



For Immediate Release

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The Lincoln Academy Hosted Their Fourth Annual Scholar Showcase Fundraising Event

BELOIT, Wis - The Lincoln Academy (TLA) hosted their fourth annual Scholar Showcase on Thursday, May 15, 2025. Over 173 individuals responded to the event this year. In addition to admiring unique and original-designed items in woodworking, welding, and artwork, guests enjoyed an evening of appetizers, beverages, and live music by the Feestet Trio, a local jazz band based out of Madison.

The Scholar Showcase featured several one-of-a-kind items created by TLA scholars over the course of the school year. A wide variety of curriculum choices are available to TLA scholars, including construction, welding, metal fabrication, painting, fashion design, stained glass, and ceramics. Dozens of original scholar-made pieces from these classes were donated to the silent auction and fundraiser, delighting guests with a colorful way to enjoy the evening's festivities.

TLA Special Projects Manager, Jean Marie McKearn reflects, "We were simply delighted by this year's contributions to the Scholar Showcase. Scholars had been working very hard all year, and this event is a culmination of some of their best work at The Lincoln Academy. It's a wonderful way for us to celebrate their accomplishments. No two pieces were alike!"

For TLA, the annual Showcase event is not just a way to show off the creative accomplishments of scholars - it also helps raise some necessary funds. As a public school, TLA is funded directly by the State of Wisconsin. However, the amount received per scholar is lower than what is received by other public schools in the area. TLA depends on involvement with partnerships and fundraising events like the Scholar Showcase to keep bringing innovative educational opportunities to all scholars.

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Funds raised at the Scholar Showcase will be used to purchase necessary materials and equipment for the academy's specialty labs.

Dr. Kristi Cole, TLA Chief Education Officer, states, "Specialty labs offer scholars enriching, hands-on educational experiences, which are simply unmatched in a solely traditional classroom setting. We strive to give our scholars an expanded focus on career exploration, creating real opportunities for them to match their unique skills and interests for their futures."

Dr. Cole continues, "Enhancing our specialty labs is one sure way to give learners such an experience and deliver on our promise to them. TLA's focus is on making sure every scholar is proficient and prepared for life after high school."

McKearn adds, "Donations are still coming in, so we do not have our final numbers yet, but we are happy to say that we exceeded our goals for attendance this year, which helps bring awareness to the wonderful work and enriching educational experiences that our scholars get to enjoy."

The Lincoln Academy is a K4-12 free public charter school focused on rigorous academics, character development and career exploration. More information about The Lincoln Academy can be found at www.thelincolnacademybeloit.com, by contacting the school directly at 608-690-5100, or info@tlabeloit.com.

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