

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **WHITNEY BENEFITS INC. HONORED AT OUR NATION'S CAPITAL FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT TO SHERIDAN COLLEGE**

During the Council for Resource Development's (CRD) national conference held in Washington D.C. on November 2, 2007, Whitney Benefits, Inc. was awarded the 2007 Benefactor Award in honor of their contributions to Sheridan College.

The Council for Resource Development (CRD), representing over 1600 members at more than 700 two-year colleges, is an affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges. CRD supports professionals and develops leaders engaged in community college resource development through education, advocacy and mentoring.

Whitney Benefits, Inc. was selected from nominations representing donors who support nearly 1200 community colleges nationwide. Sheridan College Foundation nominated Whitney Benefits, Inc. because of their continued support to Sheridan College. Edward A. Whitney created the first educational foundation in Wyoming in 1927, hoping it would establish a local college someday. Sheridan College became a reality in 1948. Since then, Whitney Benefits, Inc. has contributed more than \$30 million to Sheridan College in support of buildings, programs, faculty and plans for the future.

Whitney Benefits, Inc. Vice President Roy Garber traveled to Washington DC and accepted the award on behalf of Whitney Benefits. During his acceptance speech, Garber explained "we are a large foundation in a relatively small community and as such it becomes difficult not to be swayed away from the wishes of our Founder." Garber went on to say, "I am proud of our board for staying true to Mr. Whitney's directions and have continued enhancing educational opportunities."

In the conclusion of Garber's speech he made reference to the monuments of our nation's capital and the words of our Founding Fathers to say, "I have been awed by their foresight and vision about education. They realized that to attain our basic freedoms and to maintain them, the people of our nation had to be educated".

Also attending the gala awards banquet was Sheridan College President, Dr. Kevin Drumm, Sheridan College Board of Trustee President, Mike Nickel and his wife Julie, Sheridan College Foundation Vice President Sy Thickman, Nancy Garber, Sheridan College Foundation staff Linda Lawrence, Debi Isakson, and Susan Bigelow, Executive Director of Sheridan College Foundation.

"Support for Sheridan College by Whitney Benefits places the college in a small select group of community colleges in the nation. Both in the level of private support for a public community college and the programs such funding supports, Whitney Benefits was recognized as one of the top community college benefactors in the nation. We cannot thank Whitney Benefits enough and we are exceedingly proud that CRD recognized their extraordinary support for Sheridan College", said Dr. Kevin Drumm.

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