

# Gift from the Vincent A. Stabile Foundation To Endow 88 New Engineering Scholarships Program leaps from 145 awards to 234 for 2009

**July 29, 2008, Knoxville, TN** – Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society today announced a \$3.52 million gift that will enable the association to award a \$2,000 scholarship for each of its 234 collegiate chapters. The gift comes from Antoinette “Toni” Stabile, President of the Vincent A. Stabile Foundation, in honor of her late brother, Vincent A. Stabile, inventor, entrepreneur, and philanthropist.

Mr. Stabile earned his bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY, and was inducted as a lifetime member of Tau Beta Pi in 1956 in a ceremony that included then-RCA president David Sarnoff. He went on to earn a master of science degree in industrial engineering and management from Columbia University and, later, became the recipient of an honorary doctorate of humanities from Pratt.

After serving in the Navy in WWII, he founded the family business, Industrial Retaining Ring Co. His patent on the dispensing of retaining rings simplified the handling and application of retaining rings used in innumerable products from automobiles to household appliances, paving the way for the company’s rapid success.

In 1994, Mr. Stabile sold his company and retired to devote his time and resources to various philanthropies. His gift to Tau Beta Pi in 1999 established the first endowed scholarship and launched the Society’s Scholarship Program, prompting dozens of others to provide named scholarships.

After Stabile’s death in 2002, the Vincent A. Stabile Foundation, under the direction of Toni Stabile, made additional gifts to the Stabile Scholarship Fund. In 2008, Tau Beta Pi awarded 145 scholarships, two of which were endowed by Stabile. The goal of the program was to be able to award one scholarship for each of its collegiate chapters, which grew to 234 this year.

When presented with Tau Beta Pi’s desire to have a scholarship for each chapter, Toni Stabile said: “My brother would not want anyone left out because a chapter did not have a scholarship.”

In keeping with Tau Beta Pi’s 124-year commitment to promote excellence in engineering, this gift has solidified its tradition of assisting more students than any other engineering organization.

“Tau Beta Pi is extremely grateful to the Vincent A. Stabile Foundation for this truly transformational gift,” said **Dr. Larry A. Simonson, P.E.**, President of Tau Beta Pi. “The Stabile Scholarships will help many deserving engineering students each year as they complete their undergraduate education and begin careers that will help ensure that this great country continues to have highly trained engineers so vital to our economic and social well-being.”

The generous philanthropy of both Vincent and Toni Stabile has transcended the fields of education, medicine, and the arts, enhancing the lives of millions throughout the world. A few of the many recipient organizations are the Metropolitan Opera, Columbia University Medical Center and

Graduate School of Journalism, Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN, and Jacksonville, FL, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center, The Seeing Eye, Engineers Without Borders, and New Jersey Institute of Technology.

“This is a significantly proud moment for Tau Beta Pi and will energize our membership to continue efforts to provide meaningful impact for the engineering profession,” added Simonson.

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