



October 2022
Valencia College Board of Trustees
Foundation Report

Red, Black and Boundless – An Evening for Excellence

Valencia College Foundation hosted its inaugural Red, Black and Boundless – An Evening for Excellence gala on Saturday, September 17, 2022 at Loews Portofino Bay Hotel at Universal Orlando Resort. Approximately 400 guests attended in their festive red and black attire for an evening of community, dinner, silent auction, performances, presentations, and dancing.

The gala was co-chaired by Valencia College Foundation board members Kari Conley, government and community affairs manager, Duke Energy and Jeff Mock, vice president, Clancy & Theys Construction Company.

Proceeds from the gala will support the mission and priorities of the college. More than \$270,000 was raised from sponsorships, tickets, the silent auction, and donations; represented by 47 sponsors including Presenting Sponsors Addition Financial, Duke Energy, and Universal Orlando Resort.

The evening's entertainment and performances featured Valencia College faculty, students, and alumni. Two key aspects of the evening included Dr. Plinske conveying College's vision for our community and our students and inspiring remarks provided by Valencia College's 200,000th alumna, Wytosia McMillian '22.

Every detail of the event celebrated and showcased Valencia College's impact on Central Florida and the achievements of our students and alumni. The silent auction featured unique Valencia College experiences including an Ultimate Firefighting Experience at the School of Public Safety, a DIY Date Night to make a charcuterie board at the Center for Accelerated Training – Northwest Orlando, a Mixology Master Class at the Walt Disney World Center for Culinary Arts and Hospitality, a Behind the Scenes Film Set Tour with the School of Arts and Entertainment, award-winning student artwork, and golf and lunch with Dr. Plinske.

A special thank you to Foundation Chair Diane O'Dell for her leadership of the Board and staff, ensuring an authentic and engaging experience for our guests in addition to hosting the event at Universal Studios Orlando.

Valencia College is grateful to the many companies and individuals who supported the gala, helping the college provide boundless opportunities to meet our students' boundless potential.