

**Bee Vradenburg Foundation  
Report to the Community  
2013**

## DEAR FRIENDS

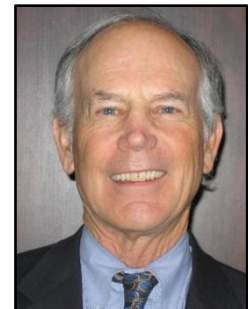
2013 was a year of exciting beginnings for the Bee Vradenburg Foundation and the arts community. David Siegel was hired as executive director, replacing Susan Edmondson who left after 10 years with the foundation to become President and CEO of Downtown Partnership.

**Our mission: Advance the relevance, resilience, and greatness of arts in the Pikes Peak region.**

Susan transformed the Bee Vradenburg Foundation and the local arts community; we are so thankful for her service and excited for the next phase of her career. We are equally excited to begin David's tenure; he brings a lifelong passion for the arts and commitment to the Pikes Peak region to the position. As a professional violinist, David has a keen understanding of artists and the conditions that lead to artistic success. Previously, he held positions with El Pomar Foundation, The Colorado Springs Philharmonic, COPPeR, and the Pikes Peak Center and World Arena, which provided him a firm knowledge of grantmaking and the local arts community. We're thrilled to have David and look forward to continued success in the local arts community under his leadership.

This success of the arts cannot be overstated in 2013. The Millibo Art Theatre opened its new venue, part of the Ivywild Complex and attendance has skyrocketed. Colorado Springs Philharmonic concerts are now sold out more often than not with 80 percent of all tickets sold to season ticket subscribers. The UCCS Galleries of Contemporary Art enjoyed record attendance with more than 18,000 visitors thanks to innovative, community centered programming like Lunch Beat, ChitChat and BRILLIANT. And the Manitou Art Center proved that art really does create community by playing a critical role in the Manitou Springs flood recovery and cleanup effort.

The Bee Vradenburg Foundation will continue to be a vocal and forceful champion for the arts. Since inception we have provided more than \$2 million in funding to artists and arts nonprofits, and we've worked side by side with many of you to help make our community stronger. We're passionate about the importance of the arts in creating a thriving community and honored to work with you to create this community in the Pikes Peak region.



*George A. Vradenburg III, Board Chair  
Phillip A. Kendall, Board President*

## BEE'S LEGACY



Bee Vradenburg was larger than life, endlessly optimistic and profoundly successful at anything she set her mind to. And she set her mind to realizing the vision of a vibrant and collaborative arts community.

Bee was an incredible life force, a woman who began a 37-year commitment as the manager of the Colorado Springs Symphony in her living room. Retirement from the Colorado Springs Symphony simply gave her the time and excitement to nurture emerging artistic endeavors. Bee's private generosity mirrored her public commitment. Members of the community retell personal stories of Bee helping them in ways both large and small: paying for music lessons or a musical instrument; underwriting high school projects; or giving money to get through a hospital stay. But she also took on herculean projects such as raising the capital needed to build the Pikes Peak Center, or making sure community members had a chance to experience "Pops on Ice" at The Broadmoor every Christmas. Bee died in 2000, and our foundation, formed by her family, honors her legacy

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

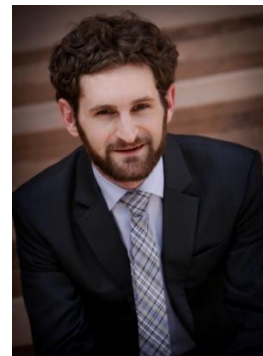
Friends, colleagues, artists and arts lovers,

It's hard to believe that I arrived at the Bee Vradenburg Foundation just one year ago. During this time I've had the chance to meet many of you and reconnect with others; I've had the opportunity to attend inspiring concerts, moving plays, and jaw-dropping art openings. This is noteworthy, but it's not surprising. I have known for years that the Pikes Peak region is home to incredibly talented artists and exceptional arts organizations. What has surprised me is how welcoming the creative community has been. Thank you.

In the coming years I look forward to working with all of you to continue the success of the arts locally. I will work to grow the pool of arts funding by building relationships with business, foundations and individuals, I will advocate for the importance of the arts in large community conversations, and I will to push for even greater accessibility to innovative, relevant and outstanding art offerings.

It is truly an honor to represent Bee Vradenburg's legacy and I am so grateful for the opportunity. Bee understood that the arts have the power to transform a life and a community; I'm proof of this. I started playing the violin at age five and since then music has been my outlet to express the joy, despair and excitement of everyday life. I know that our arts scene is on the verge of something great and I have no doubt that together we will make the Pikes Peak region an even better place to call home.

*David Siegel, Executive Director*



## FOUNDATION INITIATIVES

### Staff and Board

In addition to its grantmaking, the Bee Vradenburg Foundation is deeply committed to researching and supporting efforts to strengthen the arts community by expanding awareness and appreciation of cultural assets. Many foundation board members serve on boards of arts organizations in the region, and Executive Director David Siegel served the arts community in a variety of ways. In 2013 David:

- Was named to the board of directors for COPPeR, the Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region, continuing a history of close partnership between COPPeR and the Bee Vradenburg Foundation.
- Represented the arts through service on the Regional Business Alliance Nonprofit Committee.
- Gave a highly acclaimed IGNITE! presentation titled “*Why I Love You, My Violin and Peyton Manning.*”
- Was named as a Trustee of the Pikes Peak Community College Foundation.
- Represented the local arts and funding community on a funder’s panel as part of the C3 Statewide Conference.
- Successfully nominated the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, which was recognized as Nonprofit of the Year by the Regional Business Alliance.



### Bee an Arts Champion Award: Ed and Mary Osborne

The Bee an Arts Champion Award, presented by the Bee Vradenburg Foundation, honors the legacy of Bee Vradenburg by recognizing individuals who have demonstrated sustained,



passionate and innovative leadership toward advancing the arts in the Pikes Peak region. “Sustained, passionate and innovative” precisely describes Ed and Mary Osborne’s commitment to Theatreworks through the years. They have generously supported the organization through donations that have helped Theatreworks serve the community in new and exciting ways – such as when they purchased a tent for outdoor Shakespeare performances. Ed also led Theatreworks’ advisory board during critical years of growth and new directions. Whether it is sponsoring an innovative performance or encouraging others to experience the joy of giving, Ed and Mary are spirited champions for theatre, Theatreworks and the power of arts to transform lives and enhance community well-being.

## Fellowship Program Opens Doors

Now in its fourth year, the foundation's Internship Program provides college students the opportunity to gain skills for future professions in the arts. The program is a true win-win: students learn about arts administration through a paid summertime position, and local arts nonprofits gain valued assistance from exceptional young adults.

In 2013, two interns were selected from a competitive pool of applicants. Becca Rothstein (right), a graduate of Cheyenne Mountain High School is working towards a Bachelor of Fine Art in Theatre at Southern Methodist University. As an intern, Becca helped the Colorado Springs Philharmonic produce four outdoor summer concerts and rebuilt the Chamber Orchestra of the Springs' website.



Allie Doersch (left) said the internship was "the perfect stepping stone into the professional art world." A graduate of the Ringling School of Art and Design, Allie worked with the Manitou Arts Center and Green Box Arts Festival to coordinate volunteer coverage and security for the Tomas Saraceno sculpture, Cloud City.

New in 2013, Bee Vradenburg Interns had the opportunity to participate in professional development classes at El Pomar Foundation. These classes focused on nonprofit management, grant writing, leadership theory, investment management and nonprofit law. Thanks to El Pomar for extending this opportunity.

## Free for All: A Celebration of Charles Ansbacher and Bee Vradenburg

Free for All entered its third year, honoring the legacy of two dear friends and colleagues who shared a love of Colorado Springs and a desire to make classical music accessible to all. This



special program is made possible by a gift from the Charles Ansbacher Foundation to the Bee Vradenburg Foundation, which is providing matching funds to support a free summer concert for the community. This year Opera Theatre of the Rockies performed for a standing room only crowd in Armstrong Hall on the Colorado College Campus. The performance featured works from Madam Butterfly, Carmen, Showboat, South Pacific and more.



## GRANTS

### **Amateur Pianists International**

General operating support, \$1,000

### **Black Rose Acoustic Society**

General operating support, \$1,000

### **Business of Arts Center**

Recognition of flood recovery work, \$1,000

### **Chamber Orchestra of the Springs**

Internship program, \$1,000

General operating support, \$3,500

### **Colorado College IDEA**

Rhythm Nations sponsorship, \$2,000

### **Colorado Springs Chinese Cultural Institute**

New Year's Festival sponsorship, \$1,000

### **Colorado Springs Conservatory**

Capital support, \$16,667

### **Colorado Springs Philharmonic**

General operating support, \$29,000

Symphonic Music Fund, \$27,704

Internship program, \$1,000

### **Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum**

Ludlow exhibit sponsorship, \$4,000

### **Concrete Couch**

General operating support, \$3,500

### **Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region**

General operating support, \$8,500

Business and Arts Lunch, \$1,500

### **El Cinco de Mayo**

Festival Performances, \$1,500

### **Gallery of Contemporary Art (GOCA)**

General operating support, \$3,000

**Total grants awarded in 2013:**

**\$192,121**

### **Green Box Arts Project**

Internship program, \$2,000

### **Imagination Celebration**

General operating support, \$2,000

### **Junior Woodland Players**

General operating support, \$1,000

### **KCME 88-7 FM**

Remote broadcast equipment, \$6,000

### **KRCC 91-5 FM**

Challenge grant, \$1,000

### **Leadership Pikes Peak**

Signature Program scholarship, \$2,000

### **Millibo Art Theatre**

Capital support, \$10,000

### **Opera Theatre of the Rockies**

Free for All, \$27,750

General operating support, \$7,500

### **Ormao**

General operating support, \$4,000

### **Pikes Peak Arts Council**

Pikes Peak Arts Fest sponsorship, \$2,000

### **Pikes Peak Community Foundation**

Peak Arts Fund, \$10,000

### **Pikes Peak Jazz and Swing Society**

Jazz in the schools, \$1,500

**Rocky Mountain Arts Association**  
Out Loud, \$2,000

**Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival**  
General operating support, \$1,000

**Pikes Peak Library District**  
Shivers Fund, \$1,000

**Springs Ensemble Theatre**  
General operating support, \$1,500

**International Experimental cinema  
Exposition**  
Festival Sponsorship, \$1,000

**Theatre d'Art**  
General operating support, \$1,000

**TheatreWorks**  
Bee an Arts Champion, \$1,000

## GRANTMAKING

### Our Goals

Through its granting and other activities, Bee Vradenburg Foundation is keenly interested in the health of the arts community of the Pikes Peak region, especially the performing arts. Our grants touch many parts of the cultural sector, with particular interest in:

- Growing and sustaining cornerstone arts organizations that are part of the cultural fabric of the region.
- Supporting smaller, new and emerging arts organizations and artistic endeavors.

We measure the effectiveness of our grants by their ability to achieve one or many of five primary goals:

- Building the capacity and effectiveness of arts organizations.
- Broadening, deepening and diversifying arts audiences.
- Encouraging employment in the arts sector and recognizing and advancing the talents and skills of individual artists.
- Supporting arts education and youth participation in the arts.
- Fostering diversity in artistic employment, art forms and arts audiences.

### Guidelines & Eligibility

Please note that we highly encourage first-time applicants to call or email the foundation in advance of applying.

Organizations may apply for funding once per calendar year, regardless of whether a request is approved within that year. All organizations applying to the foundation must:

- Be a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 organization; or be an arts-oriented project or organization under the fiscal agency of a 501(c)3 organization.
- Be based in and serve the Pikes Peak region, defined as El Paso County and the Ute Pass corridor of Teller County to include Woodland Park but not beyond.
- Have an active employment nondiscrimination policy approved by the board that is inclusive of race, creed, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, age, physical or mental handicap, veteran status and marital status.

### **Ineligible for Funding**

The following activities or organizations are ineligible for funding from the foundation:

- Individual artists or art students.
- Organizations that are not legal nonprofits or under the fiscal agency of a nonprofit. Please note that merely “incorporating” as a nonprofit is not the same as securing 501(c)3 status from the IRS; organizations must demonstrate IRS nonprofit status.
- Performances or arts events designed primarily as fund-raisers for non-arts organizations or to advance causes unrelated to the arts.
- In general, the foundation does not provide funding directly to public or private schools. Our focus is instead on supporting arts nonprofits that work directly in schools to enhance the school arts experience.

### **Grant Sizes and Structures**

Grants are structured based on the size of organizations.

- **Bee Grants** – Organizations with prior-year or current-year revenues of \$50,000 or less are eligible for a maximum grant of up to \$2,500 per year.
- **Standard Grants** – Most Standard Grants range in size from \$2,500 to \$10,000. Organizations with prior-year or current-year revenues of \$50,001 or more are eligible for Standard Grants.

### **Types of Support**

Foundation grants can come in various forms:

- General operating support.
- Season or programmatic support.
- Scholarships for students and teachers distributed through qualified organizations.
- Capacity-building support to strengthen organizations through the use of consultants, software, strategic planning initiatives, increased administrative assistance and more.
- Challenge grants designed to help nonprofits increase their individual-donor ability.
- Capital projects.
- Outreach programs to increase exposure to the arts.

### **To Apply for a Grant**

Applications can be downloaded on the foundation website. One copy of the application plus attachments should be mailed, emailed or delivered in person by the deadlines stated below. The foundation happily encourages phone calls and emails with any questions prior to submittal. Applications are accepted year-round but must be received by 5 p. m. January 1, April 1, July 1 or October 1 to be considered for review during the quarterly trustee meetings. When those dates fall on a holiday or weekend, the first weekday thereafter applies. The foundation will notify organizations within 45 days of the outcome of their submission.



## **BOARD, STAFF & FINANCIALS**

### **Board of Trustees**

George A. Vradenburg III, Chair

Phillip A. Kendall, President

Libby Rittenberg, Treasurer

Kathleen Fox Collins, Secretary

Noel Black

Susan Edmondson

Susan Pattee

Alissa Vradenburg

Tyler Vradenburg

### **Staff**

David Siegel, Executive Director

### **Financial Information**

**For year ended December 31, 2013:**

**Grants paid:** \$192,121

**Fair market value of investments:**

\$4,488,577 (includes \$606,422 in the  
Symphonic Music Fund)

Pursuant to IRS disclosure requirements,  
copies of the Form 990pf for Bee  
Vradenburg Foundation are available by  
contacting the office, 719.477.0185.

**CONTACT**

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