CABRILLO

Continued from C1

said before the ceremony began.

The event honored a $1 million donation she made in March to the Cabrillo Education Foundation. Some of those funds were used to provide $500 scholarships to more than 100 low- and middle-income high school students, now enrolled at Cabrillo, as well as an endowment for the program.

Another endowment was created to cover the costs of maintaining the recital hall and to support the visual and performing arts program, according to Melinda Silbert, executive director of the Cabrillo College Foundation.

Those are causes that suffer most deeply when

cuts to education are made, Assemblyman Bill Monning said at the dedication, before presenting Samper with a certificate of recognition.

This year’s donation was the second largest gift Samper had made in recent years. In 2007, she gifted $1 million to the Cabrillo Advancement Program, a scholarship and enrichment program aimed at preventing students from dropping out of middle and high school.

At the dedication ceremony, 14 students who either were or are currently enrolled in the program stood on the stage, many wearing white shirts emblazoned with the words, “Future College Graduates.” One student who was formerly and is now in the program talked about how much it helped her achieve her goal of attending college, then she and several others took turns reading a proclamation in Samper’s honor.

In a videotaped segment shown before the musical performances started, Samper talked about getting off to a rough academic start, the troubles heightened by dyslexia. “I would like to be remembered for improving people’s lives through education,” she said in the video.

Future Sentinel reporter Kimberly White on Twitter at Twitter.com/ kwhitetﺲधेऔी