

For Immediate Release Contact:  
 Brenda Gillen  
 (719) 389-6101  
 Brenda.Gillen@ColoradoCollege.edu

**Colorado College Fundraising Sets Record  
  
*$10 Million Commitment Challenges CC Alumni and Friends to Establish 101 Scholarships***

Colorado Springs, Colorado — Aug. 10, 2015 — Colorado College announced today that more than $37.1 million in cash, pledges, and estate commitments were received during its 2015 fiscal year, which concluded on June 30. The total included $19.6 million in cash and outright gifts — an amount when combined with gifts received during the previous three fiscal years — equals $73.8 million and represents the best four-year period of fundraising in the college’s 141-year history.

“The generosity of donors who stepped forward to support Colorado College during our recently completed fiscal year was remarkable,” said CC President Jill Tiefenthaler. “Their gifts help ensure that CC will thrive in the years ahead.”

Tiefenthaler also said that the liberal arts college is focusing on three funding priorities — its library renovation, innovation, and scholarships — which are critical toward implementing *The Colorado College Plan: Building on the Block*, a comprehensive strategic vision that builds on the college’s signature Block Plan.

One of those priorities, scholarships, will benefit significantly from a substantial commitment received during fiscal year 2015 from an anonymous donor. It will dedicate $10 million to endowed scholarships for Colorado College students by challenging other members of the college community to make gifts of their own. The donor, who made the commitment through estate plans, will provide a $100,000 incentive for each additional donor who establishes or enhances an endowed scholarship for CC students in the amount of $100,000 or more. The ultimate goal of the challenge is 101 scholarship endowments supported by at least $20 million in funding. To qualify for the challenge, donors must make an outright gift or, if they meet the minimum age requirement of 56, make a commitment through their estate plans.

“The unique nature of this challenge embodies the innovative spirit of Colorado College and our alumni,” said Tiefenthaler, who noted that the college is unaware of other institutions that have challenged prospective donors to establish scholarship endowments through their estate plans. “Scholarships are essential to CC’s ability to compete for talented and diverse students. The challenge, and everyone who participates, will help students in this most meaningful way.”

During fiscal year 2015, Colorado College also finished fundraising for a five-year effort that included $10 million in funding from the Walton Family Foundation. When combined with pledges to establish endowments by donors to the college, the total result will be more than $21 million in scholarship support for high-need or first-generation college students.

Colorado College’s Annual Fund also exceeded $3.2 million for the second consecutive year, up 15 percent compared to fiscal year 2013. A total of 15,255 alumni, parents, students, friends and organizations made gifts to the college during fiscal year 2015. Among them, 5,755 alumni gave to the college.

“We are elated that so many donors are supporting the college. Their philanthropy affirms their belief that the college’s strategic vision is benefitting our students,” said Sean Pieri, vice president for advancement. “Although there is great momentum and support behind fundraising efforts, much work remains before we can truly realize Colorado College’s incredible potential.”

**About Colorado College**  
Colorado College is a nationally prominent, four-year liberal arts college that was founded in Colorado Springs in 1874. The college operates on the innovative Block Plan, in which its approximately 2,000 undergraduate students study one course at a time in intensive 3½-week segments. The college also offers a master of arts in teaching degree. For more information, visit www.ColoradoCollege.edu.