

Bellevue College Foundation

Impacts



2024–25

Annual Report of Activities & Stewardship

BELLEVUE
COLLEGE
FOUNDATION

The Bellevue College Foundation connects
community members and resources to support
Bellevue College students, faculty, and staff.

Through fundraising and partnerships,
the Foundation helps individuals achieve their
educational and professional goals by investing
in scholarships, programs, and initiatives
that foster success and innovation.

Reflects

The Foundation Board of Directors is proud to support the great works of Bellevue College and the efforts of all of our students.



Lisa Brock
President,
Bellevue College
Foundation

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It is my honor to share this year's Annual Report on behalf of the Bellevue College Foundation.

With the generosity of our community, we secured several meaningful gifts, including a major grant to enhance student support services, a new endowment that provides scholarships to veterans, and contributions to reestablish and sustain vital safety net funds for students. These investments reflect our donors' belief in the power of education—not only to lift individual students, but to strengthen families and communities.

We also deepened our engagement with the region.

Bellevue College President Dr. David May held his annual Transforming Together breakfast, featuring workforce leaders from Microsoft, PACCAR, and Overlake Medical Center, drawing over 200 attendees and sparking important dialogue about our students' futures and how their

education is preparing them for the workforce. Our International Guitar Series brought together enthusiastic supporters to listen to renowned guitarists from Brazil, Germany, Japan and beyond, while the inaugural "ConGRADulations" alumni lunch welcomed 250 new graduates into the Bellevue College alumni family. And with the groundbreaking of the new W Building, we celebrated a milestone that represents how art and innovation will shape our future.

From all of us at the Bellevue College Foundation, thank you to every donor and partner who joined us in changing student lives and strengthening the communities we serve.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lisa Brock".

Lisa Brock, President

Bellevue College Foundation 2024–25

Bellevue College Foundation

Invests

Each year, the Foundation awards scores of donor-funded scholarships to students who contribute to our campus community with their diverse life experiences and unique perspectives.

Scholarship recipients in 2024–25 included:

The Foundation
awarded

\$974,838

to

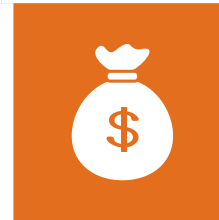
641
scholarship
recipients.



153
Program
Internships
totaling
\$114,750



61
Books &
Supplies
totaling
\$18,163



314
Tuition
& Fees
totaling
\$705,319



113
Student
Athletes
totaling
\$136,606

"This scholarship helps remove just a little bit of the burden from both me and my family after everything that we've been through... It means so much to me and my family knowing that I'll be able to continue pursuing my degree(s) in marketing."

—Amanda,
Scholarship recipient



"Receiving this scholarship fills me with gratitude as it enables me to dedicate myself fully to my studies. I am eager to seize future opportunities with great enthusiasm and commitment to continuous learning and growth in every facet of my journey."

—Holly,
Scholarship recipient



"Receiving this scholarship... will allow me to more easily pursue my dream of becoming a nurse and serving the community through excellent patient care... Thank you to the kind donors who helped fund this opportunity..."

—Mohammad,
Scholarship recipient

"I feel honored and grateful for this award... Knowing that I am preparing myself to educate future generations fills me with joy. My family and friends are so proud of me and know that this award will not only cover my academic needs but also fill that part of my life where anxiety created a constant hole."

—Melania,
Scholarship recipient



"When I learned that I had been selected for the Bellevue College Foundation scholarship, I felt an overwhelming sense of gratitude and relief. This scholarship is a life-changing award that not only supports my education but also inspires me to give back to the community in the future."

—Alexandra,
Scholarship recipient



Responds

In 2024, the Foundation launched the FAFSA Emergency Bridge Funding program to help students continue their education without interruption.

The Foundation has awarded

\$206,070

to

173

students

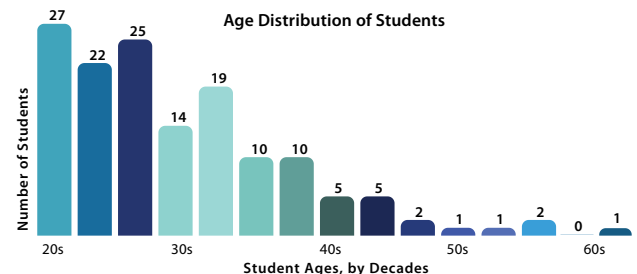
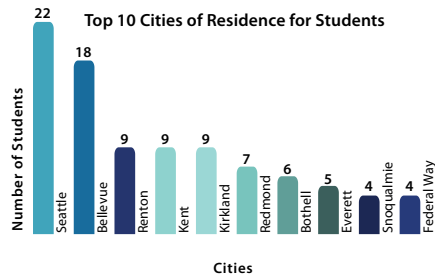
whose financial aid packages were delayed.

FAFSA Emergency Bridge Funding

Last year, delays in the rollout of the new FAFSA form created unexpected financial uncertainty for students across the country. At Bellevue College, many students were left without access to their anticipated aid packages at the start of the term, placing their enrollment and academic progress at risk.

The Bellevue College Foundation responded quickly by launching the FAFSA Emergency Bridge Funding program, a short-term support program designed to help students continue their education without interruption. This emergency funding provided critical assistance with basic living and educational expenses, ensuring students could remain enrolled while awaiting their delayed financial aid.

Through this effort, the Foundation demonstrated its ability to respond swiftly to emerging challenges, removing financial barriers and helping students stay focused on their goals during a time of widespread disruption.



Bellevue College Foundation

Protects

Each year, the Foundation provides emergency support for students and employees with unexpected needs.

The Foundation made

52

safety net awards

totaling

\$59,768

in the 2024–25 academic year.

Safety Net Programs

The Safety Net programs offer one-time, emergency help to Bellevue College students and staff who are dealing with unforeseen financial situations. Without this help, they might face long-term difficulties, trauma, injury, or might not be able to keep working or studying at Bellevue College.



“

Things are still rough, but I was able to get current on my rent because of the emergency grant. I am so appreciative that this was awarded to me.

—Student

”

Bellevue College Foundation

Connects

With challenges and new opportunities,

the Foundation was able to provide the support our students needed most

to keep them on track throughout the year.



Hall of Fame Inductees:

- **Renita Kay Garnett**, Student Athlete, 1982
 - **Scott Knoblich**, Athletics Coach, 1978–1984
 - **Jason Chapman**, Athletics Coach, 1998–2019
 - **Bill O'Connor**, Athletics Director, 2003–2017
 - **Al Courter**, Athletics Supporter
 - **Women's Track Team**, 1983
- Annie Barrett, Caryn Calvert, Gina Castagna, Beth Coomes, Bridget Devens, Cindy Dresser, Diane Hughes, Lizzie Knox, Helen Lofton, Nancy Moore, Tracy Raade, Rhonda Simmons, Julie Thomas, Lisa Warner, Tanya Washington, Becky Watson, Jill York

We engage our community to build strong relationships through communication and interaction. This connection is vital to the Foundation's ability to provide the services and support that our students and community need.

Bellevue College Athletics Hall of Fame

October 19, 2024



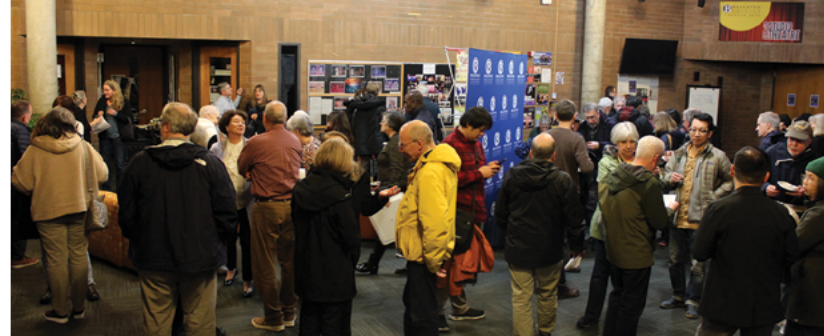
In collaboration with Bellevue College Athletics, the Foundation hosted the college's second Athletics Hall of Fame celebration at Glendale Country Club, honoring outstanding athletes, coaches, staff, and supporters. The event welcomed 178 guests, inducted five individuals and one team, and raised nearly \$5,000 in support of Bellevue College Athletic Scholars.





Transforming Together: President's Annual Breakfast

March 13, 2025



Guitar Concert Series Reception

March 21, 2025

Hosted by Bellevue College and the Foundation, the Transforming Together Breakfast brought together local business leaders to explore innovative partnerships that support students and strengthen the community. Dr. May facilitated panels from PACCAR Parts, Microsoft Philanthropies, and Overlake Medical Center who discussed workforce development and the role of industry in shaping future-ready graduates.

During the 2024–25 academic year, the Bellevue College Foundation hosted two concert receptions, including a post-performance dessert reception following a captivating performance by renowned Japanese guitarist Shin-ichi Fukuda. Proceeds from these events supported the Guitar Program scholarship, helping aspiring musicians pursue their passion for guitar.





Planetarium Soft Launch

April 27, 2025

The Planetarium officially reopened its doors with a soft launch of the new, modernized projector funded in part by a Foundation grant. To mark the occasion, the Foundation held a space-themed reception in the Social Justice Center before guests traveled through space together in the Willard Geer Planetarium.



W Building Groundbreaking

May 15, 2025

Excitement grew when Bellevue College leadership, elected officials, and more participated in the Groundbreaking Ceremony & Reception of the long-awaited W Building.

The new, LEED-certified building is slated to start holding classes in winter 2027, and it will serve as a hub for Arts, Digital Media Arts, and a new MakerSpace.



Bellevue College Foundation

Reunites



3,925

Alumni Association
members.

30+

alumni featured in
classrooms or student
development events.

137

alumni donors.

\$62,513

contributed by alumni
in 2024–25.

Whether you took one class or earned a degree, you are—and always will be—a valued Bellevue College Bulldog Alum.

This year brought exciting growth and connection for our alumni community. Nearly 4,000 Bulldogs are now part of the Alumni Association, and our new monthly e-newsletter reaches over 16,000 graduates with news, spotlights, and invitations to engage.

From social gatherings to career panels, Bulldogs are showing up, giving back, and lighting the way for future graduates. Alumni are stepping up as mentors, advocates, and lifelong learners, helping shape the future of Bellevue College and our greater community.



Thomas Duke
Director of Alumni
Relations & Programs,
Bellevue College
Foundation

Bulldogs & Brews Alumni Social

In February 2025, the new Alumni Association hosted a lively event at Cascadia Restaurant & Brewery in Bellevue, featuring President Dr. David May and Brutus the Bulldog. With a captivating program, alumni giveaways, and photo ops, the evening was engaging, fun, and highly successful.



Rewards

Each year, the Foundation recognizes efforts of our faculty and staff through cash awards.

Since its creation in 1984, this award has provided

\$410,000

in recognition to

184

Bellevue College faculty and staff members.

Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards

These awards recognize outstanding faculty and staff members who demonstrate a commitment to excellence through their contributions to the campus and the community. Winners are nominated by faculty, staff, students, and trustees. Awards of \$2,500 each go to recipients in the four categories: Full-Time Faculty, Part-Time Faculty, Classified Staff, and Exempt Staff.

2024–25 Nominees (The Foundation recognized 109 staff and faculty member nominations this year)

Martina Almario
Tina Amaro
Stegge
Kalpana Kalpna Anand
Jennifer Anderson
Salam Awad
Gretchen Bird
Rex Bobbish
Ernesto Bowie
Darnita Boynton
Tamara Boynton
Howard
Alicia Brender
Greyson Brooks
Michael Broome
Katie Bryant
Kelli Callahan
Dianne Caraway
Tiara Carlson

Annika Carson
Jennifer Celms
Rini Chakrabarti
Ricardo Chavez
Wentao Chen
Teaessa Chism
Thomas Crawford
Beth Crouse
Kattie Phuong
Dung Dang
Eric Davis
Matthew Edwards
Branden Ellsworth
Sandra Emerson
Oriana Estrada
Myriam Feldman
Jennifer Fetters
Gina Fiorini
Caroline
Fitzpatrick

Charlene Freyberg
Colin Gasamis
Jamie Gayden
Laura Gittleman
Bart (Robert) Guyton
Hector Guzman
Minnat Hamada
Elizabeth Harazim
Lisa Harris
Anneke Hercules
Tyler Hersey
Vlasta Hillger
Varik Hoang
Rachel Hutto
Anand Injeti
Katie Irwin
Miki Ishihara
Alice Jenkins
Craighton Jenkins

Jon Jensen
Ciarelle Jimenez
Amy Jing
Shadi Kanan
Allison Kang
Lori Keller
Guzel Khakimova
Supreetha Kumar
Joel Lamb
Li Liu
Celeste Lonson
Jamiiru
Luttamaguzi
Melissa Martinez
Narges Masoumi
Amy McCrory
Claire McKinley
Heather Miller
Ann Minks
Daniel Mitchell

Amanda Morris
Max Needle
Alfred Nehme
Renee Nejo
Budimir Nikolic
Eva Norling
Sara Nutsch
Pete Ophoven
Nataliya Perelomova
Pavel Poliansky
Kimberly Pollock
Kolin Poss
Peter Prescott
Michael Pulido
Luke Rawlings
Emiko Rigg
Usman Rizvi
Keith Rowley
Croix Salina

Linda Schinman
Greg Schmidt
Daniel Shade
Layne Shilston
Catherine Smith
David Spataro
Patrick Torres
Timothy Trammel
Michelle Tresemer
Andria Villines
Dana Vukajlovich
Liz Warfield
Cynthia Weintraub
Cole Whitaker
Tim Winchester
Phouvanh Xaya-Outhone
Elizabeth Zahrt
Geib

Meet our 2024–25 Faculty & Staff Excellence Award recipients! 

Travis McKinney

Full-Time Faculty Award

English



“Mr. McKinney develops an excellent community that promotes ideas that, although contradictory, promote open discussion, whether it is about topics such as body dysmorphia, mental illnesses, nihilism, and other seemingly sensitive areas. His ability to create a diverse community that encourages open disagreement but still feels inclusive, collaborative, and tight-knit is unparalleled. Through his encouragement, students felt part of a community of thinkers, which reflects Bellevue College’s commitment to creating an open, safe, and accessible academic environment. Hands down, Mr. McKinney is the best English instructor I have ever had!”

Humaira Jackson

Part-Time Faculty Award

Economics



“Humaira strives to create impactful courses that promote equity and excellence. I know that she is deeply reflective of her teaching materials and methods, as we often have conversations about what has worked in our courses and what hasn’t. This is non-stop for Humaira; she consistently strives to find ways to engage students through the lens of economics. She is a meaningful participant in our department, often volunteering to take on extra work at the department level. She is one of the most kind and humble people that you will meet. She is dedicated to her profession, to the college, and most importantly, to her students and their success. She is a treasure to our community.”

Yelena Zlotnik

Classified Employee Award

Basic & Transitional Studies



“Yelena always puts students at the center of her work as Program Specialist. Through her gifts as a listener and her language expertise, she supports ESL students as they simultaneously learn English and engage in college processes such as registration and state-mandated testing. ... [S]tudents ... consistently have high praise for Yelena. They appreciate her willingness to help them, her knowledge and her kind manner. Yelena’s welcoming and inclusive manner is a key component to the open and safe culture of the ESL Program. ... She is knowledgeable and ... listens with care and patience. Faculty and students “feel heard” ... and this ... contributes to the positive culture of the ESL Program.”

Barbara Brodsky

Exempt Employee Award

TRIO



“I joined the TRIO Program ... at Bellevue College seeking guidance because I had nobody to rely on as a first-generation college student. ... I was struggling to stay on track, juggling life and schoolwork. ... Ms. Brodsky ... graciously offered to have weekly check-ins ... She helped me create a study schedule ... and helped cultivate a healthier mindset around school. ... I can now say that I am a successful college student. I have been consistently showing up to class, getting grades that I am proud of and overall feel more positive about college life ... She deserves to be recognized for her outstanding dedication to better the community at Bellevue College.”

Excerpts from nomination forms

Supports

Each year, the Foundation lends financial support to innovative projects across campus through faculty grants.

Lockwood Foundation Grant for Faculty Excellence & Innovation

The Foundation awarded

\$14,152

in Lockwood Grants in 2025.

The Lockwood Foundation Grant, administered by the Foundation, is awarded to faculty members in support of new or ongoing projects that promote innovation in teaching and/or advance entrepreneurial models at the college. These grants, made available through a generous donation from the Lockwood Foundation, typically range from \$2,500–\$10,000.

Interactive eLearning for English Language Learners: Building Reading and Pronunciation Skills

Krista Capodanno—Basic & Transitional Studies

This project will develop interactive eLearning resources to help English language learners recognize and pronounce sounds, break words into parts, and improve their reading and writing skills. The materials will include videos, audio exercises, and quizzes focused on sound/letter correspondence and syllables. The modules will be available in Canvas for use in any English as a Second Language (ESL) class at Bellevue College.



Laying the Groundwork to Incorporate Nanopore Technology into Genomic Sequencing Projects for Three Life Sciences Laboratory Courses

Stacy Alvares—Life Sciences and Molecular Biosciences Programs

This effort will pilot three separate projects that utilize nanopore genome sequencing technology to sample environmental DNA. This will lay the groundwork for incorporating nanopore sequencing technology into a variety of laboratory courses, providing students in various Biology tracks exposure to a cutting-edge technology that is being used to address a wide variety of research questions and as a diagnostic tool in the health field. The intention is to provide hands-on experience for students and faculty, increase student engagement in real-world scientific inquiry, and provide pedagogical tools and implementation support for faculty who wish to incorporate nanopore sequencing into their classrooms.

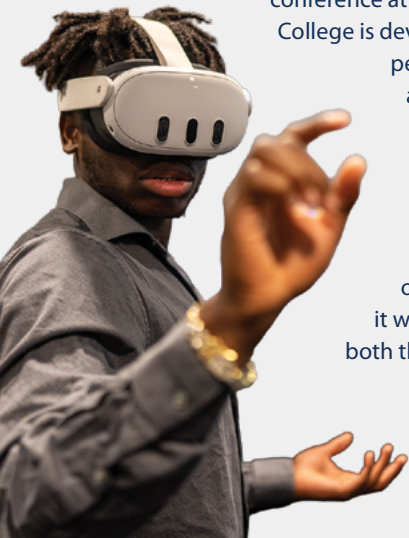


Expanding Horizons: Enhancing Student Learning through XR and Interactive Technologies

Deborah Leblang—Art

This one-day hybrid conference at Bellevue College is devoted to the pedagogy

and practice of using immersive and interactive technologies for innovating teaching practices. The conference, held during the winter 2026 term on the Bellevue College campus, is primarily for the benefit of Bellevue College instructors and it will bring together instructors from both the college and the Northwest XR EDU Network.



Civic Leadership Institute

Christina Sciabarra—Political Science

This Civic Leadership Institute is an opportunity for upper-level high school and undergraduate students to network with peers, meet with mentors, learn about civic engagement and leadership, and set their own impact goals. Participants will learn leadership skills and strategies from experienced public and civic society officials, receive direct mentorship for their civic goals, and develop a “future plan” connecting their academic, career, and civic goals with tangible steps to achieving them.



Supports

Each year, the Foundation lends financial support to innovative projects across campus through faculty grants.

The Foundation awarded

\$26,644

in Foundation Mini-Grants.

Foundation Mini-Grants

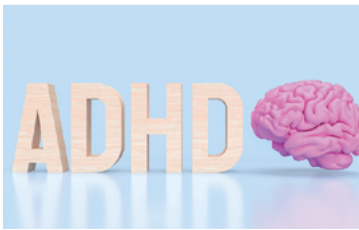
Bellevue College Foundation Mini-Grants are open to all faculty and staff, awards range from \$300–\$3,000, and support ongoing projects, one-time projects, and new programs that may not be eligible for support through other college funding sources. Preference is given to projects that are consistent with the college’s strategic plan, as well as the President’s and Foundation’s priorities and goals. The program is funded by donors to the Foundation, including many faculty and staff.

Mini-Grant Award Summaries (2024–25)

Academic Success in Color: A Mural of Our Diverse Community

Funds a student-created mural celebrating campus diversity to foster an inclusive and welcoming space in the Academic Success Center.

Liz Warfield / Academic Success Center



Animation Master Class Series and Community Screening Event

Brings animation artists to campus for master classes and a community screening to engage students and the public.

Li Liu / Communication Studies



ADHD Certification

Supports ADHD certification to improve support for OLS students with executive functioning needs.

Justin Sanders / OLS

Mini-Grant Award Summaries (2024–25), continued



Arboretum Zonal Signs

Purchases two large signs to welcome visitors and educate them on arboretum plant zones.

Sara Holzknacht / Sustainability & Branden Ellsworth / Campus Ops

Artificial Intelligence: Innovations in Nursing Education

Supports attendance at a national summit on AI in nursing to enhance curriculum and global engagement.

Teaessa Chism / Nursing

Bellezine Language Issue

Expands publication and distribution of a multilingual, student-created literary zine focused on language.

Cassie Cross / English

Exit Test Refresh

Updates and aligns testing materials for high school programs to ensure consistency and accessibility.

Glenn Jackson / Center for HS Programs

Faculty Commons Inclusive Pedagogy Teaching Squares

Supports faculty collaboration and reflection through inclusive pedagogy teaching groups.

Mandie Mauldin / Faculty Commons



Fishing/Crabbing Experience for Students/Faculty/Staff

Launches an outdoor recreation program for the Bellevue College community to support wellness and social connection.

Ricardo Chavez / Mathematics

Florestan Chamber Music Mini-Residency II

Hosts a musical residency with public events and workshops for music students and the community.

Brian Cobb / Music



Human Fossil Record Update 2024

Updates the anthropology fossil cast collection with recent discoveries.

Anthony Tessandori / Anthropology

Interactive eLearning at InstructureCon 2025

Supports team attendance at a Canvas-focused education technology conference.

Betsy Zahrt Geib / Interactive eLearning

OLS College Bound Event

Funds a resource fair to support students with disabilities pursuing higher education.

Jessica Salak / OLS

Professional Development—Umoja Learning Institute

Enables staff to attend Umoja Institute to better support Umoja students and practices.

Adria Harris / Student Affairs



Project-Based Learning (PBL) Workshop

Provides faculty training in project-based learning to enhance student engagement and skills.

Katie Austin-Miranda / English

Social Justice Center

Equips the SJC with storage and snacks to better support student visitors and programming.

Hasaan Kirkland / Office of DEI

Voices of Action: A Climate Themed Living Documentary

Plans a mini-conference with speakers and workshops focused on local climate justice and awareness.

Nancy Lane / Earth & Space/Life Sciences

Voices of BaTS: A Podcast Spotighting New Beginnings

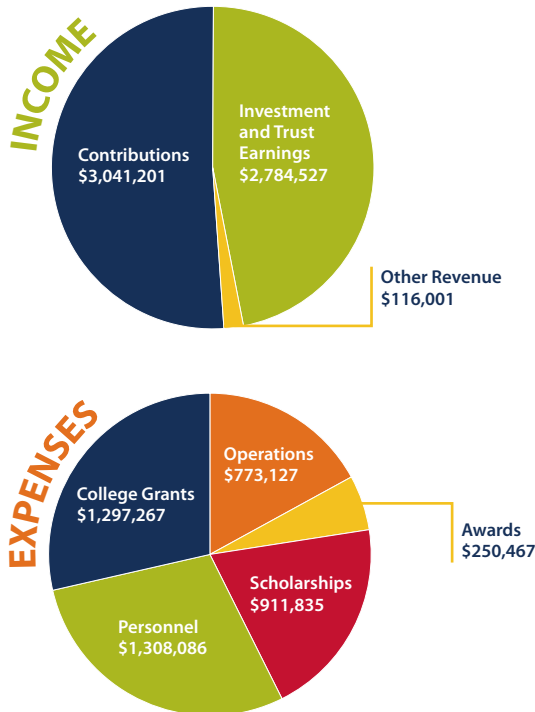
Launches a podcast sharing student stories of transformation and success in BaTS.

Weina Sun & Timothy Chang / BaTS



Stewards

A standing board Finance Committee stewards performance and reviews financial statements to ensure transparency and compliance.



Statement of Financial Position

Through June 30, 2025

2025*

Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 554,097
Marketable securities	\$ 22,083,331
Contributions held in trust by others	\$ 3,340,474
Pledges receivable, net	\$ 2,589,436
Prepaid expenses	\$ 18,519
Total assets	\$ 28,585,857

Liabilities

Accounts payable	\$ 112,705
Grants payable	\$ 280,940
Total liabilities	\$ 393,645

Net Assets

Without donor restrictions	\$ 3,796,978
With donor restrictions	\$ 24,395,235
Total net assets	\$ 28,192,213

Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 28,585,858
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* Unaudited

Bellevue College Foundation

Partners

“Thank you KBCS! The world sounds better with you in it.”

—Abby K., Mercer Island



The Foundation and KBCS 91.3

Located on the Bellevue College campus and founded in 1973, KBCS provides the Bellevue-Seattle-Tacoma region with locally produced music, news, and public affairs programming.

KBCS can be heard on **91.3FM**, streaming online at kbcbs.fm, and through the KBCS mobile app. KBCS is a self-supporting program of Bellevue College, and Bellevue College Foundation accepts gifts on behalf of KBCS.

Thank You, Donors

Thanks to the contributions of over 4,000 individual listeners, corporate partners, and grant support, KBCS raised over \$1.2M in fiscal year 2025. Listener contributions allow KBCS to remain independent, commercial-free, and community-focused.

Community Powered

KBCS broadcasts with the support of over 30 volunteer DJs and students. The station's community radio format allows the public to not just consume media, but to be an active part of the conversations and perspectives shared in the media.



*Ranky Tanky Band Members
Charlton Singleton (left) and Clay Ross (right)*



Ian Hughes, KBCS Music Director and Weekday Host

2025–26 Foundation Board of Directors

Executive Committee

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Chelle Chase, SEIU 775
Benefits Group (retired)

Past President

Lisa Brock, Overlake Medical Center & Clinics
(retired)

Vice President, Governance

Shairose Gulamani, Leadership and
Organizational Coach

Vice President, Finance & Treasurer

Zahra Hirani, Zones

Vice President, Development

Tom Nielsen, Bellevue College (retired)

Secretary

Maria Villa-Wigfall, Boeing

Chair, Scholarships & Programs

Leslie Heizer Newquist,
Bellevue College (retired)

Directors

Saghar Amini, Habitat for Humanity

Andrew Baumann, Tutta Bella

Jim Chesemore, IMA

Blanka Kopacz, PACCAR Parts

Cima Malek-Aslani, Architect (retired)

Sarah McLamb, Zillow

Brandy Slade, Overlake Medical Center
& Clinics

Grace Yu, Realogics Sotheby's

Ex Officio

Dr. David May, President,
Bellevue College

Dr. Jorge de la Torre,
Acting Executive Director,
Bellevue College Foundation



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