



NEWS RELEASE

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Columbia Community Foundation's Fall Gala a "Humbling Success"

The 6th annual Fall Gala presented by the Columbia Community Foundation was a tremendous success.

A record 153 people attended the Gala at the Columbia Hills Country Club. Through their generosity the Foundation raised \$45,000 for good works in the community.

That amount included \$14,500 in Columbia Community Foundation Scholarship Pledges. Three couples, Frank and Jodi Berg, Craig and Rita Ross, and Wayne and Debbie Brassell each pledged \$3,000 to sponsor named scholarships.

In its first six years the Gala has raised over \$150,000 and reinvested \$85,000 into the community, awarding \$35,000 in Scholarships to area high school students.

Columbia Community Foundation President Wayne Brassell said "the response from our individual and corporate donors in support of the Foundation over the last six years has been overwhelming and very humbling. Their continued support and growing generosity is testament to the good works of the Foundation. Sometimes saying thank you does not seem adequate enough but on behalf of the entire board of directors we want to express our most sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to the Gala's success."

The Foundation also saluted, with video tributes, the contributions made to the community by the event's honorary chairpersons Russell and Wilma Trende, Bill Brenda, Paul Jakobsky and Ron Bodnar.

The Board of Directors also wishes to thank the Columbia Hills Country Club for their generosity in hosting the event, and the Taste of Excellence for the fine food service.

Plans are already being made for the 2014 Fall Gala to be held next November.

The Columbia Community Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity committed to providing funding for scholarships, and good works in the community. For information on the

organization, please call the Columbia Community Foundation at 440-236-8000 or visit the group's website at www.columbiacommunityfoundation.org.