

# MORE THAN EVER, WE ROSE TOGETHER

## KAI CHONG

**Paul G. & Marian Dong  
Scholarship Recipient**

Growing up in Malaysia, Kai always knew he wanted to pursue a career in the Aerospace industry. His father, being a civil engineer, was instrumental in his decision to pursue Aeronautical Engineering. While researching schools, Kai found that Green River was a fit for the Aeronautical program, as well as the diverse community of students from all over the world. Since moving to the U.S. in early 2019, he has worked two jobs on campus. One was at the Student Help Desk in the library and one as a Spanish tutor - Spanish is one of six languages Kai speaks! During the past year he has been able to continue both campus positions, helping students online through zoom meetings. The one thing he has missed the most, however, is in-person class with fellow classmates. Kai was thrilled this past spring when he found out that he would receive a scholarship. He says, "Receiving a scholarship has decreased the burden on my entire family – I'm so grateful." Kai has maintained a 4.0 GPA for most of his time at Green River, and he will graduate this June. Next, Kai plans to transfer to a four-year university - he has applied to many colleges and just received his first acceptance letter earlier this week. We look forward to hearing where Kai's journey will take him next.



## MCKENZIE SMITH

**Gator Pledge Beneficiary**

Hello, my name is McKenzie and I live in Minneapolis, Minnesota. I joined Green River to pursue a degree in Court Reporting. Only a few colleges offer the Court Reporting program and the only one in Minnesota is requiring for students to report on campus two/three days a week. I am a full-time employee in an elementary school during the pandemic and a mother of two (5 and 2 years old). If I was going to attend Anoka Tech, it would not work with my busy schedule. After doing some research, I found Green River College. They offer online classes (evening classes at that!), and was one the most affordable colleges with a Court Reporting program that is also NCRA certified. Once I enrolled and started my classes, I started to face a housing crisis and lost my home due to the current pandemic. I was staying with family and friends and I was not able to afford any of my textbooks, equipment, even food for my family. I am so grateful that Green River offered me their Gator Pledge Funding to help. They were able to help pay for my textbooks, a new laptop, and my steno machine so I was able to continue on with my schooling. Also, they were even gracious enough to provide funding so I was able to put food on the table for my family. If it wasn't for Green River, I wouldn't be in school today. I will forever be grateful and hoping one day in the near future to be able to give back to such a wonderful college.



## ICA ADAPTS TO THE TIMES

**Keeping Art in the Curriculum**

Now that 2020 is behind us, I was reflecting on the significance COVID-19 had on our art docent program, local elementary schools, and their students. Beginning in March, the ICA had to reimagine its program to meet the challenges of the "new normal" dictated by a pandemic. Upon receiving CARES money from 4Culture and the Auburn and Kent Arts Commissions, the ICA went to work developing a new Remote Learning Curriculum for every elementary school in the Auburn, Kent, and Enumclaw School Districts. This new curriculum is geared towards art docents, teachers, and parents; our newest at home educators. The new curriculum has several art lessons and colorful art lesson videos, many of them accommodating the home environment by using materials that can be found around the house! This video format has temporarily replaced in person training and may be one of the unforeseen silver linings to this pandemic cloud, becoming a popular addition to the ICA educational library!

Please visit the ICA website to view our Remote Learning Curriculum or email Monica Tolas for more information.

[greenrivercollegefoundation.org/ica](https://greenrivercollegefoundation.org/ica)  
Email: [mtolas@greenriver.edu](mailto:mtolas@greenriver.edu)



The values these words represent guided us more than ever in leveraging your generosity in the service of our students and our community during this challenging year.

## MISSION

Green River College  
Foundation provides  
**RESOURCES** to assist Green  
River College achieve  
**EDUCATIONAL** excellence.

## VISION

Our vision is to have the  
**RESOURCES** in place to  
**ACCOMPLISH** Green River  
College's **EXCELLENCE** in  
education.

### FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT 2020-2021

**484** STUDENTS  
AWARDED GATOR  
PLEDGE FUNDS

**\$154,692** GATOR PLEDGE  
FUNDS RAISED\*

\* Includes Gator Pledge fundraising, PATH & United Way funds

**325** STUDENTS RECIEVED  
**\$571,948**  
IN SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

**\$1,759.84** AVERAGE SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT

**\$4,763,642** TOTAL CARES\*  
ACT FUNDS  
RECIEVED

\* Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or, CARES Act, supported, through federal economic aid, American people negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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