28th Annual Celebration of Summit County Philanthropy Awards

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018
Copper Conference Center
2018 Program

SPONSOR WELCOME
Nick Brinkman
FirstBank
Nell Wareham
Climax Molybdenum Company
Aaron Shriner
LIV Sotheby’s International Realty

OPENING REMARKS
Mark Spiers
President, The Summit Foundation Board of Trustees

2018 PHILANTHROPY AWARD PRESENTATIONS
Outstanding Board Member
Outstanding Business
Outstanding Citizen
Outstanding Educator
Outstanding Nonprofit/Government Professional
Dr. Oliver Stonington Outstanding Philanthropist
Outstanding Volunteer
Outstanding Youth
David Olbright Outstanding Youth Mentor
Spirit of the Summit

CLOSING REMARKS
Jeanne Bistranin
Executive Director, The Summit Foundation

Photos: Joe Kusumoto
2018 Summit County Philanthropy Award Recipients

OUTSTANDING BOARD MEMBER
Lisa Ferguson
As Board Secretary for Far View Horse Rescue and Rehabilitation (FVHRR), Lisa wears many hats, from fundraising to grant writing. In her role as a teacher, Lisa helps identify students who may benefit from the programs at FVHRR. She even coordinates transportation for students to and from summer day camps to insure they can participate. Her willingness to take on important responsibilities at the 100% volunteer-run nonprofit provides inspiration for volunteers, contributors, and board members alike. Lisa’s endless compassion, energy, and enthusiasm allows FVHRR to continue providing important, life-transforming work to the residents of our community.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS
Creative Cabinetry
Originally hailing from New Orleans, David Preaus first moved to Summit County in 1992. In his time since then, David has created a business where the staff are fully engaged in the company culture of philanthropy and volunteerism. Located on Airport Road in Breckenridge, Creative Cabinetry has supported community organizations through both time and financial contributions. The following nonprofits and organizations have benefitted from Creative Cabinetry’s generosity: Family Intercultural Resource Center (FIRC), The Cycle Effect, Summit Youth Baseball, The Rotary Club of Summit County, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Mountain Mentors, Our Lady of the Peace, Hope for Animals, and The Summit Foundation.
OUTSTANDING CITIZEN
Bonnie Ward
In 2009, Bonnie Ward moved to Dillon and made volunteering her full-time job. Through her involvement with the Pre-Collegiate Programs, Education Foundation of the Summit (EFS), Board of Education, and various classrooms and PTAs, Bonnie has undoubtably had an impact on the growth and success of Summit County’s students. Bonnie is a champion for students and teachers alike, using her experience as a teacher, parent, superintendent, and more to grow resources and improve processes for all. Her relentless commitment to bettering the community through education, and her ability to garner support from others, has allowed her to transform her passion into action for the betterment of all.

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR
Sue Furia
For over ten years, Sue Furia has been a staple in Early Childhood Education at Open Arms Early Childcare and Preschool at Farmer’s Corner. Miss Sue, as she is fondly known by her students, approaches each child with individualized attention and care, and has helped mold kind and empathetic children. She even goes above and beyond to offer additional childcare support and meal preparation to families as they bring new children into the world and care for injured family members. In her final year of service to Summit County before retirement, her belief that all children are capable of great things and her passion for developing young minds will surely be missed.
OUTSTANDING NONPROFIT/GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONAL
Brian Lorch
For over 18 years, Brian Lorch has served as the Director of Summit County’s Open Space and Trails Department (OSAC), responsible for identifying, protecting, and managing opens spaces and trailheads throughout our mountain community. Under Brian’s tenure, over 17,000 acres of land have been protected and over 300 properties have been acquired. State and federal grant applications, and key negotiations with local town governments, the US Forest Service, real estate professionals, and community organizations have allowed OSAC to triple the contribution of the taxpayer. In addition to his work with OSAC, Brian has been involved with the Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center and the High Country Conservation Center, to name a few.

NOMINATED BY: Turk Montepare and James Shaw

DR. OLIVER STONINGTON OUTSTANDING PHILANTHROPIST
Susan Propper & Don Dankner
Susan Propper and Don Danker are tireless supporters of local youth, particularly students of diverse backgrounds. From their launch of Colorado Mountain College’s mentor program in 2012, to their development of the new college completion program, Mountain Scholars, Don and Susan have committed their time and money to the success of under-served students in our community. In addition to their mentoring work, Don serves as the Board Chair of the Family and Intercultural Resource center (FIRC) while Susan serves as Co-Chair of the Grants/Scholarship Committee and a Board Member for The Summit Foundation. Their generosity and compassion serve as an impressive example for our community.

NOMINATED BY: Julie McCluskie
OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER
Linda & John Ebright
If you have ever attended a community dinner at Father Dyer Church or visited the Breckenridge Music Festival, then it is highly likely that you would recognize Linda and John Ebright. Linda and John’s passions are varied: they act as adaptive ski instructors for the Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center (BOEC), build sets for the Breckenridge Backstage Theater, chair the Gingerbread Committee for CASA, and are heavily involved in the Wounded Heroes Family Adventure Week. Their willingness to reach out and encourage others to volunteer, even if it is their first introduction, has led many to become involved in the community. Their involvement serves as a lasting example of the difference volunteers can make.

OUTSTANDING YOUTH
Madisyn Hirsh
Enthusiastic, dedicated, and kind are just three of the characteristics that can be used to describe Madisyn Hirsh. A three-sport athlete and participant in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at Summit High School, Madisyn balances her rigorous education with her high level of involvement. Just a few of her academic achievements include: being a member of National Honor Society, Math National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, and being honored as an Academic All-State Member. In addition to her academic and athletic commitments, she has also served over 250 hours volunteering at the local animal shelter and has worked with the Jared Polis governor campaign.
DAVID OLBRIGHT OUTSTANDING YOUTH MENTOR
Isabel Rodriguez
Isabel Rodriguez’s journey in Summit County began in 2010, when she was hired as a teacher at Dillion Valley Elementary. Born in San Juan de los Lagos, Isabel moved to the United States at a young age and felt she never had the opportunity to learn about her personal heritage. When it became evident that many of her students may have similar experiences, Isabel started Baile Folklorico, a program that allows students to connect to their heritage through dance. Since 2012, over 300 students have had the opportunity to participate and receive guidance from Isabel. Her commitment to developing meaningful relationships with her students is unparalleled.

SPIRIT OF THE SUMMIT
Betty Sarber
NOMINATED BY: Sheila Brockmeier
The Spirit of the Summit Award exemplifies a will and character that stands as an example to others. Whether through adversity, a contagious zest for life, or an unflagging enthusiasm for community, family, or organizations, the recipient has a visible, tangible spirit that inspires, changes, and enhances all whose lives are touched by them.

2018 Philanthropy Awards Selection Committee
CB Betchel  
Gini Bradley  
Deb Crook  
Kathy Grotemeyer  
Peggy Hiller  
Marilyn Hogan  
Julie Magliochetti  
Jay Nelson  
Mary Quinn  
Mark Spiers  
Jack Wolfe

To nominate an individual, organization or business for a 2019 Philanthropy Award, visit the Philanthropy Awards page at summitfoundation.org

To honor a 2018 recipient through a donation to The Summit Foundation, click the donate button on summitfoundation.org and note the donation is in honor of the intended recipient or return the honor/memorial card available this evening.