



CROATIAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

ANNUAL REPORT

2010



THE CROATIAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND (CSF)

The Croatian Scholarship Fund was established in 1989 as a non-profit organization whose primary mission is to provide financial scholarship aid for bright and financially needy Croatian students attending a university in Croatia and Bosnia & Hercegovina. CSF is the only Croatian Organization in the United States that provides four-year scholarships to Croatian university students. The White House, members of the United States Congress and the Republic of Croatia has given recognition and praise for CSF's humanitarian work.

CSF's existence and success is due to generous Croatians and Croatian communities in California and across the United States. CSF's major source of revenue comes from fundraising events and contributions from generous donors. Fundraising is a challenge and CSF continues to look for creative ways to raise funds especially during these difficult times of declining economy. CSF is pleased to announce that we continue to reach our goal and provide scholarships to so many financially needy Croatian students. The CSF Executive Board of Directors appreciates all the financial and other support provided by our sponsors and benefactors as well as other contributors who make donations of various amounts.

This year CSF celebrated twenty years of its existence, a milestone to be proud of. During this time 135 students have graduated and have earned a college degree from various universities in Croatia and Bosna & Hercegovina. These students have received degrees in academic disciplines, including medicine, economics, electrical engineering, physics, natural science, law, philosophy, maritime engineering, pharmacy, political science, theology, and transportation. Currently there are 45 students in the program who receive four-year funding for their education based on criteria established by the CSF Executive Board.

The monetary value of a single scholarship is \$1500, per year for duration of four years, with funds distributed to students in two installments per year. CSF monitors student's academic progress very closely. Prior to receiving funds each student must submit a transcript showing successful academic progress. Each year CSF receives numerous applications from students in Croatia and Bosnia-Hercegovina. However, the CSF is only able to accept a limited number due to limited available funding.

CSF is pleased to announce the following accomplishments for the year 2010:

- Fifteen CSF students graduated from the program and twelve were admitted into the program.

- In March, a successful 20th Anniversary Celebration was held at the Croatian American Cultural Center in Sacramento. CSF extends its gratitude and appreciation to CACC for hosting the event; all dinner expenses and proceeds were donated towards sponsoring student. To date CACC has hosted over ten annual fundraising events and provided scholarships to over fifty CSF students.
- In June, another highly successful fundraising golf tournament was held and sponsored by a distinguished Croatian Mr. Zlatko Vasilj. For four years now Mr. Vasilj has generously donated the funds raised at the tournament to CSF for scholarship purposes.
- During the year CSF president and several other Executive Board members traveled to Croatia and met with Croatian dignitaries and CSF former graduates and current students.
- Received letters of recognition and sincere appreciation from the Croatian Prime Minister and Croatian Minister of Education.
- Established a working relationship with the Croatian Ministry of Education who has offered assistance to ensure the CSF goals to help young Croatian students are being achieved.
- Formalized an administrative structure composed of CSF Executive Board and CSF Advisory Board.
- Updated CSF's Bylaws and Policies and Procedures.
- In December submitted CSF 5-year Master Plan to the CSF Executive and CSF Advisory Board for final review and approval.
- Updated public information and marketing materials designed to help promote the CSF mission.
- One of CSF's early graduates, Dr. Bozo Skoko, after earning his doctoral degree joined the faculty at the University of Zagreb. In June, CSF's Executive and Advisory Board members honored Dr. Skoko and his new bride at the home of one of our Board members in San Ramon. Dr. Skoko and another CSF graduate, Mr. Dario Cakar, coordinate the CSF program in Croatia and they also serve as mentors to CSF students.
- In September, presented Father Dujo Boban of St. Mary's Catholic Church with a Certificate of Appreciation for his forty years of dedication in the Catholic ministry.
- In March, Miss Sandra Loncar, second-year CSF student from Split, was honored and addressed attendees at the Croatian American Cultural Center at the CSF 20th Anniversary celebration in Sacramento.
- The outstanding and highly dedicated young Croatian Koraci Kolo Group continues to perform with their outstanding performance at the CSF's events which are always the highlight of the evening.
- During next year CSF has included in its Master Plan to begin expanding the CSF scholarship program beyond Northern California.

The CSF leadership is greatly appreciative and thanks all of the benefactors, contributors, and volunteers for their continued support for the past twenty years to help promote higher education for young Croatians in Croatia and Bosnia Herzegovina.

For more information, please contact the CSF office, 31 Mesa Vista Court, San Ramon, California 94583, or telephone (925) 867-3768 or (925) 556-9291 or fax (925) 355-9040. The CSF invites you to visit our website at www.croatianscholarship.org.

Marijana Pavic, CSF President

Joseph Cindrich, Ph.D., CSF Advisory Board Member

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