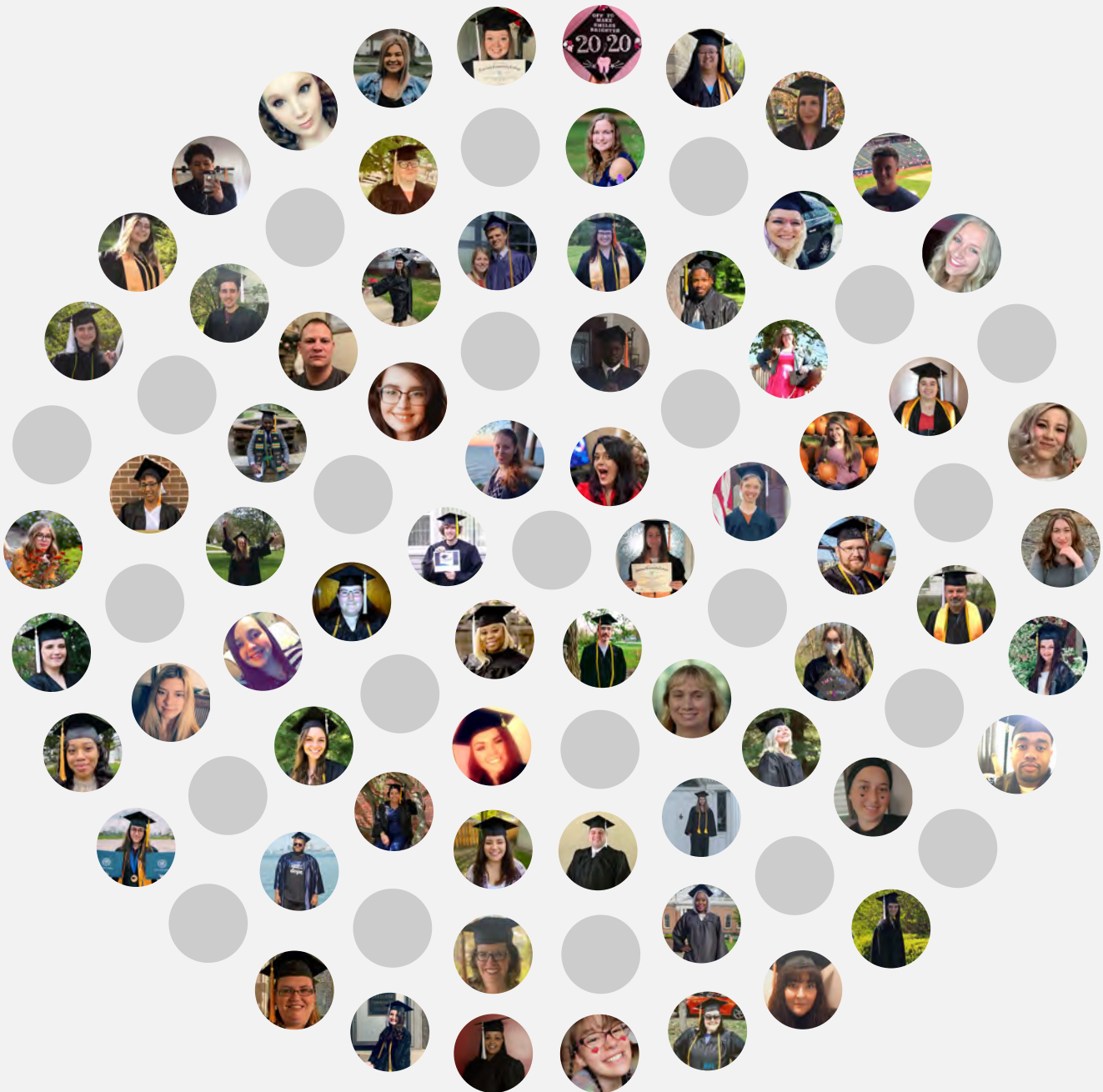


THE Link

Fall 2020

The Lakeland Community College Alumni & Friends Magazine



Grants & Gifts

Your Contributions at Work
Honors Program
Greatest Need Fund

Alumni News

Lakeland Love Stories

College News

Finishing up credits post COVID-19
Enlightened Navigators
Student Spotlights



Welcome to *The Link*, our new digital newsletter for alumni and friends of Lakeland Community College!

Photo: See Greg and Lynn's "Lakeland Love Story" on Pg. 10

We hope you enjoy learning about what's happening at Lakeland and about our students, our programs, our successes and our opportunities.

We want to hear from you. We invite you to share your own personal stories about your time at Lakeland. We want to know about how Lakeland made a difference in your life, what faculty or staff member helped you most along your way, what inspired you while you were here, where you are and what you are doing today.

For this inaugural issue, we would like for you to take a brief survey. This will help us to stay connected in ways that are meaningful to you and help inform future issues. Please [click here](#) to take the survey – it should take less than five minutes.

We value your input and hope you will let us know what would interest you most as we move forward with this new communication. Please send your suggestions to Laurie Principe at lprincipe@lakelandcc.edu, or to me at gsanders3@lakelandcc.edu.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Greg Sanders '92
Vice President for Institutional Advancement &
Executive Director of The Lakeland Foundation

About the Cover Page

For the first time in its history, Lakeland did not hold a commencement ceremony. However, that didn't stop grads from celebrating their achievements! Many students submitted their photos to be featured in a social media blitz that blanketed Lakeland's Facebook and Instagram pages for days!

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Congratulations



Graduates!

Because of social distance recommendations issued by the State of Ohio and the Lake County General Health District, administrators at Lakeland Community College had to reimagine how to celebrate an important rite of passage for many of their students this spring.

Instead, [graduates](#) received their official degree (s) and a copy of the [commemorative program](#), which is usually provided at each year's festivities, in the mail. All 2020 graduates will be invited back to participate in the May 2021 traditional commencement ceremony to be held on campus Saturday, May 8.

Lakeland's 2020 commencement highlights include:

- A total of 800 students received degrees.
- An Associate of Applied Business degree in entrepreneurship was

awarded posthumously to Willowick resident James Comer Jr. (61), who died from COVID-19. He retired from the Regional Transit Authority.

- The oldest graduate was 62; the youngest was 16.
- There were 2 international graduates.
- 75 College Credit Plus students (74 seniors, 1 junior) representing 21 high schools graduated.
- 46 graduates began in the Tech Prep program.
- [Holden University Center graduates](#) from partner institutions numbered 89 undergraduate and 62 graduate students; graduates have now surpassed 1,100 since 2013.

New career portal for alumni

Lakeland alumni can create an account with the new career portal to look for employment. It's free to use! Sign up today at lakelandcc.edu/careers.





Health Tech Students Finish Up Requirements

When the college moved to remote learning this past spring, some health technology students were unable to complete their requirements to receive credit. Read on about how some of our program directors adapted and adjusted in an effort to get students across the finish line.

Dental Hygiene

As part of their requirements for graduation, students needed to perform services on

patients in the dental hygiene clinic. Program Director **Jennifer Barr** ensured that many measures were put in place in order to see patients safely, such as recording temperatures of every student, faculty member and patient. They also contacted patients 48 hours after the appointment to ask about any COVID-19 symptoms that may have developed since receiving service at the clinic.

Photo: Medical assisting students return to the classroom to finish requirements.



Medical Assisting

Once safety measures were put into place in the classroom lab, medical assisting program Director **Denise Lash** guided students to finish their competencies such as preparing and administering medications, injections, and vital signs. Placing students into clinicals became a challenge due to physician offices' changing their protocols as a result of COVID-19.

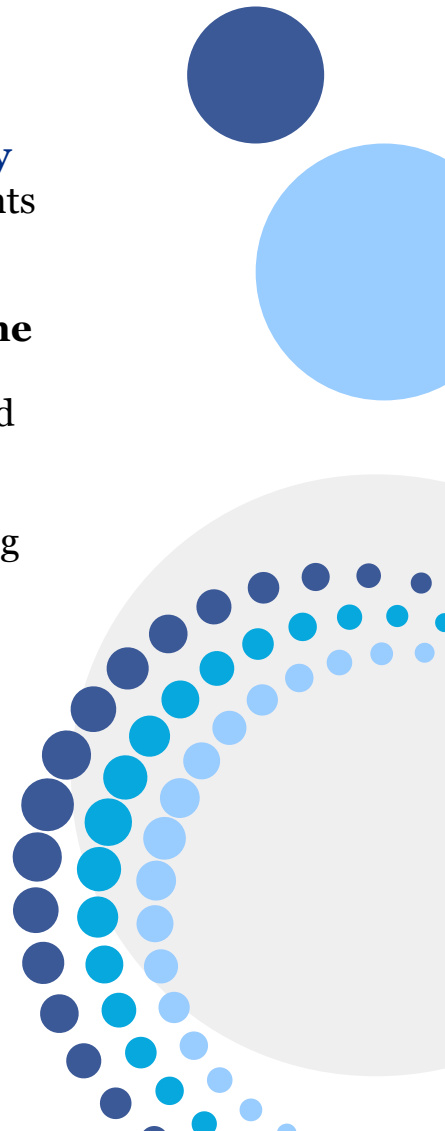
Radiologic Technology

Radiologic technology Professor **Tina Barnauskas**, ensured that students were able to get back to clinicals

in the hospitals in order to graduate.

Respiratory Therapy

Respiratory therapy students were able to participate in clinicals this summer, according to **Dr. Catherine Kenny**, program director. By Ohio law, students could begin working after this summer. Those interested in working while continuing their education were able to apply for, and accept, positions available.





Enlightened Navigators



In mid-March 2020, Lakeland Community College moved to all online education due to the coronavirus. Faculty who had never taught online classes before quickly came up to speed so that students could continue the education in the spring term. The coronavirus brought serious challenges for many of our students.

The Lakeland Enlightened Navigators project was launched in early April 2020. This innovative, bold approach was designed to help students, who were at risk of dropping off, stay on course while assisting with hunger, immediate financial needs, technology needs, and additional stress. Approximately, 150 college employees from departments throughout Lakeland worked in teams to offer one-on-one

support to 1,600 students in spring and 400 students in summer. Enlightened Navigators reached out to students via phone, email, and text. They assisted students with finding support for food insecurity, accessing free Chromebooks, working with financial aid and connecting to counseling support and local agencies. This personal approach provided empathy, encouragement, and practical solutions to a myriad of personal and academic needs.

“We, at Lakeland, believe that every student deserves the opportunity to succeed and that extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures.”

We, at Lakeland, believe that every student deserves the opportunity to succeed and that extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. The Enlightened Navigators helped to ensure the success of our students.

Student Spotlights:

Juan Gutierrez



Although he's still a student, Juan Gutierrez wasted no time to start his own business. After earning the Real Estate Salesperson Certificate from Lakeland, he partnered with Howard Hanna in Mentor. "I got into real estate because I've always had a passion for looking at homes and helping people," said Gutierrez. "Lakeland has given me the knowledge and the connections that make me be able to say that anything is possible and that it will happen." He is also currently finishing up credits at Lakeland to transfer to Cleveland State University where he plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in business administration. At Lakeland he is also the president of the Hispanic Club and serves as a liaison/volunteer with the Comité Mexicano de Cleveland, to work on a project with the Cleveland Cultural Gardens Federation to establish a dedicated space for Mexico. When asked why he came to Lakeland, he answered, "Because of the awesome vibe Lakeland offers to its students. Also, the awesome staff that works here that makes even the worst situations—like COVID-19—manageable."

Alex Picciano



Lakeland student Alexander Picciano was one of 20 community college students in the country named to the prestigious All-USA Academic Team and received a \$5,000 scholarship. In addition to the scholarship funds, Picciano will be presented with a commemorative medallion. The All-USA program is widely recognized as the most prestigious academic honor for students attending associate degree-granting institutions. Picciano was also named to the All-Ohio Academic First Team. In addition to Picciano, Lakeland students Caleb Bentley and Nicole Hocevar were named All-Ohio Academic Third Team members.

Janice Robinson



Lakeland student Janice Robinson has been named as a 2020 Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholar. She is one of 207 students nationwide to be selected by a panel of independent judges from nearly 700 applications.

The Coca-Cola Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program helps new Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society members defray educational expenses while enrolled in associate degree programs. The Painesville resident received a \$1,000 scholarship toward her studies in business management at Lakeland. She plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in business.

Lakeland Love Stories



In every issue we'll feature lovebirds who met as a direct result of coming to Lakeland!

Hank and Beth Otlowski (Koors)

Once upon a time, Lakeland didn't have its own campus, and the student center was in the Cleveland Trust Bank building in Painesville, which is where Hank and Beth spent time together on "campus" when they first met.

As students who saw the transition of Lakeland to the new (current) campus in Kirtland, Hank and Beth met while he was at soccer practice on the then-brand-new practice field. The two were married at St. Gabriel Catholic Church in Concord, Ohio, Aug. 26, 1972.

Greg and Lynn Sanders (Wervey)

Both athletes, Greg and Lynn met for the first time in Lakeland's gymnasium. Lynn played for the Lakers on the volleyball team, and Greg liked to frequent the racquetball court and hit the open gym for basketball. They spent most of their time on campus together in the gym, relaxing in the cafeteria and even took a handful of classes together.

After Greg got down on one knee behind the Willowick fire station to ask for Lynn's hand in marriage, in what he calls "a traditional proposal, nothing creative or fancy," the two were married Dec. 27, 1996, at Our Lady of Mount Carmel church in Wickliffe, Ohio.



Read All About it!

Lakeland in the News

The Greater Cleveland Food Bank holding drive-thru in Kirtland on Tuesday

Cleveland19.com, June 9. [Article](#) about a food bank distribution being held on Lakeland's campus.

Lakeland received \$1.5M in CARES Act funding to assist students affected by novel coronavirus disruption

The News-Herald, May 31. [Article](#) about Lakeland receiving CARES Act funding; **Melissa Amspaugh**, senior director of enrollment operations, is quoted.

Families may turn to community colleges as an option during pandemic

WOIO-TV 19, May 27. **Laura Barnard, J.D.**, executive vice president and provost,



interviewed for a [TV segment](#) about community colleges as an option during pandemic.

Untangling Budget Uncertainty

Community College Journal. August/September 2020.

[Article](#) about budgeting challenges during the coronavirus pandemic; **Dr. Morris Beverage Jr.**, Lakeland president, is quoted.

Lakeland offers 'learning concierge' for remote students

Cleveland.com, Aug. 31. [Article](#) about Lakeland's new, remote learning concierge initiative; **Laura Barnard, J.D.**, executive vice president and provost, is quoted.



Grants & Gifts to The Lakeland Foundation

Lakeland Foundation to receive \$1 million from trust of longtime donor

The Lakeland Foundation received nearly \$1 million from the trust of a longtime college donor, Joanne Cole Bhatta, whose uncle was a surveyor of the first campus buildings.

An educator throughout her life, Bhatta cared about Lakeland's mission, its students and Lake County. She passed away May 15, 2019, in Naples, FL. Most of her estate was left to charities, and Lakeland was one of the nonprofit organizations she prioritized.

Lakeland receives AACC grant toward STNA program apprenticeships

The American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) awarded a coalition of four community colleges, including Lakeland, a grant to increase state tested nursing assistant (STNA) apprenticeships. Lakeland's portion of the grant will be \$102,000. The project is being led by Cuyahoga Community College along with Stark State and Lorain County Community College (LCCC).

Regionally, STNAs are in high demand and the need for qualified workers is growing. Health agencies are having difficulty hiring enough qualified workers needed for this sector.



Arlene Holden provides gift to support scholarships

Longtime Lakeland supporter Arlene Holden has contributed \$50,000 to

The Arlene M. and Arthur S. Holden Endowed Scholarship Fund through The Lakeland Foundation.

The fund provides need-based scholarships to Lakeland students who maintain a 2.8 grade-point average, who are United States citizens and who demonstrate good moral character, integrity, leadership potential and prior or current involvement in extracurricular activities and/or family responsibilities.

Since the fund was established in 2005, 106 scholarships have been awarded. For the 2020-2021 academic year, four students have received scholarships thus far.

Having made their home in Lake County, Arlene and Arthur Holden have a long history of supporting Lakeland and higher education.

Arthur Holden helped to establish the college in 1967 and served as its first board chair. Since his death in 2008, his wife Arlene has continued to lead their vision for community-centric giving.

In 2011 the college established a university center for residents to earn a four-

year or graduate degree close to home. With Ms. Holden's support, the building was named the "Arlene and Arthur Holden University Center of Lakeland." Since 2013, more than 1,100 area residents have completed their bachelor's or graduate degrees at the Holden University Center.

KeyBank Foundation grant for remote learning

Lakeland received a \$75,000 grant from the KeyBank Foundation to launch an initiative that will help students be successful in remote learning environments. Approximately 60% of the college's fall semester classes were conducted remotely due to precautions being taken as a result of the novel coronavirus pandemic. Read more [here](#).

Cleveland Foundation grant to fund virtual internships

Lakeland received an \$85,000 grant from the Cleveland Foundation to develop and pilot a unique virtual internship program. Read more [here](#).



Where There is Greatest Need

“Your gift will make a difference in many students’ lives!”

The Lakeland Foundation continually strives to respond quickly to the needs of our students and the college. The Lakeland Foundation’s “Greatest Need Fund” is an ongoing campaign to raise unrestricted funds that help support a variety of campus programs and activities, innovative teaching projects, scholarships,

technology, and emerging priorities that help students achieve their dreams. Your gift will make a difference in many students’ lives!

Especially in these uncertain times, our ability to respond to these needs nimbly and quickly is vital to our students and campus community.

Cardinal Credit Union, a long-standing and generous partner with The Lakeland Foundation, has provided a gift that will match donations up to \$7,500 to support the Greatest Need Fund.

To help us reach our goal of a 100% match, please click [here](#) to make a gift of any size.

Your gift will be doubled and will help to ensure that every student has the opportunity to succeed!

Your Contributions at Work:

Lakeland Honors Program

In an effort to fill the unique needs of students who excel academically, Lakeland Community College now offers an honors program. The program enrolled its first cohort of students who met the admission requirements of at least a 3.5 GPA and an ACT score of 25 or above, in fall 2018. Lakeland joins a rising trend in two-year institutions that offer honors programs.

The program's four-year partner colleges and universities will accept up to 12 credits of Lakeland honors-level courses as part of their honors program requirements. All honors courses meet Transfer Assurance Guides standards, which enable guaranteed transfer to all Ohio public colleges and universities.

In addition to a strong curriculum, honors students

Education is the great equalizer in life's journey. It doesn't matter from where you start; it matters where you finish. I am honored to play some part in that journey.

Dede Storer's generous gift established the honors program at Lakeland.



Photo: Dede Storer

may engage in leadership, service and cultural offerings allowing each student to develop a unique honors portfolio.

Honors scholarships will also be available to students accepted into the program, increasing the affordability of this high-quality academic offering.





“Our entire community grows stronger and more resilient each time a Lakeland graduate receives their certificate or degree from Lakeland.”



The Student Immediate Needs Grant was established for students who have encountered an unexpected financial hardship that is preventing them from completing the semester. Unexpected expenses such as medical bills, car repair, etc. are considered.

Here is what one very grateful student had to say after receiving the grant:

“On my Gosh, thank you and Lakeland so much!! You guys have been amazingly supportive towards your students prior to this pandemic and really stood up during and after these trying times!! Thanks a million times, Juanita Shabazz.”

Students continue to struggle and could use your support. Donate any amount [online](#).

Why the Daileys Give Back

Mary Jo and I see great wisdom in the old adage: “GIVE a man a fish and he will eat for a day. TEACH a man HOW to fish, and he will eat for a lifetime.”

Thus, we deeply believe in the value of education, and much of our volunteer work and charitable giving focuses on quality, values-driven high school and collegiate programs.

We have always been so inspired by the courage and persistence of our Lakeland students who often face great obstacles and challenges to starting and/or completing their studies at the College.

Yet the knowledge and skills gained at Lakeland are vital to their future success and happiness, particularly in today’s complex and technically advanced marketplace.

As such, anytime we can help students reduce or eliminate barriers to their educational journey, we feel privileged to help. The Immediate Needs Fund at Lakeland is one such opportunity.

Bottom line: our entire community grows stronger and more resilient each time a Lakeland graduate receives their certificate or degree from Lakeland. GO LAKERS!!

Photo: Don and Mary Jo Dailey.

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In Memoriam

Lakeland mourns death of former president Ralph Doty



Lakeland Community College mourns the death of its former president, Dr. Ralph R. Doty, who served as the college's 4th president from 1988 to 2001. Doty passed away June 13, 2020, at age 78, in Duluth, MN.

“Dr. Doty made a lasting impact on Lakeland and our community,” said Lakeland President **Morris W. Beverage Jr.** “He was a tireless worker in support of the students of Lakeland, as well as the community at large. He served for 13 years and his work is still felt in the halls of Lakeland.”

Under Doty's leadership, the campus grew significantly in the number of students served, programs offered, funds raised, and facilities improved.

During his tenure, the college received North Central Accreditation in 1990, established pioneering transfer agreements with

four-year colleges and universities including The Ohio State University in 1994, and converted from quarters to semesters in 2000.

Doty grew the campus by championing construction of the Student Center in 1993 and Health Technologies Building in 1995, and renovation of the Library in 1997 and Athletic & Fitness Center in 2000.

Doty and his wife Diane were the driving force to undergo an extensive \$3 million restoration of the historic Mooreland Mansion on campus in 1998, to serve as an elegant conference center and reception site. The President's Living Room at Mooreland was named after them and features their portrait in one corner.

Doty led the college to its first successful countywide ballot issue in 25 years in 1992 and started the Citizens for Lakeland Golf Outing that same year.

Among many other accomplishments, Doty created Lakeland's Center for

Business & Industry in 1989, oversaw celebration of the college's 25th anniversary in 1992, opened Lakeland East in Madison in 1994 and Lakeland West in Willowick in 1997, and helped start the All-Ohio Academic Team program in 1997.

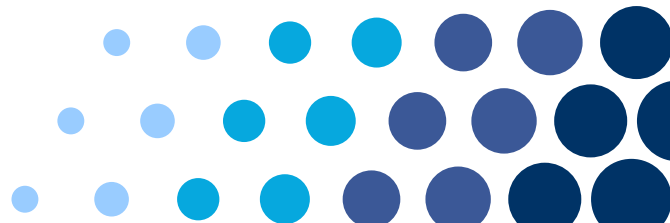
He was named Leader of the Year by Leadership Lake County in 1994.

Doty retired from Lakeland in 2001 and was recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award by Phi Theta Kappa International for his higher education leadership.

A celebration of Doty's life will be held when his children can travel safely to Minnesota.

The Dr. Ralph R. Doty Endowed Scholarship Fund was established to honor his outstanding leadership in the community, his dedication to educational advancement and excellence, and his vision and accomplishments as president of Lakeland. Donations to the fund can be made through The Lakeland Foundation.

“Dr. Doty made a lasting impact on Lakeland and our community.”



WONDERSTOCK

Mark Your Calendars!

Wonderstruck in Cleveland

Music Festival

Lakeland Community College Campus

June 12-13, 2021

