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Contact:

Jennifer LeMay
Director of Marketing and Communications
SBCC Foundation
(805) 730-4409
lemay@sbccfoundation.org

SBCC Foundation's Virtual *Spring Forward!* Gala Raises More Than \$300,000 for Student Success

SANTA BARBARA, CA – The SBCC Foundation is grateful to all the generous sponsors, donors, and virtual guests who made the second annual *Spring Forward!* Gala a huge success! The outpouring of support demonstrated once again how vital Santa Barbara City College is to our community.

Over 250 people attended the virtual gala, and the event raised more than \$300,000 to support our community's college and its students through the SBCC Promise, scholarships, emergency grants, and more.

“2020 has been a particularly challenging year for our students, college, and community,” said Geoff Green, CEO of the SBCC Foundation, who emceed the event. “We are incredibly grateful to all who joined us in celebration of SBCC and its role in transforming the lives of so many people.”

Attendees heard moving stories from current students and alumni and learned about the struggles facing college students across our nation during a live chat with Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab. The gala concluded with highlights from a special performance by the SBCC Music Department with Michael McDonald, previously seen only by those who attended last year's sold-out benefit concert at the historic Lobero Theatre.

Those who missed the live event (or just want to experience it again!), may watch a recording here: <https://youtu.be/zJDuhqt4MQ4>. Donations of all sizes are still being accepted.

Herbert & Bui Simon Foundation, the Luria Foundation, and Yardi Systems were **Trustee sponsors** of the event.

President sponsors were: Coleen Richardson Friedel and Ted Friedel; Glass House Farms and the Pharmacy; Montecito Bank & Trust; Santa Barbara Foundation; Scott and Rachil Vincent; and SEI.

Dean sponsors were: Cottage Health; Cox Communications; Hutton-Parker Foundation; eTeamSponsor.com; Griffith & Thornburgh, LLP; Union Bank; Roger Durling & Daniel Launspach; Leslie Meadowcroft-Schipper & Frank Schipper; and the Zegar Family Foundation.

Department Chair sponsor were: Anderson Systems; Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck; Chevron; Fielding Graduate University; Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara; Lauren Katz & Joan and Bob Rothenberg; KBZ Architects; KCRW; Mission Wealth; Northern Trust; Rinaldo & Lalla Brutoco / Omega Point Institute; and Pacific Premiere Bank.

Additional thanks to: California State University, Channel Islands, Santa Barbara Beautiful, and the Santa Barbara Independent.

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About the SBCC Foundation

The SBCC Foundation has provided Santa Barbara City College with private philanthropic support since 1976, serving as the vehicle through which individuals and organizations may invest in the college and its students.

As an independent 501c3 nonprofit organization and partner to SBCC, the SBCC Foundation awards more than \$5 million annually for student success programs, scholarships, book grants, emergency funds, and other critical needs of the college. For more than four decades, the resources raised and managed by the SBCC Foundation have supported SBCC students as they prepare for careers, transfer to four-year universities, and pursue lifelong learning goals.

In 2016, the Foundation launched the SBCC Promise, offering all recent, local high school graduates the opportunity to attend SBCC full-time at no cost. The SBCC Promise relies entirely on private support and covers all required fees, books, and supplies for up to two years. To date, nearly 5,000 local students have participated in the SBCC Promise. By removing financial barriers, the SBCC Promise ensures that SBCC's life-changing educational programs are fully accessible to all local students.

For more information, visit <http://www.sbccfoundation.org>