

CCEF LINK

California Consortium of Education Foundations

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We hope that members of the LEF community will contribute to this newsletter. If you have written, or would like to write, an article that would be of interest please contact CCEF.

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

by *Caroline Boitano, President, CCEF Board of Directors*

2003 is beginning with a bright new start for CCEF. If you are reading this, you know that we are reinstating the newsletter to keep members better informed about what CCEF is planning, and better connected to other local education foundations around the state. I hope you are reading this newsletter in an electronic format, because that will make it easier for you to get to the web site, <http://www.cceflink.org>. This site should be added to your list of favorites. It gives you information about our programs, in addition to articles, news and information relevant to public education foundations. Please be sure to give us your feedback about the features you use, and what you would like to see us add to the web site to make it an even more effective tool.

Right now is a very important time for local education foundations. Many of you have told us how the budget actions in your districts are making the work of local education foundations more vital than ever. We want our programs and outreach to touch on the areas you think are critical for your organization. We are now planning programs that focus on fund development, marketing, governance and program development.

This year our annual meeting in the fall will be in the San Francisco Bay area. The program committee is already begun to plan and we need to hear from you about what you think will be of the greatest value for your foundation. What programs do you want? You will receive a "Save the Date" reminder within the next month. Please mark your calendars and plan to bring a group from your foundation.

If there is a theme to this letter, it is "Please give us your thoughts!"

And we will be asking for more information from you in our annual survey which will be sent out soon. This survey is designed to give us the most up to date information about your programs, your goals and your needs. This year you will be able to fill this out on line, or using pen and paper, whichever is easiest for you. But for us to represent the education foundations throughout the state, we need to know as much about you as possible. Please take the time to complete the survey and get it back to CCEF.

CCEF SURVEY OF CALIFORNIA LEFs [\(TOP\)](#)

This year CCEF will be sending a survey to all identified education foundations in California to gather data on the growth and activities of California's LEF movement. Sponsored by the Wells Fargo Foundation the

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IN MEMORIAM, JIM HOWARD [\(TOP\)](#)

by CCEF Board Members

Jim Howard was all about creating “solutions.” As one of the founders of the Julian Education Foundation, Jim became involved with CCEF in the early 90s. Under his leadership the Julian Education Foundation was awarded a CCEF Apple Award and recognized for a project to grow student entrepreneurs and involve them in the foundation.

During Jim's ten years on the CCEF board, he was instrumental in working with LEF leaders in building their capacity to reach out to both diverse communities and individual donors. With a doctorate in psychology, Jim always encouraged LEF colleagues to think about how they could evaluate the good works they were doing. He was the lead author of “Private Funds for California’s Public Schools” included in *Fundraising for Private Institutions*. Describing the work of CCEF, this article initiated CCEF's efforts to evaluate data on how local education foundations raise funds and the types of programs they support. Always concerned with being responsive to the needs of local community leaders, Jim Howard encouraged CCEF to gather information through surveys and discussions with LEFs, a practice that has greatly influenced CCEF's success.

A nonprofit consultant, Jim Howard was a popular workshop presenter. Anyone who attended one of his presentations will remember his illusory friend “Mrs. Got Rocks,” one of his favorite examples of a prospective donor. Regardless of how busy his life became, Jim always found time to work with local education foundation leaders trying to make a difference in their community. Jim was a teacher and mentor as well as a life long learner. This fall Jim added the coveted title of CFRE, certified fund-raising executive, to his long list of credentials.

Jim Howard had a way of making you feel you were part of his family whether you were meeting for the first time or were a long time colleague. If the occasion included eating all the better! Jim enjoyed cooking, good food, and the special sharing that came with sitting around a table. Jim valued people, and he used his talents to build bridges among people, uniting them in efforts to make a difference. It might be helping groups raise funds for educational endeavors or writing articles about African-American culture or social psychology, or graciously sharing his point of view. At his memorial service in Julian, the entire community was represented in addition to family and friends who traveled from around the country. The members of this standing-room-only crowd, time and again returned to common themes, Jim’s commitment to Marie and his family, his ability to make you feel respected and valued, his enthusiasm for life, and most of all his ability to weave his values throughout his professional and volunteer activities. Jim had a gift of making people feel connected and valued. He loved bringing people together and was a major force in CCEF developing regional gatherings for education foundations and other nonprofit leaders in San Diego.

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Jim Howard
1940 - 2002

Ever the self-effacing gentleman, Jim was fond of introducing himself as, "the guy from Julian." He was immensely proud of his tiny hometown and its accomplishments. The recent plan to build a new library in Julian was a source of great pride and real joy to Jim.

The CCEF board and California's education foundations will miss Jim's joy and wise counsel. We are privileged to have called him " friend."

2002 CONFERENCE REPORT [\(TOP\)](#)

by Susan Sweeney, CCEF Executive Director

"Collaborating for Our Kids' Success" was the theme of the 2002 California Consortium of Educational Foundations conference. Local education foundation (LEF) leaders from all over California plus attendees from other states met at the Bahia Resort Hotel in San Diego on October 17 and 18, 2002 for two days of intensive skill building and networking. The two-day conference was sponsored by Washington Mutual, Bank of America and Hewlett Packard.

On Thursday, October 17, CCEF hosted four skill-building workshops. Over 50 people attended the CCEF biannual workshop, "Starting an Education Foundation," an intensive one-day event designed to provide the legal, financial, political, and governance information needed to jump start a foundation. Three in-depth workshops were also offered for established foundation leaders focusing on strategic board development, developing annual support and major gifts programs and a session on sharing successful classroom grant programs.

On Friday, following a brief welcome from CCEF President, Caroline Boitano, the morning keynote speaker, Carla Sanger, President and CEO of LA's BEST (Better Educated Students for Tomorrow) was introduced. Ms. Sanger described how, in Los Angeles, a partnership between the city government, school district and the private sector resulted in a vibrant and extensive after school enrichment program that includes more than 18,000 elementary school children at 104 sites.

The afternoon keynote, Brad Strong, Legislative Director for EdVoice, the grassroots, political action group for California's public schools, provided a statewide policy update for local education foundation leaders. Before and after the two keynote speakers, there were a dozen different sessions designed to appeal to leaders of both new and established foundations. They covered a range of topics including establishing an endowment fund, working together with PTAs, communicating across cultures, creating an after-school program, and developing your board. CCEF Advisory Board member Ronald Vera, offered guidelines for LEF advocacy and lobbying activities. His remarks were taken from a forthcoming CCEF white paper "Education Foundations and Lobbying," funded by California Casualty Group.

The 2002 Apple Award was presented to the Huntington Beach Education Foundation for its collaboration with the Huntington Beach Art Center in producing "Open Doors" and educating community members who were not connected with schools. Congratulations Huntington Beach!

Additional sponsors of 2002 conference were Mission Federal Credit Union, BAE Systems Mission Solutions, Inc., and Tchotchke's, thank you. Plans for the fall 2003 Annual Conference in San Jose are already underway. Do you have a workshop idea or know a fantastic speaker? LEF leaders are encouraged to share their foundation's experiences and successes at the annual conference. Please consider being a workshop presenter! Contact CCEF.



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The Bahia Belle, a turn of the century Mississippi style sternwheeler was the HQ for the conference.



Lunch and keynote session in the Bahia Bell



Ron Vera talking to Craig Falkenhagen, President of the Las Lomitas Education Foundation



Caroline Boitano leading a session on fundraising