President’s Innovation Fund Awards for 2010 - 2011

President Victoria P. Morrow recently announced the ninth round of President’s Innovation Fund grants awarding nearly $68,000 to a wide variety of projects. Skyline College’s annual President’s Breakfast, as well as the San Mateo County Community Colleges Foundation, raises the financial support for the President’s Innovation Fund, which encourages the college’s faculty and staff to “dream out loud.”

Skyline Performing Arts Showcase (Year 2)
The Skyline Performing Arts Showcase will provide annual, auditioned performance opportunity for Skyline students in performing arts classes. It will take place in the Main Theater, Skyline campus’s premiere performing arts venue, and strive for professional production values. The Skyline Performing Arts Showcase project will benefit the college, students and community by (1) developing the scope and quality of instructional offerings in the performing arts with an interdisciplinary public event, and (2) contributing to Skyline College’s role as a leading Cultural Center for the Community.

Hermanas Transitional Learning Community – Building an educational bridge into higher education for young Latina students (Year 3)
Hermanas, which means “sisters” in Spanish, is modeled after the successful Hermanos Program at Skyline College. As a transitional learning community, the Hermanas Program provides transitional services to high school students with the goal of helping them enter and succeed in college. Students will be integrated into academic programs, support services, and student activities that will support their success both in high school and college.

Skyline College Art Gallery Lighting Upgrade
New lighting instruments will allow the college to fully illuminate art exhibitions as well as supply better lighting for social events, meetings, and performances that take place in the gallery. Such activities bring students together, and elicit community interest and participation.

Kababayan Dance Troupe (Year 3)
The Kababayan Program and Physical Education Dance Department proposes to continue the development of the Kababayan Dance Troupe in order to provide Skyline College students a means for individual, artistic and cultural expression and transformation. The project serves to fulfill Skyline College’s goal of developing the scope, quality, and accessibility of instructional and student offerings, programs, and services. It will serve to support the college’s initiative in promoting intercultural awareness and respect for diversity among its students, faculty and staff. Ultimately, the project aims to help Skyline College realize its goal of becoming a leading academic and cultural center for the community.
Automotive Department Women’s Recruitment and Retention Initiative (Year 2)
This expands on the previous year’s program to actively recruit women to apply to the Automotive Technology program and to help them succeed once admitted. This project relates to the college’s goals on increasing outreach and responsiveness to community needs as well as increasing marketing, outreach and connections to academic and business communities. Skyline’s Auto Program has strong connections to employers throughout the Bay Area and employers are eager to hire women at their shops. Bringing more women to Skyline’s auto Program will answer a need in the community as well as provide greater employment opportunities for Bay Area women. This program will also address Skyline’s goal of Student Access and Success by assisting the women enrolled in auto classes to connect with resources available through the campus, the county and private assistance. Goals include developing a mentor program with professional female technicians in the area and holding an employer open house to connect students with potential employers.

Building Capacity for Skyline’s President’s Breakfast.
This project is an investment in the growth of the President’s Innovation Fund and will provide contracted support for the planning and implementation of the Breakfast in 2011. The contractor will work closely with the President and the President’s Council Breakfast Committee to create the Breakfast Video, develop sponsorships and coordinate all of the logistics for the Breakfast.