The Emil Usibelli award recipients were honored at a reception May 6 at the UA museum. For the 22nd year, the three $10,000 awards were funded by a generous $600,000 endowment established by the Usibelli Coal Mine. Joe Usibelli, Jr. spoke about his and his father’s commitment to giving back to their alma-mater, and their philanthropic partnership with UAF supports students, faculty, capital projects and much more.

Over 200 dedicated donors, students, faculty and friends met early on Tuesday morning, April 16 to celebrate the annual “Inspiring Student Success” Scholarship and Award Breakfast. Scholarship recipients Ralph Sinnok and Hannah Foss spoke about how scholarships inspired them and made a positive impact toward reaching their educational goals. Donor Nina Tartakoff spoke about her cousin Nathan Gerson, whose generous scholarship established through his legacy gift helps students in financial need. This year, 495 UAF students received nearly $1.2 million in private scholarships and awards.

The donation of a retired Federal Express 727 dubbed “Joy” gives the UAF Community and Technical College aviation program a big lift. The plane, which arrived Feb. 28, will help students get hands-on training on equipment they will likely encounter in their careers. The jet is housed at CTC’s new hanger at the Fairbanks airport East Ramp. This was one of two jets donated by FedEx to the university, the other to the aviation program in Anchorage. “The donations are an example of the many ways FedEx supports education and training in the communities FedEx employees live and work,” said David Sutton, Managing Director of Aircraft Acquisitions and Sales for FedEx Express. At the May 1 ribbon-cutting for the 20,000-square-foot hangar, CTC Dean Michele Stalder said, “It’s a chance to open the doors to the community so they can experience what UAF CTC is doing for the future of Alaska’s aviation industry.”

Corporate support makes impact

Flint Hills Resources Alaska continued their longstanding partnership with UAF and recently made a generous gift of $110,000 that will support a variety of programs. The School of Management, the Alaska Summer Research Academy and the Athletic Department will each receive $20,000, and the CTC Process Technology Program and the College of Engineering and Mines will receive $25,000 each. This new gift is above and beyond their $25,000 donation in support of the UA Museum of the North school tour program, which offers school-age students a learning environment with hands-on experiences and gallery exploration. During the 2011-2012 school year, the docent-guided program offered free admission to nearly 1,800 students, thanks to the generosity of Flint Hills Resources.

Usibelli tradition of giving

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Scholarships inspire students and donors alike

From left, Chancellor Brian Rogers, Joe Usibelli, Jr., award winners Jonathan Rosenberg, Teaching, Catherine Cahill, Service; Jeffrey Freymueller, Research; and Provost Susan Henrichs. UAF photo by JR Ancheta.
Students say thank-you to donors

On Feb. 14, students gathered to write thank-you notes to their scholarship donors. They also wrote messages of thanks on a large banner that was later displayed at the 2013 Scholarship and Award Breakfast. Osher Reentry Scholarship recipient Maria Morrison wrote, “Thank you so much for your support! It is because of your generosity that my dreams are finally able to come true!” More than 100 students came throughout the day to write personal messages of thanks. This is the second year for this gathering and stewardship outreach.

Achievements

Individual

The estate of Edward Christiansen made a distribution of $45,230 to the Edward K. and Alene Christiansen Music Scholarship.

Linda Hulbert made a pledge payment of $30,000 toward the Hulbert family’s six-year commitment to the UAF Terrain Park.

Long-time supporter Ann Tremarello, ’57, donated $20,000 to the Joseph Sr. and Rose R. Tremarello Memorial Scholarship, supporting qualified students on the UAF women’s and men’s varsity basketball teams. Marco Tremarello donated $10,000 to the family scholarship fund.

Corporate/Foundation

Alyeska Pipeline Service Company made a gift of $20,000 to the Alyeska Pipeline Native MBA Fellowship.

Associated General Contractors of Alaska donated $10,000 to the UAF ASCE Steel Bridge Competition Support Fund.

Central Bering Sea Fishermen’s Association made a $10,000 gift to the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences for Alaska crab research.

Crowley Petroleum Distribution donated $10,000 to the Crowley Scholarship.

The Greater Fairbanks Community Hospital Foundation made a gift of $11,765 to the Department of Recreation, Adventure and Wellness for a Patty Ice Arena scoreboard.

NANA Development Corporation made a $10,000 gift to the Alaska Business Week program for 9th – 12th grade students.

Northrim Bank made an unrestricted gift of $50,000 to the School of Management.

Rasmussen Foundation donated $20,000 to the UA Press. They also made a $25,000 gift to the Bristol Bay Campus for the Science Center in Dillingham.

Schlumberger Oilfield Services donated $25,000 to the GeoFORCE Alaska program.

Solsten XP donated $15,000 to the GeoFORCE Alaska program.

Teso Petro Companies made a $25,000 gift to the Alaska Business Week program.

Totem Ocean Trailer Express made a $40,000 pledge payment in support of UA Museum of the North events.

Legacy Society

The UAF Legacy Society recognizes donors who have made provisions to include UAF in their estate plans. UAF celebrates the 102 current members of the Legacy Society.

The UA Foundation held a free annual estate-planning seminar May 16 titled Financial and Estate Planning After the Fiscal Cliff. The seminar provided updates on financial planning and recent legislated tax changes.