

Eureka College Alumni Making a Difference

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Chrystal Downs tragically passed away last September. A 2006 alumnae of Eureka College, her life was defined by a curiosity driven by the joy she found in discovery.

Out of their grief, a group of friends quickly decided something should be done to celebrate who she was and permanently honor the spirit by which she lived. This soon became a push to endow a scholarship at Eureka in her memory.



"Eureka was the place where Chrystal discovered many of her passions in life," recalled Kelley Dick, a close friend from Chrystal's college days and now a minister within the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). "The quest to understand how humans think and process emotions, especially as they relate to what is beyond ourselves, was something she cultivated during her college years."

The scholarship will be awarded annually to an entering or returning student majoring in either Psychology or Philosophy & Religion,

Chrystal's two courses of study as an undergraduate student.

"Nothing can replace the hole in the world created by Chrystal's absence," said Allison Woolridge, who was one of Chrystal's sorority sisters and is now a real estate agent in Atlanta, "but this scholarship can witness to the vibrancy of her life by nurturing others following a similar educational and vocational journey."

Over 20 individual donors made pledges that will be fulfilled over 5 years to endow the scholarship. Gifts continue to be solicited and additional contributions can be added even after the initial endowment is established. Those interested in learning more or participating should contact the [Advancement Office](#).

"I'm glad to be a part of the group that helped to start this scholarship fund. Chrystal was a life-long learner with a brilliant mind. We want to support that passion for learning in future generations of Eureka College students, especially in the areas of psychology and religion," added Scott Woolridge, who is also a Disciples minister and offered the eulogy at Chrystal's funeral, "This is one way our memory of Chrystal can live on."

Irving Berlin, the renowned American lyricist, once wrote that "the song is ended but the melody lingers on." Establishing this scholarship in Chrystal's memory promises that what is true about music will also be true about her life.

Rev. Beau Underwood

