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**Anonymous Donor Offers to Help Grow Myrtle Figueras Scholarship Fund at NGCF**

*Donor offers \$5,000 in matching funds*

**GAINESVILLE, Ga. (May, 2015)** – A matching funds campaign is underway to grow the Myrtle Figueras Scholarship Fund at the North Georgia Community Foundation.

Established in 2003 by her friends to sustain her name and legacy, the Myrtle Figueras Scholarship Fund assists Gainesville High School seniors pursue higher education.

Because of Figueras' belief in the importance of open dialogue and her passion for advocating for all minorities the scholarship seeks to recognize students with a demonstrated acceptance of all cultures and a plan for further study in foreign language. The scholarship fund has recognized 25 such students with scholarship awards in its 15 year existence.

Now, an anonymous donor has offered \$5,000 in matching funds for the Myrtle Figueras Scholarship Fund to help the fund reach an endowed level of \$10,000. The donor will donate \$5,000 if the community can raise an additional \$5,000.

"I am humbly grateful for any and all contributions that will support the scholarship's goal of assisting Gainesville High seniors further their education," Figueras said. "I am so appreciative of the anonymous donor's generosity. Now, we need to match the kind gift with the help of the community."

Figueras was a longtime teacher at Gainesville High who continues to serve the community as a member of the Gainesville City Council.

"We are so grateful to this donor who recognizes the importance not only of sustaining scholarship funding but also of sustaining Ms. Figueras' name and legacy through an endowment," said Callie Flack, North Georgia Community Foundation Vice President of Programs. "By reaching the endowed level of \$10,000, the scholarship fund will help students pursue further education and honor Ms. Figueras forever."

All donations must be received by September 1, 2015 to qualify for the match, and donations may be made payable and sent to the North Georgia Community Foundation for the Myrtle Figueras Scholarship Fund at 615F Oak Street, Suite 1300, Gainesville, GA 30501. Online donations may be made at [www.ngcf.org/donate](http://www.ngcf.org/donate).

Founded in 1985 by Lou Fockele and other business leaders, the North Georgia Community Foundation is dedicated to enhancing the spirit and quality of life in the Northeast Georgia community by building, managing and awarding charitable grants from a pool of community funds valued in excess of \$47 million. To date, more than \$45 million in grants have been awarded. The organization also promotes training and networking among the region's nearly 300 non-profits. For more information, please contact the Foundation at [www.ngcf.org](http://www.ngcf.org) or call (770) 535-7880 ext. 226.

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