



Margaret Bradford, Director
Marketing and Community Relations
3345 Redwood Highway, H Bldg.
Grants Pass, OR 97527
mbradford@rogucecc.edu
Ph: (541) 956-7304 Fax: (541) 471-3548

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RCC ceremonies to honor graduates and GED earners

Rogue Community College will celebrate its 38th annual commencement beginning at 6 p.m. June 13 in the Marjorie Holzgang Concert Bowl on the Redwood Campus, 3345 Redwood Hwy., Grants Pass.

The ceremony, which honors students who have completed certificates and degrees, will be followed by a reception in the Student Center.

A graduation event recognizing Jackson County students who have completed their GEDs will be held at 6 p.m. June 11 at the Crater High School Performing Arts Center, 655 N. Third St., in Central Point. Josephine County GED students will be honored June 13 in a ceremony beginning at 10 a.m. in the Holzgang Concert Bowl, Redwood Campus. Receptions will follow each ceremony.

At this year's commencement, 434 students will receive a total of 450 degrees and certificates. Graduates earned 324 degrees and 126 certificates (16 students will receive two awards). Among 2009's graduates, 271 (62 percent) are women and 163 are men. The two eldest grads are 65, and the four youngest are 18. The average age is 32.

Seventeen students, about four percent, compiled straight As or 4.0 GPAs, with 176 (about 41 percent), earning GPAs of 3.5 or higher. Average GPA among all grads is 3.4. Thirty-five graduates are members of Phi Theta Kappa honor society.

The annual Outstanding Citizen Award will be presented to Mark Knouff. Initiated in 1987, the award honors individuals who have provided distinguished service to the college and community. Currently president of the Homebuilders Association of Jackson County, Knouff has been involved in numerous projects benefiting RCC students. The most recent was his involvement in helping RCC Construction Technology students build an environmentally friendly house in Eagle Point. Profits from the sale of house will benefit the RCC Foundation scholarships.

Recent recipients of the Outstanding Citizen Award are Alan DeBoer, 2006, Dean and DonnaJean Wendle, 2007 and Bob and Barbara Bean, 2008.

Delivering the student commencement address will be graduates Tracy Fredrickson, Business Technology, and Jamie Wagner, Nursing.

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Kori Bieber, dean of Student Services, will serve as master of ceremonies. Leading the faculty procession will be Dr. Galyn Carlile, Cindy Hauser and Mike Laam, retiring RCC administrators. Humanities instructor John Cole will deliver the faculty greeting.

Among those graduating are 252 Jackson County and 173 Josephine County residents, one Douglas County resident and two Klamath County residents.

A streaming video of the commencement will be available on RCC's homepage at www.roguecc.edu.

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