



Pillar & Post

Society of 1925—Our Enduring Legacy

In 1925, a small group of forward-thinking individuals came together to establish Colorado's first community college. Sharing faculty and space with Trinidad High School, our first freshman class held only 37 students. Today, Trinidad State enrolls 1800 students across two campuses and offers 49 degree programs. We stand tall as a premier educational option in southern Colorado.

The *Society of 1925* honors forward-thinking individuals who create a legacy gift for Trinidad State Junior College Educational Foundation. Examples include:

- Naming us to receive a gift in your Will or Living Trust
- Naming us to receive a percentage of your IRA or Life Insurance policy
- Naming us as a beneficiary of a Charitable Trust or other arrangement



Large or small, these gifts all represent future investments in students who will attend Trinidad State. A variety of options exist—there are many ways to create a legacy gift.

For more information about the *Society of 1925*, please click [here](#) or contact Toni DeAngelis at toni.deangelis@trinidadstate.edu or 719-846-5520.



Life of Impact—Charlie Latuda '48

Few have left so lasting an impact on Trinidad State as Charlie Latuda '48. Born the son of Italian immigrants, Charlie's life was one of commitment and service to our community. He taught at Trinidad State for over three decades, twice winning Fulbright Fellowship awards for his instruction. Charlie also served as Athletic Director from 1961-76, a period of extended athletic excellence for the College.

In 1968, recognizing the ongoing need to support the College, Charlie was part of the team that established the TSJC Educational Foundation. During the late 1980s, he would also lead an

effort to secure \$500,000 in donations to fulfill a federal matching grant program, building up the Foundation's scholarship endowment.

Charlie's personal philanthropy at Trinidad State included annual full-tuition scholarships, typically in the health sciences programs. In partnership with the Foundation, Charlie also helped establish a home-building program that offered training and academic credit for students in the building trades program—a program that also created affordable housing options for Trinidad and provided new revenue to the Foundation.

In 2008, the State Board approved the renaming of Dowell Hall to Latuda Hall to honor his commitment to Trinidad State. His gifts also supported classroom renovations in honor of his good friend, Morris Taylor. Charlie would also be among the first inductees into the TSJC Educational Foundation's Hall of Fame.

In planning his estate, Charlie utilized a charitable trust—the proceeds of which now fund multiple scholarships in perpetuity. In typical fashion, he directed a portion of his gift to establish the *Margaret Richter Memorial Fund*, once again honoring a good friend.

The *Society of 1925* is proud and pleased to remember Charlie Latuda.

