# CHANGE Starts here

#### Changing Lives Starting with Her Own

Working at a local television station, volunteering at a soup kitchen and taking courses as a sophomore at the College of Charleston leave TTC graduate, Felicia Allyn, with little time on her hands.

# TRIDENT TECHNICAL COLLEGE

#### Foundation and Alumni News

She received scholarship support

and acquired a cadre of supporters

who believed in her future.

But leading a fulfilled, productive life once seemed like an impossible goal for Allyn who dropped out of school in the 10th grade. She began abusing drugs and alcohol, lived on the streets and joined a gang. After surviving a gunshot wound to the hip, she ended up in a court-ordered rehabilitation



center. She told the counselor her dream: "I would like to go to college."

At TTC, Allyn found more than just the opportunity to pursue higher education; she received scholarship support and acquired a cadre of supporters who believed in her future. Today Allyn mentors and recruits potential students into TTC's Clemente Program and the Educational Opportunity Center. She also regularly shares her story at the Charleston County Detention Center hoping she "can reach just one addict and help change a life."



#### Message from the President Dr. Mary Thornley

Finding classroom and instructional space for more than 3,172 credit classes – 314 more sections than we had last fall – has been a challenge. But it's a challenge we successfully met. Though we have fewer state dollars, we have managed to stay accessible and affordable. With tuition at \$1,765 per semester and lottery-funded tuition assistance at \$936 for full-time students, tri-county residents can enroll at TTC for \$829 per semester. This is truly affordable, high quality higher education.

Our growth in enrollment is partly a result of the economic climate. It also is a result of what we are doing to ensure internal quality and increase student retention. We are providing academic support and services that help students succeed, from more "student study lounges" to extended hours for tutoring. As a result of our national Achieving the Dream initiative, we are focused on increasing student learning and engagement in math, an area we know significantly impacts retention. We have commitments from all three counties to fund a new Nursing and Science Building, an economic development project that will enable us to keep up with the demand for health care training and serve our growing student population. I hope you will visit one of our campuses soon and see how TTC is educating and training tomorrow's work force.

Mary Thornley

Mary Thornley, Ed.D., President

### The Grainger Foundation Makes \$10,000 Gift

"We are proud to recommend the programs offered by TTC because we understand the need to build a skilled work force."







This fall TTC hit a record enrollment of more than 15,600 students.



Grainger has been part of the North Charleston business community for more than 58 years as the leading broad line supplier of maintenance, repair and operating products. Recently, the Grainger Foundation donated \$10,000 to TTC Foundation to purchase tools and equipment for Aviation students.

"The tools and equipment will allow students to conduct state-of-the-art tests and inspections that will better enable students to transition from a learning environment to their respective industries," said Barry Franco, TTC's dean of Aeronautical Studies.

"Over the past year, the Aviation industry has been a large part of the growth in the Lowcountry. I believe this will be an important part of our community for the future," said Grainger Manager, Phillip Fuller.

#### From Student to Chef to Teacher: Joe Branton

Joe Branton, a graduate of TTC's Culinary Institute of Charleston (CIC), is going back to school – this time as an adjunct TTC instructor. Branton's culinary skills earned him the 2009 People's Choice Award at the *Almost Famous Chef Competition* in Napa Valley where esteemed judges represented *Food and Wine Magazine, Gourmet* and *Bravo's Top Chef*. In May, Branton participated in the Michael E. Hurst Educational Forum, which brings together the nation's top students for networking and learning.

In addition to Branton's numerous honors and awards, he also uses his cooking skills to benefit others, participating in Feed the Need, a community movement to feed the hungry, and serving as past president of the Hospitality Culinary Student Association. His latest project is teaching aspiring chefs at CIC who will benefit from Branton's wisdom, enthusiasm and desire to give back to others.



Joe Branton accepts the People's Choice Award in Napa Valley.

## Scholarship Facts for 2010-11

Number of applicants: 1,800

Number of scholarships awarded: 198

Average award amount: \$1,070

Total awarded: \$211,832

Percent of TTC students receiving a scholarship: 1%



You can establish a scholarship fund with as little as \$500 a year or an endowed scholarship fund with a minimum gift of \$30,000.

Contact Keith Rumrill at 843.574.6196 or keith.rumrill@tridenttech.edu.



#### Nationwide Tour Championship TICKETS Fore CHARITY<sup>TM</sup>

Monday, Oct. 25 - Sunday, Oct. 31, Daniel Island

100 percent of ticket cost will be donated to the TTC Foundation/Alumni Association when designated at time of purchase.

For tickets and more information, visit www.nationwidetourchampionship.com.

# Give Students an Edge in Radio, Film and Television

Randy Grimes, Radio, Television and Film Production (RTV) instructor, knows how important it is for students to experience hands-on learning using the latest equipment and technology.

This year, Grimes received funding from TTC Foundation's Mini-grants Program which provides grants to faculty and staff for equipment, materials and special resources. Grimes used the grant award to purchase four camcorder tripods for the RTV Department.

"The tripods allow instructors to teach videography courses utilizing industry-based standards. This hands-on approach provides our students with valuable experience and helps them to be better prepared as they enter the industry," said Grimes.

One of TTC's Film students, Matt Thompson, is already reaping the benefits. On track to graduate in Fall 2011 and working as a production assistant at Charleston Live 5 News, Thompson is grateful for the state-of-the-art equipment.

\$50,000 was awarded through 50 mini-grants in 2009-2010.



TTC employees contribute to the Mini-grants Fund during the annual campus employee giving campaign.

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