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Scholarships donated at Horticulture center grand opening

Snap-on Incorporated, through its Bahco Tools brand, donated a total of \$20,000 to pay for two annual scholarships for Gateway Technical College students, Monday at the grand opening of the college's Pike Creek Horticulture Center located on the Kenosha Campus.

The Bahco Tools Horticulture Scholarship will financially benefit Gateway students pursuing an associate degree in Nursery and Landscaping. The Bahco Tools Sustainable Energy Scholarship will financially benefit students pursuing an associate degree in the HVAC-Geothermal Technician or Electrical Engineering-Sustainable Energy Systems programs.

"This commitment helps students prepare for family-supporting jobs that grow and sustain Southeastern Wisconsin," said Gateway Technical College Foundation Inc. Executive Director Jennifer Charpentier.

Both are \$10,000 endowed scholarships to the Foundation. Depending upon investments, it will generate \$500 per year for each of the two scholarships.

"We deeply appreciate the generosity of Snap-On Tools through its Bahco Tools brand," said Charpentier. "Their thoughtful investment in Gateway students, through establishing scholarships with the Foundation, helps students stay in college and keep their education affordable."

The donations were part of the grand opening of the center. Horticulture program dean Beverly Frazier said the project has resulted in providing twice the classroom space available for students as well as learning resource areas for the public.

"We are so proud of this building," said Frazier. "Our new facility provides us with more adequate work space for the horticulture team, our urban farm garden, floral design class enhancements and offers a greater access of space for inclusion of the public."

The addition and remodeling resulted in improved greenhouses, flexible, enlarged classroom and lab spaces, and a retail area to support the students' entrepreneurial efforts with their fundraising plant and vegetable sales. The space will be used by all Horticulture programs – Greenhouse and Floral and Nursery and Landscaping associate degrees and the Urban Farming advanced technical certificate. Community groups can access the center and its resources for training and meetings, as well.

Gateway Technical College collaborates with communities in Kenosha, Racine and Walworth counties to ensure economic growth and viability by providing education, training, leadership and technological resources to meet the changing needs of students, employers and communities.