

Foundation mini-grants enhance cultural life, provide opportunities

By RUSTY PRATT

The Foundation is alive and well according to Jack Kannan, Executive Director of the Foundation of Wayne Community College.

The Foundation, funded by corporate donations throughout the community, provides scholarships and "mini-grants" for activities for students, faculty, and staff.

The basic mission of the Foundation is to assist and provide students, staff, faculty and community in the advancement of the humanities.

Students traveling to conventions, competitions, and humanities activities such as plays can most likely thank the foundation for reducing or eliminating the cost of these activities.

Generally, the Foundation doesn't cover situations that are funded by either the state or federal government.

Kannan said that the community is very active in supporting the Foundation, exceeding the goal of \$200,000 by \$100,000 with 2 months remaining in the drive which ends in July.

He said, "My goal one day would be for every student requesting assistance to be provided a full scholarship to attend Wayne Community College."

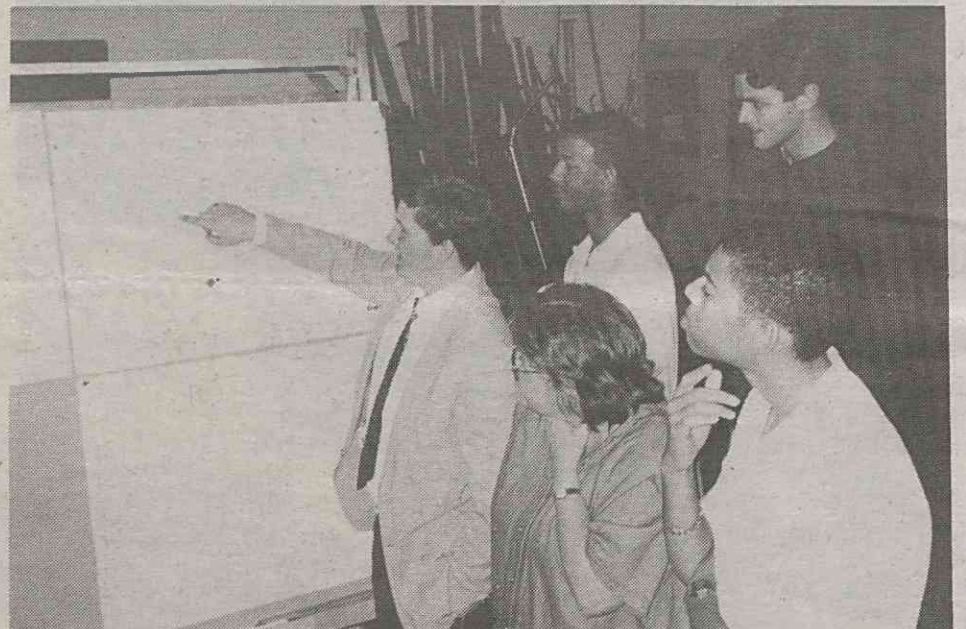
He said high school graduates who have applied for the fall with a minimum 2.5 GPA and who applied for a scholarship have been approved for a full scholarship from the Foundation.

Each scholarship costs about \$500 which covers tuition and books. The total amount awarded by the Foundation for these scholarships was approximately \$50,000.

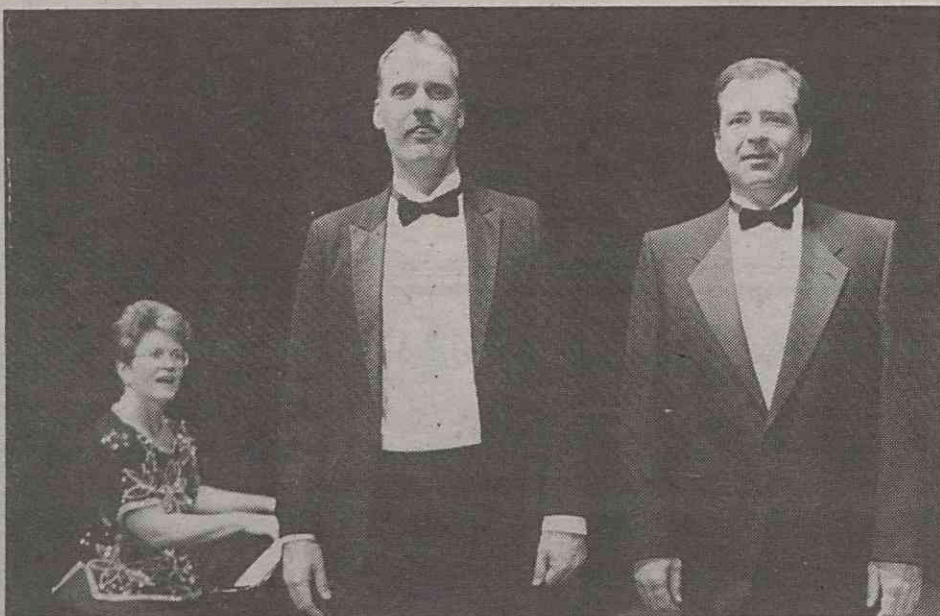
Kannan said he hopes this trend will continue in the future.



Former WCC student Michael Corbitt describes ways he prepared for his role in ECU's production of "Our Town" performed in February. The Foundation provided tickets for nearly 60 students and faculty to attend.



PHOTOS: ALLISON M. KENNEDY



Pianist Polly Beaver, left, accompanied Christopher Beaver and Greg Honeycutt, bass baritones, at a free concert the Foundation provided in March.

Ricky Dills, drama production major at ECU and former WCC student, explains the plans for the university's next play, "The Hot L Baltimore," sets for which Dills is helping to build.



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