



Fine Arts Center
COLORADO SPRINGS

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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Working Goal Surpassed Fine Arts Center raises \$28.6 million, now aims for \$30.5 million

COLORADO SPRINGS (July 17, 2007) – The Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center announces that the Renaissance Capital Campaign has surpassed the working goal and has reset the bar at \$30.5 million.

"We are delighted to report that we have already surpassed our early working goal by raising \$28.6 million," said Buck Blessing, Co-Chair of the Fine Arts Center's Capital Campaign.

"We are now working to complete the final goal of \$30.5 million," said Blessing. "Those who join with us now will be part of a truly historic moment in Colorado Springs and we are looking forward to recognizing and celebrating all of those who have made this possible at our Extremely Grand Opening on Aug. 2-5."

The Campaign, which has attracted nearly 400 individual donors, is lead by Co-Chairs Buck Blessing and Kathy Loo, who will both be honored at 5:30 p.m. on the evening of the Masterpiece Gala on Aug. 3 at the Fine Arts Center.

The Campaign allowed the renovation and expansion of the Fine Arts Center, including a comprehensive renovation and addition of state-of-the-art lighting and sound equipment for the performing arts theatre, seven new studios for the Bemis School of Art and a 48,000-square-foot expansion, including 29,000-square-feet of museum space.

Renaissance Capital Campaign Council

Campaign Co-Chairs

Buck Blessing
Kathy Loo

Campaign Council

Susie Burghart
Carl Donner
Mary Flemke
Don Hare
Tim Hoiles
Sally Hybl
Summer Kircher
Carol Kleiner
Margot Lane
Nancy Lewis
Jan McCauley
Bob Mollo
George Peacore
Annette Seagraves
Alan Steiner
Thayer Tutt
Bruce Warren
Dennis Weber
Dave Whitaker

Campaign Consultant

Bob Sharp
Suzanne Connors
Linda Regensberger

"I think it's important for people to give, no matter what they give to," said Mrs. Loo. "What I found out myself – in going from someone who didn't give much at all to giving a lot – the rewards are so great because giving is really investing in the non-profit world.

"Those investments that we make are no different than investments we make in our children in education, in the many things that we invest in in life. So, I just think that it is important that everyone invest in what they believe in because it will make a difference."

The following foundations have committed funds to the "Renaissance" Campaign:

- El Pomar Foundation - \$5,000,000
- The Kresge Foundation - \$1,200,000 (Challenge Grant)
- The Sherman E. Smith Family Foundation - \$1,000,000
- The Gates Foundation - \$800,000 (Challenge Grant)
- The Colorado State Historical Fund - \$271,000
- The Joseph Henry Edmondson Foundation - \$250,000
- The Boettcher Foundation - \$250,000 (Challenge Grant)
- The Donald C. & Elizabeth M. Dickinson Foundation - \$250,000
- The H. Chase Stone Trust - \$125,000
- The Luther T. McCauley Trust - \$125,000
- The Gaylord Foundation - \$100,000
- The Inasmuch Foundation - \$100,000
- The Bee Vradenburg Foundation - \$50,000

For more information on the Renaissance Capital Campaign, contact Jessica Turnwald, FAC Capital Campaign Director at 719.477.4318.

ABOUT THE FINE ARTS CENTER

Founded in 1936, the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center is a privately funded, non-profit art museum, performing arts theatre, and arts education center. The two-story, 48,000 square-foot expansion to be unveiled Aug. 2-5 during the *Extremely Grand Opening* was conceived and designed by award-winning architect and Colorado Springs native David Owen Tryba to complement the original 1936 John Gaw Meem building, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Visit www.csfineartscenter.org.