

ACI to Host 65th Anniversary Benefit Reception April 21 in Chicago

February 1, 2017



More than 100 people attended ACI's 2016 fundraiser in Chicago.

Mentoring Program and the scholarships we provide," Weltman said. "This event will build on the success of our fundraiser last spring."

More than 250 people are expected to attend Associated Colleges of Illinois' (ACI) annual Benefit Reception April 21 at the [University Club of Chicago](#). Funds raised will be used to support ACI's Expanded and Enhanced [Peer Mentoring Program](#) and other [scholarship programs](#), said Mick Weltman, ACI executive director.

"This funding will make a substantial impact on ACI member colleges and universities, plus the students supported by our Peer



Attendees will meet peer mentors, such as Haydee Ramirez of North Park University.

A key piece of this year's fundraising effort is the Expanded and Enhanced Peer Mentoring Program. ACI manages this program on seven member campuses. Weltman explained that if ACI is able to secure \$50,000 in gift commitments for this specific program by March 31, the organization will be awarded an additional \$30,000 grant from the [Council of Independent Colleges](#) (CIC), Washington. The grant is funded through a [First Opportunity Partners grant](#) from CIC with support from the UPS Foundation.

The 2017 event will focus extra attention on ACI's 65th anniversary. The organization was founded in 1952, with 22 charter members. Many are still ACI members. Through its history, ACI has provided more than \$70 million in scholarship to Illinois students. Today there are 23 [member colleges and universities](#) which serve more than 60,000 students.

The Benefit Reception will feature Richard Ekman, CIC president, as keynote speaker. Student scholarship recipients from member colleges and universities are expected to attend, along with member presidents, corporate and foundation representatives and individual supporters. [Chicago Sinfonietta](#) will provide musical entertainment.

To add your name to the mailing list for this event, please send a message to info@acifund.org with your name, email address and phone number.