PHILANTHROPIST
OF THE YEAR

Linda Cline

&

2017 SYMPOSIUM Recap
It is my great pleasure to serve as the 2017-18 Women for OSU Chair. The past year has been a true pleasure and the next one will be particularly special as Women for OSU celebrates its 10-Year Anniversary. What a great year we have had! The Symposium this past April with keynote speaker Joan Lunden was a great success! There were 500+ in attendance, $183,350 raised in sponsorships, and over $136,000 contributed to our scholarship fund. The Women for OSU Scholarship Fund now has an endowment value of $839,521 and has awarded a total of $187,370 in scholarships to 49 impressive Oklahoma State students. At the Symposium, we were also thrilled to recognize Linda Cline as the 2017 Philanthropist of the Year.

Robin Byford is currently serving as Vice Chair for Women for OSU, and will be your next Chair beginning in the summer of 2018. Robin is a wonderful leader and her accounting and financial background are a tremendous asset to our organization. Our financial goal for the 2018 anniversary year is to reach $1,000,000 in our Women for OSU Endowed Scholarship Fund. We are well on our way and can see the goal in sight!

The culmination of Women for OSU’s 10-Year Anniversary celebration will be the 2018 Symposium, but there are many activities prior to April already on the calendar. We’re particularly excited about two upcoming regional events — a reception in Tulsa on June 22nd and a two-day event in the Washington D.C. area October 4 & 5. The OSU Foundation and the Women for OSU Council will be highlighting women across our campuses and their significant accomplishments throughout this 10th anniversary year.

The 2018 Symposium is already in the planning stages and we can’t wait! It will be April 5th in Gallagher-Iba, once again. Octavia Spencer is slated to give our keynote address. The Women for OSU committees are preparing for scholarship selections and focusing on another wonderful OSU woman philanthropist to recognize.

The 40+ members of the Women for OSU Council, along with our current Partners, are also excited about the additional membership category for young alumnae ages 35 and younger. The Council has been impressed with the energy and involvement of young alumnae that are eager to join our group!

Thank you to all the fabulous women that are members of Women for OSU. The Council, Partners and future Partners, along with the wonderful OSU Foundation staff, look forward to the upcoming year and the celebration of Women for OSU as we cross the $1 million scholarship mark in Year Ten!

Orange Tidings to all!!

Amy Mitchell
Women for OSU Chairwoman, 2017
I think you get led to do things. I just do what I think might be helpful and what I want to do. It’s just seeing the need and saying, ‘Is that a place I want to help? Do they need help?’"

Linda Cline’s life has taken many unexpected turns, but it always seems to work out for the best. Along the way, she enjoys opportunities to share her blessings with others.

She met her future husband, Charlie, on a blind date in 1954, when Linda was in high school and Charlie was a junior-college cadet at Claremore’s Oklahoma Military Academy. They married three years later, and remained together until Charlie passed in 2012. They also raised two children and had plenty of professional success.

The couple joined Charlie’s brother, Neil, to establish and run Cherokee Lines trucking company from 1963 until 1990. The business thrived, peaking at more than 100 trucks and even more trailers, hauling across the 48 contiguous states.

The Clines moved from Oklahoma City to Cushing in 1967. In 1985, they purchased the country acreage on which they planned to retire. That year they bought the 17 horses that established Char-Lin Ranch, now a renowned producer of registered quarter horses and Angus cattle.

Char-Lin Ranch grew to more than 2,500 cattle and 300 horses, earning more than 200 world and reserve world championships before downsizing in recent years.

Neither Cline attended OSU, but they credit much of their success to the faculty’s willingness to visit the ranch, working with and teaching them. They fell in love with the institution where their daughter, Amy, earned a journalism degree and their son, Cary, sent his two daughters.

With OSU helping Char-Lin Ranch establish such a successful beginning, the Clines immediately started giving back to the equine program. Along with donations, they opened their ranch to student tours and hired countless OSU students. They also allowed the Department of Animal Science to use their animals for teaching opportunities, judging team practice, clinics and contests. They even donated several world-class horses to improve the genetics of OSU’s teaching herd and endowed a professorship.

In 2014, Linda made a major gift to fund the state-of-the-art Charles and Linda Cline Equine Teaching Center. It includes a teaching barn with stalls for foaling mares, a small indoor arena, classroom, conference room, feed and tack room, a wash rack, treatment area and offices. OSU Extension Services can host workshops and learning opportunities for students, 4-H clubs and FFA chapters, as well as the general public.

Linda was recognized by OSU with two major awards in 2015. The Department of Animal Science presented her the Distinguished Service Award, and she was named a DASNR Champion.

Cline supports many non-OSU causes as well, including the Right Path Riding Academy, which provides therapeutic horseback riding for those with special needs. She also supports Special Olympics, as well as Love, I.N.C., which helps people in need and purchases Christmas presents for children. Another cause close to her heart is Shiloh Camp, a day camp for inner-city children in Oklahoma City. First United Methodist Church of Cushing also benefits from Linda’s service. Linda also established a youth scholarship through the American Quarter Horse Association.

To watch a video about Linda Cline, visit OSUgiving.com/women/philanthropist
Megan DeVuyst is an agribusiness junior from Morrison, Oklahoma. Her philanthropy is driven largely by her heart for cancer patients. Her mother was diagnosed with stage four of the disease 10 years ago, but beat the odds. Her former Sunday school teacher and mentor, Susan Taylor, lost her battle with cancer. Megan volunteers for organizations such as Coaches vs. Cancer and the Make-A-Wish Foundation. She also credits the agricultural industry with helping her mature into a leader. She has spent hundreds of hours with FFA, serving as a state FFA officer, facilitating the Oklahoma FFA Alumni Leadership Camp and the State FFA Convention, and organizing a program called Pork for Packs, Beef for Backpacks that led to the donation of more than 355 livestock animals to become more than 500,000 protein sticks for hungry children.

Darci Klein is a doctoral student in counseling psychology from St. Louis, Missouri. She plans to become a pediatric psychologist focusing on hematology and oncology, because she wants to do anything she can to provide happy childhood moments for those who need them the most. That guides her service and educational career. Her dissertation is about how self-compassion and hope can improve the quality of life for individuals with bleeding disorders. She has clinical experience at Wings of Hope Family Crisis Services, the OU Child Study Center, OU Children’s Hospital and OSU Counseling and Counseling Psychology Clinic.

She is president and former secretary of the Doctoral Counseling Psychology Student Group. She has also volunteered for the American Psychology Association’s Society for Health Psychology, a fundraiser to support a needy family during the holidays, Actively Moving Forward, Equality Center in Tulsa and Building Resilient Communities.

Abbey Grimes is a microbiology sophomore from Bartlesville, Oklahoma. She was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes when she was 5. It inspired her to pursue a career as a juvenile endocrinologist so that she can help children battling that and other diseases. She co-founded the OSU College Diabetes Network to benefit her peers. She has volunteered for fundraisers supporting St. Jude Children’s Hospital, as well as diabetes-related organizations JDRF and the Scott Verplank Foundation. She has also mentored children through Falls Creek, Girl Scouts and a Christian teen mentoring program.

After receiving a service dog that alerts her when her blood sugar is high or low, she has great passion for training dogs to help others who are also battling the disease. In addition, Abbey co-founded a program to support reading curriculum and development in elementary schools. And she brings her passions together by volunteering at OU Children’s Hospital, participating in medical missions and shadowing physicians.

Christina Anaya is a doctoral student in integrative biology from Fallbrook, California. She has spent more than 1,600 hours mentoring undergraduate students at OSU and her previous university, Cal Poly. She believes it is especially important to encourage minority students to consider careers in science.

She serves as a student representative on the Department of Integrative Biology’s Seminar Committee as well as the Student Sierra Club. She volunteers for Into the Streets, the Salvation Army, Special Olympics and the Wesley Foundation. She has previously volunteered for Hurricane Katrina Outreach along with Flying Samaritans in Mexico. Her research focuses on parasite community ecology, especially the little-studied hairworm. That is what drew her to Stillwater, as OSU’s Matthew Bolek is one of the leading experts. She was recently awarded a prestigious Fulbright U.S. Student Research Award to study Iceland’s parasites and their hosts.

Wendy Lau Wong is an industrial engineering and management junior who was born in Panama City, Panama, and raised in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Her mother moved her to America when she was 11 so that she would have more opportunities than in their native Panama. Wendy became an American citizen and is now an active member of the OSU and Oklahoma City communities. She has volunteered more than 150 hours each at Early Head Start, the Food Bank, St. Eugene’s Catholic School and Ridgeview Elementary School. She has also spent significant time serving through Feed the Children, Habitat for Humanity and the Humane Society.

She has been in leadership positions for the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences, Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, OSU–OKC’s Student Government Association and Omega Phi Alpha Service Sorority. She was also a freshman mentor for the Martha Burger Student Mentoring Program and was initiated into the Alpha Pi Mu Industrial Engineering Honor Society.
Ayrianna Swanson is a French, microbiology and biochemistry sophomore from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. She is studying abroad in France and plans to attend medical school. Her heart for health care shows in her time volunteering at Stillwater Medical Center, Integris Baptist Medical Center, and the Manos Juntas Free Clinic. She also founded From the Heart, which provides access to food, health care and education for Oklahoma City-area children. She has volunteered for Wings of Hope, a canned food drive, Into the Streets and the Humane Society.

Her concern for the minority community is evident in her campus involvement, such as being president of the Minority Association for Pre-Med Students, a mentor for the Minority Association for Pre-Med Students, a mentor for the Freshman Forum Council and Retention Committee. She has also been in leadership positions for the Animal Science Leadership Alliance and CASNR Student Council. She volunteered for Relay for Life and has been a member of other groups such as the Homecoming VIP Steering Committee, the Student Alumni Board, President’s Leadership Council, President’s Partners, Freshman Representative Council and Swine Club.

She says the philanthropic experience that has meant the most to her is mentoring a local middle-school student over the past two years through the Boren Mentoring Initiative. She has also been in leadership positions for the Animal Science Leadership Alliance and CASNR Student Council. She volunteered for Relay for Life and has been a member of other groups such as the Homecoming VIP Steering Committee, the Student Alumni Board, President’s Leadership Council, President’s Partners, Freshman Representative Council and Swine Club.

Sulochana Paudyal is a doctoral student in entomology from Bharatpur, Chitwan, Nepal. Her research is inspired by her experiences in Nepal. She is developing new technologies and methods that could help feed millions of people by decreasing the amount of food that pests spoil. That includes storage in bags that incorporate insecticide rather than putting insecticide directly on the crops, and enhancing the understanding of sorghum’s resistance to sugarcane aphids.

She also volunteers for several organizations. She is a communications officer for the Entomology and Plant Pathology Graduate Student Association as well as the Society of Overseas Nepalese Entomologists. She is a volunteer for the Entomological Society of America (ESA), as well as the Southwestern branch’s Insect Expo. She worked as a cultural coordinator for the Nepalese Student Association. She also helped lead “Nepal Will Bounce Back,” which led to the OSU community donating more than $6,000 to assist Nepal’s recovery from a devastating earthquake in 2015.

Krista Boston-Fullerton is a doctoral student in educational leadership and policy studies from Stigler, Oklahoma. She is proud of her Cherokee and Choctaw heritage, which has inspired her to dedicate herself to working in university settings and making a difference in the lives of minority students. She is especially focused on the American Indian population, which statistically is well below the national average for rates of enrolling in and graduating from college.

She has worked in higher education for 12 years, helping students with financial aid as well as at-risk students, including racially and ethnically diverse populations. She is currently the coordinator of tutoring and careers for TRIO Student Support Services at Northeastern State University. She has previously worked for the Cherokee Nation, Bacone College and Connors State College.

*Wirt June Newman Memorial Scholarship Recipient

Karlie Wade is an agricultural communications and pre-law sophomore from Perry, Oklahoma. She learned a lot about leadership and volunteerism growing up. She enriched her understanding of philanthropy by joining the OSU Student Foundation. Now the majority of her service hours are spent giving back through those organizations.

Last summer, she was one of 10 young professionals nationally to teach at the Citizenship Washington Focus program at 4-H’s national headquarters in Washington, D.C. She was also a Western National Roundup Facilitator in Denver.

At OSU, she has been band chair for the Homecoming Parade and Band Steering committee, raised funds for student organizations through PhilanthroPete, volunteered for Lights on Stillwater and Helping Hands and Meal Plans, and been a member of the National Panhellenic Women’s Fraternity, Freshman Representative Council, President’s Leadership Council and the Sustainability committee. She has also volunteered for Special Olympics, Meals on Wheels, Peppers Ranch Foster Care Community and the Farrah Love Foundation 5K.

*Sheryl Benbrook Women for OSU Scholarship Recipient

Courtney Mapes is an animal science junior from Alva, Oklahoma. She has completed more than 600 hours of community service since arriving at OSU in August 2014. She says 4-H and FFA were instrumental in teaching her about service. She has dedicated 220 hours as a small-group leader for the Oklahoma FFA Alumni Camp.

She says the philanthropic experience that has meant the most to her is mentoring a local middle-school student over the past two years through the Boren Mentoring Initiative. She has also been in leadership positions for the Animal Science Leadership Alliance and CASNR Student Council. She volunteered for Relay for Life and has been a member of other groups such as the Homecoming VIP Steering Committee, the Student Alumni Board, President’s Leadership Council, President’s Partners, Freshman Representative Council and Swine Club.

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Over the past year, we held regional events in Cushing and Dallas. These evenings are designed to inspire and inform women about all of the exciting things going on at OSU and with our organization. We have upcoming events planned for June 22 in Tulsa and October 4-5 in Washington, D.C. We hope you will be able to attend one of these exciting events.

To see more photos, please visit:
OSUgiving.com/women/Cushing2016
OSUgiving.com/women/Dallas2016

Women for Oklahoma State University hosted its ninth annual Symposium in April, highlighted by a keynote speech from one of the most recognizable women in America, Joan Lunden. The high demand for tickets led to the event being held at Gallagher-Iba Arena for the second year in a row. Tables covered Eddie Sutton Court, which held 510 attendees.

Lunden’s speech included her path from being a “weather girl” in Sacramento to anchoring the evening news and eventually 19 years as co-host of Good Morning America. She also talked about her battle with triple negative breast cancer, which was diagnosed in June 2014 and required chemotherapy, surgery and radiation.

“When the going gets tough, you can’t quit,” Lunden says. “You have to hang in there and believe you’re going to make it. … Sometimes the most important things we say all day are the things we tell ourselves. ‘Yes, I can do this.”

She also talked about balancing her successful career and private life, including being a mother of seven. She included inspirational messages such as, “We are all writing our life’s story and the pen is in our hands,” and, “You have to be willing to risk not being great for the chance to learn how to do something great.”

Amy Mitchell, an alumna and chair of Women for OSU, provided an update on the organization, including some impressive statistics. The 43 current members of the organization’s Council have given more than $120 million to support various needs at OSU, and the combined giving of everyone who attended the Symposium exceeded $147 million.

The master of ceremonies was alumna and reporter Jocelyn Lockwood. She and Mitchell closed the event by announcing that next year’s 10th annual Symposium, scheduled for April 5, will feature Academy Award-winning actress Octavia Spencer as keynote speaker. It is the highlight of the organization’s year-long celebration of its 10th anniversary.

Visit OSUgiving.com/women to watch a special and exclusive interview with Joan Lunden. It was reported by Julia Benbrook, the current Miss OSU and a former Women for OSU scholarship recipient.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE 2018 SYMPOSIUM

featuring

Octavia Spencer

THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. | OSU Campus, Stillwater

Stay tuned for sponsorship and ticket opportunities.
As part of the year-long celebration of a decade of Women for Oklahoma State University, the organization is reflecting on just how much it has grown since its formation in 2008. For example, the first Symposium was held April 23, 2009, at the Wes Watkins Center. About 250 people watched as Sarah Cary received a $2,000 scholarship.

Compare that to the ninth Symposium, held April 27, 2017, in Gallagher-Iba Arena. More than 500 people attended the event, including Symposiums and regional events. It has also awarded $187,370 in scholarships to 49 students. Over that span, the organization has surpassed 3,000 total attendees at its events, including Symposiums and regional events. It has grown since its formation in 2008.

Alumna Kayleen Ferguson attended the past two Symposiums, and was so inspired by the event in April that she made a gift to qualify as a Partner. Ferguson also points to the diversity of the group, which brings together women of all types yet united by their love for Oklahoma State University. This includes networking, generational friendships, encouragement, career enhancement, personal enrichment and student interaction.

“We all share this strong desire to promote other women through education at OSU,” Ferguson said. “My favorite part is the introduction of the scholarship recipients. They represent a wide variety of majors and goals in life, and their stories are so uplifting and amazing! The strength of their educational opportunities at OSU is evident and encourages others, like myself, to provide funds for future students.”

Ferguson also enjoyed listening to the Philanthropists of the Year. In 2016, she was inspired by the words of honoree Malinda Berry Fischer, who had been a member of the Council from 2009-11. Fischer says she loves the way the Council has developed.

“Tm proud that there is now no question that women who have attended OSU demonstrate their orange pride by giving back to Oklahoma State University,” Fischer said. “I love that the Council members make an annual financial commitment, most of which goes to the scholarship awarded. Additionally, Women for OSU offers a variety of opportunities for women of all ages, while at the same time, strengthens their ties to Oklahoma State University. This includes networking, generational friendships, encouragement, career enhancement, personal enrichment and student interaction.”

“We have so much camaraderie within the group,” Mitchell said. “We have significant contributions within the various colleges, and we all come together to celebrate and inspire leadership and philanthropy across the OSU family.”

One reason Women for OSU has been able to increase its impact – which is most obvious in the increasing number of scholarship dollars awarded each year – is the continued
ongoing contributions of the Council members as well as Partners, sponsors and other supporters. The scholarship endowment has grown to exceed $850,000, and the group has announced a goal of surpassing $1 million before the next Symposium, scheduled for April 5, 2018.

Other changes include the addition programs such as the Mentorship Committee. The new committee is considering ways to encourage the next generation of OSU leaders and scholars, from pairing current students with established mentors to partnering with faculty to create specific university classes focused on philanthropic leadership. Those interested in helping develop this exciting new initiative should contact Michal Shaw, Director of Women for OSU, at mshaw@OSUgiving.com or 405.385.5147.

As Women for OSU begins its year-long celebration of a decade inspiring leadership and financial support to OSU, it has already begun taking steps to make this its most successful year yet.

"Women for OSU is such a tremendous organization because we are guided by incredible ladies and because we work with the amazing OSU family," Mitchell said. "We have just started to scratch the surface of what we can accomplish together. I look forward to a great year that establishes the momentum for achieving even more in the next decade."

Current Women for OSU Partners

The Women for OSU Partners Program provides women with a great opportunity to get involved with the group and help support scholarships and programs while connecting with other women passionate about the university. You can become a Women for OSU Partner today with a minimum contribution of $1,000 annually to the Women for OSU Scholarship Fund. For those 35 and younger, the minimum annual contribution is $500. For more information, visit OSUgiving.com/women.

If you are interested in becoming a Women for OSU Partner, please contact Mandy Heaps at 405.385.0721 or mheaps@OSUgiving.com.
At the Women for Oklahoma State University Symposium on April 27, our organization awarded 10 scholarships totaling $43,020. More than 500 people attended to connect, learn and be inspired. We want to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation to the following sponsors who made the event such a huge success.

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For more information about Women for OSU, visit OSUgiving.com/Women or contact Michal Shaw at 405.385.5147 or mshaw@OSUgiving.com.