

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS

A CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS

November 14, 2023

Event overview:

5:30 pm | Doors Open
6:00 pm | Guests Seats
6:10 pm | M. Westfall, Welcome
6:12 pm | Salad and Dinner Entree Service
6:57 pm | M. Westfall, Opening and Ora Introduction
7:00 pm | President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz Remarks
7:05 pm | Aaron Helander (scholarship donor)
7:10 pm | Zoe Rosario (scholarship recipient)
7:13 pm | Erika Head (scholarship recipient)
7:16 pm | M. Westfall, Closing
7:19 pm | Strolling dessert, donor/student photos, mingling

PRESIDENT ORA HIRSCH PESCOVITZ

- Thank you, Mike...for all that you and your team do to support and advance Oakland University.
- And thank you to our scholarship donors here with us....and those whose philanthropy are making such a positive different in the lives of students....
- Frankly, without the commitment and support of our scholarship donors, none of this would be happening.
- As high as 65 percent of college students receive scholarships.... And as 58 percent of families use scholarships to help pay for college.
- Your generous support is instrumental to our mission and our goal of being an accessible and affordable institution of higher learning.

- In a few minutes, you'll hear from Aaron Helander, a scholarship donor, along with scholarship recipients Zoe Rosario and Erika Head.
- And you'll be inspired to learn how scholarships not only provide opportunity, but lead to a transformative impact on students, their families....and in their communities.

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- In September, we were encouraged by the findings of a Wall Street Journal assessment of the best colleges in America.
- The survey ranks Oakland as the highest among our peers in Michigan.
- Oakland is also ranked as the "best value for investment" among our peer institutions.
- Furthermore....
- Oakland ranks first among public universities in Michigan for enhancing students' social mobility...and we are second after UM-Ann Arbor in preparing students for careers.
- Scholarships at Oakland University are major reasons we offer education that is both accessible and affordable.

At Oakland....

- 19% of undergraduates will have their tuition fully covered
- 43% of incoming first-year class will have their tuition fully covered
- 74% of incoming first-year students whose family incomes <\$70K will have their tuition covered fully by the Golden Guarantee
- And...57% of incoming first-year students with family incomes <\$70K will have their tuition and on-campus housing fully covered.
- Scholarships fill the void left by public education funding cuts.
- Scholarships support equitable outcomes and students and families in need.
- Scholarships support students who excel academically.
- Scholarships encourage diversity by supporting students from a wide range of backgrounds.
- Scholarships lead to future job opportunities.
- Scholarships stand out on a graduate's resume.

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- **There is no question.....Scholarships make a fundamental difference in the lives of students and families....**
- **And thank you for making a fundamental difference here at Oakland University.**