

Corks & Cuisine



July 2008

WINE & FOOD FESTIVAL – HELPING CHANGE LIVES

A great number of students at MSU Billings juggle multiple responsibilities as they work toward improving their lives with a college education. Imagine the strain of raising a family, working, and attending college. Now, imagine the joy of opening a letter announcing the receipt of a scholarship to lessen your financial burden. Our generous guests at the MSU Billings Foundation Wine & Food Festival have made this scene a reality for hundreds of MSU Billings students.

The goal of the Wine & Food Festival, established in 1993, has been to raise dollars to enable access to excellence at MSU Billings. Student assistance, in the form of scholarships, has been a priority due to the rising costs of education, and the fact that a high percentage of our students are responsible for the entire cost of their education.



In 1997, "Lots for Scholarships" was introduced as a part of the live auction during the gala Saturday evening event. Bids for this lot are strictly donations and help grow the Wine & Food Festival Scholarship Endowment. In 2006, the Heads or Tails game was added to the auction, encouraging even more guests to join the fun to raise additional scholarship dollars.

Due to the generosity of Wine & Food Festival guests, many lives are changing. Students are receiving assistance as they work to achieve their educational goals. Beginning with scholarship awards in academic year 1999 – 2000 and continuing through the 2007-2008 academic year, 246 students have been awarded \$218,800 in Wine Festival scholarships, ranging in value from \$500 to \$2,000. In addition, \$85,000 in Wine Festival scholarships has been awarded to 54 students for academic year 2008-2009, about 8% of the more than \$1 million awarded by the Foundation annually.

A heartfelt thanks to all of the generous participants in the Wine & Food Festival.

You are making a difference in many lives!

Save the Date!!! Wine & Food Festival
May 11–16, 2009
Visit our website at www.winefoodfestival.com