



Photo by Theresa Danna-Douglas

USA Funds continues support for Dean's Future Scholars

USA Funds, an Indianapolis-based nonprofit that promotes higher education access and success, recently increased its support of the Dean's Future Scholars Program, which mentors diverse, low-income and first-generation students through high school and into college.

Each year, 50 sixth-grade students from the Reno area are selected by their teachers to become Dean's Future Scholars. The program has a 90 percent high school graduation rate, with almost all of these students continuing on to the University of Nevada, Reno or Truckee Meadows Community College. USA Funds has been a major contributor to the program since it began in 2002.

"A major key to our success is our six-year

commitment to mentor the students from the end of sixth grade until high school graduation," said Robert Edgington, '75M.Ed. (school administration), '78 M.A. (counseling and educational psychology), director of the Dean's Future Scholars Program.

More than 300 Dean's Future Scholars spent their summer on the Nevada campus, learning the strategies and academic tools to help them graduate high school and enter college.

"The program is run by part-time student staff, most of whom grew up in low-income families with severe challenges to overcome," Edgington said. "The resourcefulness and determination of the Dean's Future Scholars staff to persevere through these challenges has

Dean's Future Scholars are joined by their mentors on the University Quad in June.

equipped them with the ability to empathize with the students they mentor and to assist these students in finding solutions to daunting obstacles."

Additional funding for the program has been provided by Nevadaworks, AT&T, Nevada System of Higher Education, GEAR-UP, Lifestyle Homes Foundation, Phil and Jennifer Satre '80M.Ed., Robert Edgington '75M.Ed., '78M.A., and Patricia Miltenberger '68, '85Ed.D., as well as other donors.

To learn more about supporting the College of Education, please contact Mitch Klaich, associate director of development, (775) 784-6914 or mklaich@unr.edu.

—Roseann Keegan

Newly established Raggio scholarships support political science, education students

Named for Sen. William J. Raggio '48 (political science), '11HDG, two new endowed scholarships at the University of Nevada, Reno will support students pursuing degrees in political science and education.

The Senator William J. Raggio Free Enterprise Scholarship Endowment will be awarded to students in their junior year who are pursuing a degree in political science and who demonstrate support of the Jeffersonian principals of limited government, free enterprise and fiscal responsibility—values held closely by Raggio. The Senator William J. Raggio Education Scholarship Endowment will benefit students who are pursuing a degree in education and are completing their professional preparation in the classroom.

Both scholarships will be first awarded in the 2012-13 school year.

A fourth-generation Nevadan, Raggio served as a member of the Nevada State Senate for 38 years—longer than any other Nevada senator. During this time, he produced landmark legislation for both K-12 and higher education in Nevada, tirelessly advocating for a stronger system of higher education in the state.

To learn more about supporting these scholarships or others, please contact John Carothers, vice president for Development and Alumni Relations, (775) 784-1352 or jcarothers@unr.edu.

—Roseann Keegan



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Sen. William J. Raggio '48, '11HDG was honored in February by the University's Faculty Senate and the Nevada Faculty Alliance as a "Hero of Higher Education" for his many years championing education in the state of Nevada.

Veteran sports editor George Ross creates journalism scholarship

George Ross '46 (journalism) has established the George S. Ross Scholarship Endowment to benefit journalism students at the University of Nevada, Reno. Ross, 94, began his journalistic career as a sportswriter on the University campus and later became the sports editor of the *Oakland Tribune* in the 1960s and 1970s—a golden era of Oakland sports where the A's and Raiders competed in four world championships. Ross overcame a speech impediment, a stutter, which taught him to carefully weigh every word he spoke. He wrote with similar precision, becoming known as a methodical journalist and a good listener.

Longtime *Oakland Tribune* columnist Dave

Newhouse wrote of Ross, "The name George Ross may not sound familiar, but Oakland wouldn't be the same sports town without him. He nurtured the Raiders to respectability, recruited the A's from Kansas City and wooed the Warriors from San Francisco."

Ross and his wife, Helene, moved to Graeagle, Calif., after he retired from the *Tribune* as managing editor and feature columnist in 1980. They were married for 50 years before Helene's passing 11 years ago. He established the scholarship endowment as a way of giving back to the University, where he got his start. The first scholarship will be awarded in the 2012-13 school year.



Photo by Theresa Dame-Douglas

George Ross '46, pictured at his Graeagle home, learned the basics of writing and reporting from legendary Nevada journalism instructor Alfred "Higgie" Higginbotham.

To learn more about supporting the Donald W. Reynolds School of Journalism, please contact Kristin Burgarello, director of development, (775) 784-4471 or kburgarello@unr.edu.

—Staff reports



Daisy Lopez, left, and Mckenna LeVitt participate in a math game during the weeklong Northern Nevada Girls Math and Technology Camp in July.

from applicants solicited by school mailings to public, private, charter and Native American schools.

The students gain exposure to female role models in mathematical and technological fields by working with an all-female staff, hearing a guest speaker discuss the use of mathematics and technology in her job, and learning about contemporary and historical female mathematicians and computer scientists.

The foundation also sponsored the inaugural Multimedia Boot Camp in June (*See the article on page 30*). Through the generosity of the Smallwood Foundation, all eight student participants attended for free, receiving hands-on experience at the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center. The foundation will also provide a two-year, \$2,500 annual University scholarship to the student exhibiting the most potential. The Smallwood Foundation Scholar will also be given a paid job at the Knowledge Center's @One multimedia area during their undergraduate career. All boot camp students will be able to utilize the Knowledge Center and its services through their senior year in high school.

To learn more about supporting the College of Education, please contact Mitch Klaich '02, associate director of development, (775) 784-6914 or mklaich@unr.edu.

—Roseann Keegan

Smallwood Foundation supports Girls Math and Technology Camp

Every summer, seventh- and eighth-grade girls from throughout northern Nevada spend five days on the University campus expanding their math and technology skills in preparation for challenging classes that await them in middle school and beyond.

The Northern Nevada Girls Math and Technology Camp, now in its 13th year, recently received a gift from the Frances C. and William P. Smallwood Foundation to assist with the July 2011 session.

As a program of the College of Education, the camp's mission is to support and encourage girls of all abilities and backgrounds to increase their knowledge, skills and confidence in mathematics and learning technology. The residential camp began in 1998 under current director Lynda Wiest, a professor of education. All northern Nevada girls are eligible to apply in the spring before entering the seventh or eighth grade. Approximately 60 girls, 30 from each grade level, are selected randomly

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