

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The SBCC Foundation's 3rd Annual *Spring Forward!* Gala Successfully Raised Over \$400,000

Funds will support SBCC student success

Santa Barbara, CA – The SBCC Foundation's 3rd annual [Spring Forward! Gala](#), held outdoors on Sunday, May 22 on the beautiful Great Meadow of SBCC's West Campus, was a resounding success! Nearly 300 guests came out to celebrate and support our community's college as they enjoyed the spectacular venue overlooking the ocean. The event raised over \$400,000 to support the work of the SBCC Foundation, which includes the SBCC Promise, scholarships, emergency grants, and other critical needs of the college and its students.

The event's beautiful setting was transformed into an elegant venue by [Merryl Brown Events](#). The extraordinary talent of SBCC Music students and faculty was on display as they provided entertainment for the evening, SBCC Art faculty and students created original works of art to enhance the venue, and surprise guest Glenn Phillips gave an exhilarating performance.

During a short program, SBCC Superintendent / President Dr. Kindred Murillo inspired the audience with her positive outlook, while Alisha Sanchez shared her personal experience as a former Running Start student who now runs the six-week summer bridge program. Rosette Strandberg, director of SBCC's vocational nursing program, gave a heartfelt and illuminating account of the impact of the nursing program in our community. Finally, Kandy Luria-Budgor shared some of the reasons that she and her family have invested in the college for decades.

"The event celebrated the transformative role that SBCC plays in supporting our community. SBCC meets all students where they are, regardless of their past challenges or future goals," said Geoff Green, CEO of the SBCC Foundation. "We are grateful to all of the donors, sponsors, alumni, students, staff, faculty, college trustees, volunteers, foundation board members, and friends of SBCC from near and far who joined us and make the Foundation's work possible."

Trustee Sponsors of the event were Yardi Systems, the Herbert & Bui Simon Foundation, and Rachel Kaganoff Stern; **Chancellor Sponsors** were Roger Durling & Daniel Launspach, Rachil & Scott Vincent, Potek Winery, and Zegar Family Foundation; and the **President Sponsors** were Laurie Ashton & Lynn Sarko, COX Communications, Living Peace Foundation, Luria/Budgor Family Foundation, Frank Schipper and Leslie Meadowcroft-Schipper, SEI, and Union Bank. For a complete list of sponsors and additional event supporters, please visit <https://www.sbccfoundation.org/spring-forward-gala/>.

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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 45 years, 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 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, more than 5,700 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 sbccfoundation.org