Puente de Oro Society

Puente de Oro is Spanish for “Bridge of Gold.” It signifies gifts of extraordinary generosity from one generation to another. Through such benevolence — which is not marked by levels of giving, but generosity of spirit — planned giving donors ensure USD will continue to excel, meeting higher aspirations with each graduating class.

Singing Her Praises

Debbie Honeycutt is the secret force behind many of the grants the University of San Diego has been awarded since 2013, when she became an assistant director in USD’s Office of Foundation Relations.

Honeycutt spent much of her earlier career working in service, sales and marketing administration and management for IBM before dedicating her life to raising money for admirable organizations — first for St. Madeleine Sophie’s Center and then for The Neurosciences Institute, before joining the team at USD where she’s helped bring in thousands of dollars from private foundations to support USD’s Torero Renaissance Scholars, its Veterans Center, the School of Leadership and Education Sciences and the Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science.

“The grant for the School of Nursing was used to purchase six “smart” gurneys in the School of Nursing’s simulation lab and is a great example of how philanthropy can involve the community,” Honeycutt explains. “The work our School of Nursing does fills a huge void in nursing education because it supplies the nursing educators and the advanced practice nurses who teach and train frontline nurses.”

Many of the proposals for funding that Honeycutt submits require extensive research and intricate statistics that can take months to produce and calculate. She is the university’s main researcher. She also manages and tracks — much like a traffic controller — the status of each request the university has pending with some of the region’s largest foundations. At any given time she may be shepherding between 10 and 12 proposals through various phases of the process. In a typical year she may submit close to 100 proposals on behalf of the university and it’s not uncommon to dedicate nearly a year to proposing, researching, submitting and gaining funding for a grant.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, July 15, 2 p.m.
10th Anniversary Wine Classic
Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice
Learn more at sandiego.edu/wineclassic

Sunday, August 5, 12 p.m.
USD Day at the Races
Del Mar Racetrack
Learn more at alumni.sandiego.edu

Coming Soon

The fall schedule for the Bridges Academy Lecture Series will be announced in August.

Save the Date!

HOMECOMING & FAMILY WEEKEND
OCTOBER 12–14, 2018
For information, go to www.sandiego.edu/hfw

Code: HBRNEWSS18

OCTOBER 12-14, 2018
Save the Date!

For information, go to www.sandiego.edu/hfw

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"SINGING HER PRAISES" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"I provide a lot of depth in my research and it can be a long process," Honeycutt says. "I’ve heard of funders’ offices with stacks of proposals that are almost as high as their desks. They may pick up a proposal, see a misspelling and immediately reject it so we have to be very careful, diligent and precise."

One of the most rewarding grants she helped bring to USD was an ongoing grant from the In-N-Out Burger Foundation, which supports summer internships for USD’s Torero Renaissance Scholars — students who were formerly in the foster care system.

"I’m so impressed with these students," says Honeycutt, whose efforts recently made it possible to renew the grant for a third year. "They aren’t just breaking a cycle, they’re experiencing true joy and making the most of every opportunity USD has been able to offer.*

Not only does Honeycutt help raise money for the university professionally, she also contributes personally. Like many employees — in fact, this year’s figures are up to 78 percent of employees — she gives back to USD. Recently, however, she took it a step further and opted to include the University of San Diego in her trust. Her planned gift will create a scholarship that will support students studying English or humanities for generations to come.

“My parents were so supportive of me when I was in college,” she says, "and when you’ve been given something, you want to pass it on.”

She appreciates USD’s approach to education — a holistic approach that enriches many areas of a person’s life. Her passion for supporting students, however, extends even beyond her work at USD. An avid singer, Honeycutt has been a longtime member of a local singing group, RB Chorale, which over the years has rewarded more than $350,000 in scholarships to talented graduating seniors from high schools throughout San Diego County.

“I use the need,” Honeycutt says. "I was the first in my family to go to college. I came from a very small town and college opened my eyes to the world. I think of college as more than an education; it’s an experience and it’s an experience that every student deserves to have.”

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Perfect Way to Honor Someone You Love

If you have a friend or family member whose life has been touched by the University of San Diego, consider making a gift in his or her name. When you memorialize some of the most important people in your life, such as your mother, father, spouse, mentors or other special loved ones, as part of a gift to USD, you:

• honor that special person,
• support our mission, and
• possibly receive personal financial benefits.

You Have Choices

Three basic methods are available for establishing an honorary gift:

• A gift today. An outright gift can help fund USD’s immediate needs or an upcoming project. The financial benefits include an income tax charitable deduction (if you itemize) and the possible elimination of capital gains tax.

• A gift through your estate plan. You can include a gift in your will or living trust, stating that a specific asset, a certain dollar amount or a percentage of your estate will pass to USD upon your death in honor of your loved one.

• A gift that lives on forever. Honorary endowments can be made now or through your estate plan. Endowments are structured so that a small portion of your gift, rather than the whole amount, is used each year to fund a particular purpose. To perpetuate the fund forever, the majority of the fund always remains intact and is invested for the future.

Bridges Academy Honor Roll of Donors

The Bridges Endowed Scholarship fund continues to grow each year thanks to the support of the generous attendees of the Bridges Academy Lecture Series. Each gift, no matter the size, contributes to the ability of this fund to award impactful scholarships to two undergraduate recipients per academic year. In 2017, the scholarship recipients each received $4,100. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to the following Bridges Academy participants who made a gift between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018. Thank you for bringing our students one step closer to achieving their dreams!

Maurice Alfaro
Joan ‘71 and William ‘72 Ames
Alice and Frederick Andrus
Ellen and William Bach
Barbara Bartouik
Maria Brown
Arne and Kenneth Denhove
Judy Eppler
Carol Harlow
Dr. Brigitte Heimers
Kathleen Kish
Patricia McGann ‘65
Jane and Thomas Niemeier

The California Life Insurance Guaranty Association does not back up payments of annuities.

IRA GIFTS UNDER TAX REFORM?

• Same Benefits as Before

Tax reform may have made giving to USD through a traditional or Roth IRA the smarter way to make your annual gift.

Your IRA gift to USD is still tax-free, still counts toward your Required Minimum Distribution, and still enables you to create a family legacy or join USD’s esteemed President’s Club.

If you are at least age 70 ½, you should know about this opportunity!

Leave Your Legacy at USD

Please send me information about:

• Naming USD in my estate plan
• Making a gift that pays you income
• Making a gift of real estate to USD

I have remembered the University of San Diego in my estate plans as follows:

• I have named USD as a beneficiary of a will or living trust.
• I have named USD as a beneficiary in one or more of the following:
  • IRA, pension, or other retirement account (401(k), 403(b) or other)
  • Charitable remainder trust
  • Life insurance policy
  • Other (please specify)
  • Approximate amount and purpose of gift (optional)

I have remembered the University of San Diego in my estate plans as described above and I wish to join the Puente de Oro Society. Recognition options:

• Please list my/our name(s) in the Puente de Oro Society honor roll listings as shown below.
• Please do not include my/our name(s) in the Puente de Oro Society honor roll listings.

Name(s) ____________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
City ____________________________________________
State ____________________________________________
ZIP ____________
Phone ____________________________________________
Email ____________________________________________

For information about the Bridges Academy Endowed Scholarship, your programs or events, or any other details presented in this newsletter, please contact the Office of Planned Giving.

Phone: (619) 260-4523
Email: usdplg@usd.edu

Name(s) ____________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
City ____________________________________________
State ____________________________________________
ZIP ____________
Phone ____________________________________________
Email ____________________________________________

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