PERFORMING:
A Celebration of Gershwin Music
A tribute to Judy Garland
American Popular Songs
Ragtime
Broadway Hits

The Centralia College Foundation is teaming with Sherman Clay to bring world renowned artist Richard Glazier to the Corbet stage to perform a Celebration of Gershwin. The public performance begins at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 25.
Glazier will perform on the college’s new Steinway concert grand piano.
“We are very fortunate to get an artist of Mr. Glazier’s calibre to perform for us,” said Julie Johnson, director of Donor and Alumni Relations. “This is an outstanding opportunity for people to hear the exquisite quality sound of our concert grand piano when performed by an outstanding artist.”

The piano was purchased as a result of the vision by former foundation board member Dr. Helgi Heidar. The campaign to bring in a high quality instrument topped the $100,000 purchase price goal and now the foundation is continuing the campaign to pay for on-going maintenance costs by inviting world class artists to perform on the instrument.

Trained in the classics, Glazier earned a bachelor’s and master’s degree in Piano Performance from Indiana University School of Music and a Doctorate of Musical Arts from the Cleveland Institute of Music.
In 1996, in celebration of the George and Ira Gershwin Centennial, he began performing a one-man, multimedia concert program entitled Gershwin-Remembrance and Discovery. He added a second program to his repertoire with Ragtime & Romance—The Music of Joplin and Gershwin. A third concert program, A Salute to the Hollywood Musical, features songs written for musical films by a wide range of composers.
Tickets, costing $15, $20 or $30, are available by calling the college’s Events office at 360.736.9391, ext. 777.

WITH STEINWAY ARTIST
Richard Glazier

CELEBRATE THE BEGINNINGS OF STUDENT SUCCESS

Ark your calendar, break out the celebration togs, and get ready to sow the seeds of student success! It’s the Centralia College Foundation Harvesting What We Sow kick-off event scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 23, beginning at 6 p.m.
The foundation kicks into high gear the campaign to raise $415,000 to help deserving students pay for their college expenses. This year, the Washington state Legislature bumped tuition at the two-year colleges by seven percent. For fall quarter 2010 a student taking 15 credits (considered a full-time load) will pay $1,045, plus books and any fees that might apply. The cost is over $3,100 for a student attending three quarters. The four-year colleges and universities have boosted tuition by 30 percent over the past two years.

As increasing numbers of men and women turn to Centralia College, there is a corresponding increase in needed support to help deserving students with the cost of education. You can see what it’s all about by coming to the kick-off celebration. Call now to reserve your place, 360.736.9391, ext. 290.
The college is now stepping up to recognize those who have exemplified that high standard of service and have since died. Such is the legacy of Margaret Teitzel, a college employee who was claimed by cancer after nearly 25 years of service. The Margaret Teitzel Memorial Garden is being created to recognize her and others who have given their time and energy to the college for at least seven years.

While anyone may purchase a brick at any time—the cost is $25—the foundation will, each year, purchase bricks in recognition of three individuals chosen by a committee. The foundation will also accept donations for the development of the memorial garden. Plans include a plaque and park benches.

The idea for the garden was presented to Dr. Jim Walton, college president, by college staffer Nita Taylor and subsequently to the Board of Trustees following the untimely death of three college employees in 2007, each dying within a few months of each other.

The three were Helen Lucier, Sherri Wallace and Barbara Dodge. In a letter to Dr. Walton proposing the creation of the garden, Taylor said: “It has made us realize that life is too short and all too soon our life could be over. In thinking of these three women, the discussion has come up that a lot of wonderful people, who have worked at the college, have (died) and while they are missed there is nothing on this campus that shows the college community they were even here. To rectify this, I would like to propose that the area between the (Health and Wellness Center) and the Hansen Administration Building be dedicated to those who worked at Centralia College and have passed on.”

Teitzel’s last job was Director of Facilities and Auxiliaries and her dream was to see that area beautified. She died of cancer before that was accomplished. This area would be a quiet place where someone could come to relax, meditate, remember or reflect.

The record numbers of students coming to Centralia College reflects the fact that the public is getting the message. The college has experienced record enrollment for the past six quarters and is projecting that it will need to educate almost 20 percent more students this fall than were enrolled in fall 2009 and fall 2009, with almost 2,250 full-time equivalent students, was a record.

Summer quarter 2010 saw the college serving nearly 1,050 students, compared to 2009 when 890 students registered and that was a record. Summer quarters normally run between 700 and 800 students.

It is a paradox that while the state has been reducing its support for each student through subsidized tuition, it is urging colleges to educate more students, further putting additional pressure on colleges.

According to the SBCTC, a primary challenge is to educate those who have been underrepresented in our education system: people of color, Latinos, low-wage workers who are raising children, immigrants with limited English, and adults who lack college-level academic skills.

“We simply can’t increase our state’s overall educational attainment unless we find ways to recruit, retain and succeed with these potential students, because these are the fastest growing population groups in our state,” the report says.

The individuals in these demographics are those who have the greatest need for financial aid and would likely benefit the most.

“This presents a real challenge to the college and to the foundation,” said Dr. Jim Walton, college president. “The college must find ways to provide quality education to more students in spite of budget cuts. The foundation,” he added, “is facing the challenge of providing scholarships to help increasing numbers of men and women attain their educational goals.”
In other words, the foundation can benefit from board members who know how to make the pitch but more importantly how to close the deal. “That’s something I’m not afraid to take on,” said Fossett.

Something else that Fossett brings to the table is the commitment to the community’s college that is shared by her employer. She has been the liaison to the foundation for "The Chronicle" and has been instrumental in the newspaper’s support of the college.

Already the college’s journalism lab carries "The Chronicle"’s name in recognition of a major donation and the foundation is able to benefit from donated newspaper advertising space. She will now work on other ways that can boost the college’s and foundation’s reach into the community. “I want to be sure, and "The Chronicle" wants to be sure, that people know what a great organization the foundation is and what great benefits the college offers,” said Fossett. And with the consummate skills she brings it looks like she’s the right person for the job.

Christine Fossett is the kind of woman who keeps busy. Just listening to her job responsibilities at "The Chronicle", the home-town daily newspaper, is enough to make you realize she has her fingers in a lot of pies. “Are you sure you want to hear this,” she said when asked what she does. The departments she oversees include classified ads, retail sales, circulation, marketing, Sign Pro (a subsidiary business) and the Southwest Washington Family publication.

Any one of those could be a full-time job in terms of the time each area takes but throw in the challenge of dealing with an endless array of customers and you can get a taste of the range of Christine’s skills. Of course, she added, “I have great staff and my boss gives me great flexibility which makes my life so much better, and I have an understanding husband who helps me keep it all together.”

Originally from Wisconsin, her family moved to the Chehalis area in 1972 when Christine was 10; her father accepted a position with a photo processing firm. She attended school at St. Joseph’s and then at WF West before marriage and the role of a mother.

Fossett has been working for "The Chronicle" for 22 years and now she’s applying her personal and professional skills in her new roll as a member of the Centralia College Foundation Board of Directors.

“I strongly believe in Centralia College and what it does for students and for the community,” she said. Perhaps as proof of her belief in the college and in continuing to learn, Fossett earned her two-year associate in arts degree from Centralia College this past December.

Over the past years she has worked with the foundation in a variety of ways and now, never one to back away from a challenge, she is looking to be more involved in the foundation because of it’s connection with and support of the college. “As a member of the board I will be able to work more directly with the success of both,” she said. “I believe strongly in the advantages the college can offer.” And she’s coming on at a time when her skills are needed. The foundation is wrapping up its $3 million capital campaign while striking out on its largest-ever annual campaign. In addition, the foundation is bringing to the public giving opportunities for the Kiser Natural Outdoor Learning Lab (KNOLL) and is continuing its fund raising for the Charlie Albright concert grand piano.
Centralia College weight room renovation project

In February 2010 the Centralia College Foundation began a fund-raising campaign for the total renovation of the weight training room in the Health and Wellness Center. Last year, the college completed a $5 million remodel, which included reworking of the 85-year old gym.

The current campaign is directed to replacing old and outdated weights, training stations and machines with state-of-the-art training equipment necessary to maintain the success of Trailblazer athletics.

The campaign will purchase new weights, training equipment and machines to make maximum use of the existing weight room space by creating multi-use stations that enable athletes to perform multiple types of lifts and exercises from the same location.

New reflexive workout flooring will be installed as well, which will provide improved conditions for high impact workouts.

The idea to initiate a campaign for this renovation came from a group of Centralia College Sports Hall of Famer Coach Darold Talley’s former players who have always sought ways to assist the college and to also further the legacy of their coach. The total amount the campaign is to raise is $50,000 and to date over $17,000 has been raised.

Contact the foundation to see how you can be a part of the on-going improvements to the college and its programs.