Kingsborough Community College Foundation establishes the Maxine McGarvey Scholarship Award

Last November, Kingsborough unexpectedly lost a beloved colleague, an inspiring professor, and a dear friend in Maxine McGarvey. For over two decades, Professor McGarvey distinguished herself as not only one of the preeminent faculty members in the Department of Business, but as an eager champion and tireless advocate for her students. She will be deeply missed by all of those who have had the great fortune to know her, from her students and fellow professors to her family and friends, yet her legacy will undoubtedly endure at Kingsborough.

Since joining Kingsborough’s faculty in 1991, Professor McGarvey played an active role in her students’ lives that extended far beyond the standard “chalk-and-talk” of the classroom. For example, Professor McGarvey helped to establish the KCC Bull and Bear Club for students who had a keen interest in finance and investment. Over the years, she also sponsored several field trips to Wall Street and the Federal Reserve Bank in downtown Manhattan. More recently, Professor McGarvey coordinated the Community Financial Education Program (funded by JPMorgan Chase Foundation), wherein KCC Business students would visit a local homeless shelter and teach children and adults financial principles through a series of games and activities. She was also a College Now Representative and contributed to the General Education curriculum that led to Pathways.

To honor Professor McGarvey’s memory and impact on the College, Kingsborough’s Department of Business and Office for College Advancement recently collaborated to establish the Maxine McGarvey Scholarship Award. Thanks to their efforts, beginning this year, two graduating students majoring in Business Administration and Retail Merchandising/Marketing Management will be awarded scholarships to help finance their educations at the annual Graduation Awards Ceremony.
For Professor Jacqueline Scerbinski, a longtime friend and colleague in the KCC Department of Business, the award is a fitting tribute to the remarkable individual it is named after:

*I think Professor McGarvey’s greatest legacy was her talent for connecting with her students both inside and outside of the classroom. Through her everyday classes, or the special events she developed for her students, she made a difference in their lives as well as in the greater college community. This scholarship award in her name reflects this legacy, as it passes on her belief and confidence in the students at KCC and her hope that they would continue to build a better life through education.*

-Jacqueline S. Scerbinski, Associate Professor & Program Director of Retail Merchandising

Kingsborough will never quite be the same without Professor McGarvey gracing its halls, yet through this new award, a vital aspect of her spirit will endure and continue to change students’ lives for the better. In this way, the Maxine McGarvey Scholarship Award will continue the work that she herself did all throughout her time at Kingsborough: empowering students to overcome their obstacles and pursue their dreams.

The Power of a Named Award

More than just a certificate with a dollar amount, a named award honors an individual’s legacy and invaluable contributions to the College. Just last year, for example, an award was established to recognize Saul “Billy” Katz, who recently retired after a long and trailblazing career as Kingsborough’s Dean of Continuing Education. Even more recently, Professor Eric Rothenburg of the KCC Department of Business established an award in memory of his late father. The Saul W. Katz Scholarship honors students who have taken continuing education courses and are now in pursuit of their Associate’s degrees, while the Murray Rothenburg Scholarship honors exceptional students who are active on campus and plan to pursue Baccalaureate degrees in Accounting.

If you are interested in giving back to Kingsborough, named awards are a powerful and deeply meaningful way to do so. Whether you are interested in creating a named award of your own, supporting an existing fund, or simply have questions about how the process works, we strongly encourage you to contact the Antonio Thompson, Associate Director of Development, at 718-368-5433 or Anthonio.Thompson@kbcc.cuny.edu

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Join us as we celebrate 50 years of excellence at KCC! Visit the Kingsborough 50th Anniversary
website for more information: www.kingsborough.edu/50anniversary. As part of our celebration, please also consider making a charitable donation to support the next 50 years at Kingsborough.