Countess de Hoernle portrait unveiled at high tea

(BOCA RATON, Fla. – Sept. 19, 2008) Palm Beach Community College unveiled a painted portrait of one of its most generous benefactors at a high tea gathering Sept. 16 at the College's Boca Raton campus.

The likeness of Countess Henrietta de Hoernle was created by local artist Renee Plevy and commissioned by the PBCC Foundation. It will hang in the foyer of the campus’ newest building, an $11.5 million, state-of-the-art classroom and studio building that opened earlier this year. The Countess de Hoernle Humanities and Technology Building was named in tribute to the legendary philanthropist, who gave the Foundation a $1 million gift toward its construction.

“This portrait will serve to remind current and future PBCC students and faculty of Countess de Hoernle’s ardent commitment to higher education in general and to this College specifically,” said Dr. Bernadette Russell, campus provost.

About 40 friends and supporters attended the tea to honor the countess and view the portrait. Suellen Mann, executive director of the Foundation, thanked them for their support for scholarships, programs and educational facilities. “We are very grateful for the countess and many others here who appreciate the value and impact of this community college,” she noted.
Palm Beach Community College, Florida’s first public community college, is celebrating its 75th anniversary throughout 2008. The largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, PBCC serves more than 45,000 students annually through its associate degrees, professional certificates, career and customized training and lifelong learning. The College offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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Editor’s note: A photo can be downloaded at: www.pbcc.edu/images/Marketing/CountessPortrait-hightea.jpg

PHOTO CAPTION:
Unveiling the portrait of Countess Henrietta de Hoernle are, from left: Suellen Mann, PBCC Foundation executive director; portrait artist Renee Plevy; the Countess de Hoernle, and Dr. Bernadette Russell, campus provost.

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