

## **Valencia Foundation Report to the Board of Trustees September 2014**

### **Community celebrates philanthropy and Valencia donors**

In November, the National Association of Fundraising Professionals will honor 10 of the best and the brightest among Central Florida nonprofits. This year's winners include Take Stock in Children, which won in the category of Champions for Children, along with Mears Transportation Group, which was selected the No. 1 philanthropic corporation. Independent fundraising professionals in Jacksonville select winners through a blind-evaluation process each year.

Mears is a founding, \$1-million-sponsor of Take Stock, which has a 100 percent success rate in its first two graduating classes. Last year, the Council for Resource Development in Washington, D.C., honored Paul and Deb Mears as the nation's top benefactors among large, urban community colleges.

In the 2013 AFP awards, Valencia donors also secured two of 10 spots: Foundation board member and long-time donor Sue Foreman was named volunteer philanthropist of the year, while the Retired Air Force Marine Army Navy (RAFMAN) group was honored as the most philanthropic community organization.

Trustees are welcome to join board members at the National Philanthropy Day breakfast **Nov. 14** at the Ritz Carlton. Please call 407-582-3150 to secure a seat.

### **Shop. Donate. Smile.**

Visit the new Amazon Smile website (*Smile.Amazon.com*), and you will be prompted to choose your favorite charity from an extensive list registered with the IRS. This site uses your current Amazon ID and password, and has all your favorites stored. The only difference is that Smile has a yellow avatar, and a percentage goes to assist a nonprofit. The cost of your merchandise remains the same.

Please consider choosing Valencia Foundation to support student scholarships.

### **100 percent of every dollar supports the cause**

Donations to Valencia Foundation go entirely to donor intention, whether that is a scholarship, endowed chair, equipment or program. This is possible, in part, because of revenue on foundation-owned property, as well as in-kind contributions from Valencia College. *The bottom line is that donors know that every single penny goes to support students – and not to pay for overhead, administration or any other expenses.*

### **Join us in helping to transform lives**

The Valencia Foundation board invites the college trustees to visit this fall. If you would like to learn more about the foundation's work and meet the incredible volunteers who make it happen, please mark your calendars: **Oct. 15, 11:30 a.m.** board business meeting; and **Nov. 20 and 21**, strategic planning retreat in St. Pete. You will also receive electronic invitations. Foundation directors are grateful for the expertise, commitment and feedback of trustees, as well as the rich dialogue trustees bring to foundation work.