminal and civil law from 1964-87, and was then appointed as a Circuit Court Judge where he served until his retirement in 2008.

Albert Roos, '63

Roos graduated from Donnelly, then completed a Bachelor of Science from St. Benedict's College (now Benedictine College) in 1965. Later, he earned a master's degree from Pittsburg State University. He now teaches high-school honors classes in Lexington, Mass.

Sister Connie Krstolic, '64

Sister Connie went on to work at Macy's Department Store, then responded to her vocation by joining the Benedictine Sisters of Mount St. Scholastica. She earned degrees at both the baccalaureate and master's levels. Krstolic remains a vital part of the Donnelly community today.

Father Dennis Wait, '66

Father Wait has been a priest within the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas for nearly 40 years in both rural- and urban-based parishes. In 1996, he established the Sanctuary of Hope Prayer and Retreat Center. Father Wait continues to give back to Donnelly by offering Mass each week on campus.

LOOKING TO HONOR ONE OF OUR

INDUCTEES? Contribute to the Alumni Hall of Fame Endowed Scholarship Fund in their name(s) by contacting Emily Buckley at (913) 621-8731 or ebuckley@donnelly.edu, or by sending your gift in the remittance envelope enclosed in this issue of the Digest. Be sure to indicate which inductee(s) you are honoring on the envelope.

An anonymous donor has offered a \$5,000 challenge match.

John Mendez, '74

Mendez graduated from Donnelly and went on to earn his bachelor's degree from St. Mary College.

Mendez then completed his master's in liberal arts from Baker University.

Today, he is widely known throughout the KCK community for his work as a city leader and community activist, and may be most well known for the five years he served on the Board of Commissioners, representing the third district.

Delia Hernandez, '84

After graduation, Hernandez went on to earn a four-year degree at the University of St. Mary and then began her career at Donnelly in the admissions office from 1990-1993. She went on to obtain many leadership positions in companies and organizations around the community. Currently, she is the Executive Director for Argentine Betterment Corporation.



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GRADUATION 2010

Donnelly concluded its 60th anniversary with its 2010 Commencement Ceremony, held Saturday, May 15, at the Jack Reardon Convention Center.

Nearly 50 students graduated – 18 with baccalaureate degrees.

The College's annual Delta Award presentation took place, with Pat Brune, retired Court Executive for the Western District of Missouri, receiving the award for her service to the YWCA and the Leadership 2000 program.

Mary Lou Jaramillo, President/CEO of El Centro, Inc., was the featured commencement speaker and advised students to give back to their communities and enjoy the day.

"Life and learning are a journey, like a road trip," said Jaramillo. "The journey is likely to have many surprises, opportunities, detours, delays, roadblocks and challenges. Enjoy and celebrate each accomplishment, and learn from the challenges."

Donnelly students, Tabitha Carter (Associate in Science) and Paola Zapata (Bachelor of Applied Science), also spoke.
Other speakers included George Breidenthal, Board Chairman, President Steve LaNasa, and Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas.

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FACULTY FOCUS FACULTY FOCUS



SISTER FRAN CROSS RETIRES AFTER 25 YEARS

This summer marks the retirement of Donnelly's beloved Registrar, Sister Fran Cross, OSB.

Education has always been a part of Sister Fran's life,

but it began in a very different environment. With a degree in physical education from Benedictine College, her first job was to teach aerobic dance, swimming lessons and other exercise programs to senior citizens throughout Atchison, Kan.

"I loved teaching the exercise classes," said Sister Fran. "But, God had a different plan for me."

In the spring of 1985, Sister Fran was in a bicycling accident. After doctors advised her not to return to her teaching, Sister Fran began to pursue the Assistant to the Registrar position at Donnelly.

Sister Fran served as Donnelly's Assistant to the Registrar for 15 years, and has been the Registrar for 10.

"Right away I noticed that Donnelly is truly a place of hope," she said. "Like some of our students, I was older when I went back to college, so I enjoy talking to them and reassuring them that they are at the right place."

"Sister Fran will truly be missed," said Nancy Sedorcek, Assistant to the Registrar. "Despite the long hours she puts in during registration, this is her favorite time of year because she gets to meet new students. We both enjoy watching them take their first steps by enrolling, then witness their successes at Donnelly and, ultimately, successes throughout the rest of their lives."

Throughout her time at Donnelly, Sister Fran has worked closely with many people. "Peggy Hoytal, who was the Registrar when I started at Donnelly, will always be someone I think of fondly. I thought I knew a lot about education when I came here, but she taught me so much."

"There are so many that have impacted my time here – Del Jurden, Dolores Podrebarac, Steve Goceljak, Dr. John Murry, Nancy Sedorcek, Frances Sanders – just to name a few."

During her retirement, Sister Fran plans to move back to Atchison to live at Mount St. Scholastica.

"Donnelly has impacted my life greatly," she said. "My experience here has not only educated me academically, but also socially. Believe it or not, I used to be shy!"

"There's no one like Sister Fran," said Sanders.
"She knows so much about Donnelly and has made
a big impact on those she's worked with, particularly
students."

Sister Fran will continue to impact student lives even in her retirement through an endowed scholarship established in her name.

"I am deeply honored by the creation of this scholarship," she said. "I hope that it can really help some people in their journey toward achieving an education."

If you are interested in contributing to the Sister Fran Cross Endowed Scholarship Fund, please contact Emily Buckley at (913) 621-8731 or ebuckley@donnelly.edu. You may also use the remittance envelope enclosed in this issue of the Digest to contribute. Please make sure you indicate on the form that you would like your donation to go toward the Sister Fran Scholarship Fund.



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30 YEARS AND COUNTING...







When you walk into the office of Cyrus Shadfar, Dean of International Students at Donnelly, you are greeted by a friendly smile and strong handshake. Behind his desk you see an assortment of flags from countries throughout the world and Donnelly's mission on display. His phone rings constantly as potential students call to set up enrollment times, and alumni and colleagues call just to catch up.

Mr. Shadfar, as the students call him, has truly secured his place in Donnelly's history. While the College celebrated its 60th anniversary year this year, Shadfar celebrated his 30th at Donnelly.

"I came to Donnelly in 1979 to inquire about an English as a Second Language (ESL) instructing position," he said. "I remember Sister Virginia Minton interviewed me and then observed me in my first class to see if I was a good fit. Within 20 minutes, she pulled me aside and said I was hired – I was thrilled!"

Shadfar came to Donnelly from Iran where he had been teaching ESL and training ESL instructors to pilots and mechanics for 10 years.

"I had two brothers who came to Donnelly after moving to Kansas City to be near family," said Shadfar. "I followed them because I was looking for something different, a fresh start. Since that first day, I was hooked on the Donnelly spirit."

A lot has changed in 1979, but the core of Donnelly has always remained the same. "Through ups and downs, Donnelly strives to help those who might not otherwise be served in higher education," said Shadfar. "When I first came to the College, we had no evening ESL classes. Within one month, I started offering them."

For 22 years, he worked from 7:45 a.m. to 9:45 p.m., teaching ESL in both the day and evening. He also became the Director of Evening ESL.

"Cyrus is extremely dedicated and puts his heart and soul into teaching," said Dr. Ken Gibson,

President Emeritus of Donnelly College and longtime colleague of Shadfar. In the late 90s, Shadfar was given the titles of Dean of International Students – a title he still holds today.

He has touched the lives of thousands of students, three of which he sees daily as they all came back to work at Donnelly after continuing their education: Wen Li Shu, Sergey Solovev and Jaime Fuentes.

"Cyrus treats everyone like they are family," said Wen Li Shu, Director of Computer Services and one of Shadfar's former students. "His 'family style' has made him well known and loved within the international community because he understands life can be difficult for international students and recent immigrants. He has devoted his life to guiding these students, and this passion has gained him the respect of many people, myself included."

"All he wants for students is for them to succeed in college and, most importantly, in life."

On Wednesday, May 12, Donnelly students, alumni, faculty, staff, and many of Shadfar's family members gathered to surprise him with a 30th anniversary party. ESL faculty members wore t-shirts with his face on them, and many students brought treats to help him celebrate. Even a representative from Mayor Joe Reardon's office stopped by the party to read an official proclamation from the mayor, establishing May 12, 2010, as "Cyrus Shadfar Day" in Wyandotte County.

"I walked into the Meeting Room and was completely shocked!" said Shadfar. "It brought tears to my eyes."

SUBMIT YOUR FACULTY MEMORIES!

Donnelly is looking to establish a Faculty Memories column in each issue of the Digest, and we need YOUR help! Submit your faculty memories to Jennifer Price, Donnelly's Marketing Coordinator, at jprice@donnelly.edu.

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DC STUDENT ACHIEVES HIS DREAM, WANTS THE SAME FOR OTHERS

Despite the rigorous demands of college classes and semester finals on the horizon, Donnelly student Miro Heyink made time to follow his passion of raising awareness about something he truly believes in: the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act.

"My dream was to receive an education in the U.S., and I believe everyone has the right to be educated."

The DREAM Act is a bipartisan legislation, pioneered by Sen. Orin Hatch, R-Utah, and Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., that looks to assist more than 65,000 undocumented high-school graduates each year who cannot continue their education.

"These students are those that came into the United States when they were newborn to five years old – an age where the choice is not their own," said Heyink. "They go through the school system, but soon find that they cannot expect to receive financial aid or scholarships to continue into a college education. To make matters worse, these students are under a constant threat of deportation."

Under the DREAM Act, qualifying undocumented youth would be eligible for a six-year conditional path to citizenship that requires completion of a college degree or two years of military service.

Heyink, who has dual citizenship in the United States and his home country of Germany, has seen his personal dream come true when he was given residency in the U.S.

"My dream was to receive an education in the U.S., and I believe everyone has the right to be educated," said Heyink. "People often say students today are the future but we are also the present and that's the reality. It is very important for college students to understand that generations of the future are depending on them to make a difference and help them gain the opportunity to go to college."

On March 21, Heyink took his passion one step further by traveling to Washington D.C. alongside fellow DREAM Activists. Together, they met with the Center for Community Change and took part in an immigration reform rally consisting of more than 200,000 people.

"I just want to help those who were not as lucky as I was," he said. "My father was American, which made it possible for me to become a U.S. citizen."

Heyink, along with Donnelly alum Yahaira Carrillo and other members of the Kansas and Missouri Dream Alliance (KS/MODA), also led a presentation titled, "Students Fighting for Justice," focusing on the DREAM Act on Thursday, April 22, on Donnelly's campus.





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ADVANCING DONNELLY
ADVANCING DONNELLY

MEET ONE OF OUR VOLUNTEERS! DON SCHOENING, TUTOR

For Don Schoening, volunteering has become an essential part of life. Every Tuesday and Thursday, he drives 30 minutes to Donnelly's campus to tutor students in math, composition and English.

Schoening began volunteering at Donnelly in January 2010, and has already had a huge impact on students as a tutor in Donnelly's Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) as well as the campus' writing center, The Write Place.

Born and raised in Detroit, Mich., Schoening received his bachelor's degree from Spring Arbor College and his master's degree from Western Illinois University. He began his career in Effingham, Ill., teaching high-school English, speech and drama.

In 1974, he took a position with the Social Security Administration (SSA) in Hannibal, Mo., and served in numerous management positions there. He was appointed to the SSA's Senior Executive Service in the fall of 2003, moving his family to the Seattle, Wash., area.

In June of 2007, Schoening was appointed to Regional Commissioner for the Seattle region, where he provided leadership to SSA programs within the four-state region of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington, until his retirement in October of 2009.

"After retiring, my wife and I decided to move back to Kansas City," said Schoening. "I was looking for places to volunteer around the metro and was immediately interested in Donnelly when I saw the opportunities listed on the Volunteer Match Web site (www.volunteermatch.org).

"With my teaching experience, I felt that tutoring was a good fit for me," he said. "In addition, as part of my duties at SSA, I served as a national executive lead for diversity management. This means I already had an appreciation and understanding of



different cultures, making my experiences on Donnelly's diverse campus very fulfilling."

Kim Gianakon, Donnelly's Coordinator of Academic Support, has seen the way Schoening works with students as she oversees both ACE and The Write Place.

"Don is dedicated to the students," said Gianakon. "He tutors many different subjects including ESL, writing, and math, and he will rearrange his schedule to ensure he's always available to tutor on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The students love working with him because he is kind and patient, and they will ask to work with him specifically."

In addition to volunteering at Donnelly, Schoening also gives time to the Overland Park Arboretum each Wednesday morning.

For a list of Donnelly's current volunteer needs, visit donnelly.edu/volunteer. To learn about how you can volunteer on campus, contact Roger Berg, Alumni Relations & Volunteer Coordinator, at (913) 621-8744 or rberg@donnelly.edu.

For a list of current volunteer opportunities, visit donnelly.edu/volunteer.

DONNELLY COLLEGE



New Traditions Established, Old Traditions Restored

With the end of the academic year, Donnelly proudly concludes its 60th anniversary celebrations. Throughout this past year, the

College has started or reinstated incredible new traditions that will carry it forward into the next 60 years.

Some of the new traditions include the Arts in the Heart celebration and Alumni Hall of Fame Ceremony.

The College also brought old traditions to new heights with the Convocation Day Mass, Art Exhibit, and Commencement Service.

If you compile all of the Digests from the 2009-10 academic year, you will have a complete timeline of historical points in the College's 60 year history. The following is the last piece of this 60-year timeline.

- **1994** Renovation of the 7th floor completed
- 1995 Multicultural Mural completed
- **1997** Donnelly featured in Associated Press article
- **1998** Original Donnelly building demolished
- **1998** Dr. Ken Gibson named president
- **1999** Donnelly launches \$1.2 million 50th anniversary endowment campaign
- **2000** Lansing Correctional Facility approved as site for college classes
- **2001** Donnelly receives Title V grant of \$2 million for Hispanic Serving Institutions
- **2003** Lansing site holds first commencement with nine graduates
- **2005** Fr. Raymond Davern, former president, passed away

- **2006** Donnelly launches baccalaureate degree program
- **2007** Donnelly receives \$2.8 million Title V grant for Hispanic Serving Institutions
 - Campus grows with addition of Marian Hall
- **2008** Practical Nursing program approved by State Board of Nursing
 - Phase I of Marian Hall renovation completed
 - Preparatory Education program restructured
 - First class of baccalaureate students graduated
 - Dr. Steve LaNasa named president
- **2009** First Practical Nursing Pinning Ceremony
 - DC celebrates 60th anniversary
- **2010** College receives \$485,000 challenge grant from National Endowment for the Humanities

Alumni Hall of Fame established

14 | SUMMER 2010 | **15**



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DONNELLY COLLEGE'S FOURTH ANNUAL

Scholarship Dinner



SEPTEMBER 30, 2010

JACK REARDON CONVENTION CENTER

Honoring the J.E. Dunn Family

Chairman Lonnie Scott, '74, Donnelly Trustee

Honorary Chairs and Class of 1961 graduates Bill and Kathy Reardon

5:30 P.M. COCKTAIL RECEPTION | 7:00 P.M. DINNER

8:00 P.M. LIVE DRAWING

www.donnelly.edu/dinner

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 26: Summer classes end

AUG 16: Fall classes begin

AUG ?: Lansing Correctional Facility Graduation

SEPT 16: Convocation Day Mass, 10 a.m.

St. Peter's Cathedral

Luncheon to follow on Donnelly's campus

SEPT 30: Fourth Annual Scholarship Dinner

Jack Reardon Convention Center
Visit donnelly.edu/dinner for more info

NOV 6: 2010 Donnelly Dash 5K Run/Walk

Friends, alumni and neighbors are invited to join us at any of these events.

Proceeds from the event will create an endowed scholarship in the J.E. Dunn Family name and support the College's annual scholarship fund. Help us reach our goal of raising \$160,000 in student scholarships!

For more information and to register online, visit donnelly.edu/dinner. For sponsorship or volunteer opportunities, contact Laura Bryon, Annual Fund Coordinator, at (913) 621-8752.