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New Mexico Children's Foundation
 P.O. Box 8182
 Santa Fe, NM 87504-8182



NEW MEXICO CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2006

A Letter from our President

Several people have been "cashing in" on auction items they won at last December's *Alice's Wonderland*. Both Live and Silent Auction items were available. Henneke and Terrell White reported that their party agreed that the **Silent Auction Swedish Feast** was an unbelievably fun extravaganza. Donated by David Dodge, Kerstin Gusterman and Ken and Yvonne Kallen of Swedish Accents, the Swedish Feast was served in their home with spectacular table decorations, a smorgasbord complete with Aqua Vit and singing to last the whole evening. They added that *they would absolutely try to be the highest bidder if it is on the auction block at the next Alice's Wonderland.*

Andy Duettra won the **Live Auction Fly Fishing at Telluride** and he and his family raved about the accommodations and fishing experience. He also is looking forward to bidding on any similar package. Khalil and I were the highest bidders on the **Silent Auction Soaring Eagle Lodge** package which included lodging and fly fishing on the San Juan River. It was perfect!

And just recently, **Allison and Jack Kramer** hosted another Live auction Item from Alice's Wonderland -- a **Gala Dinner for 13** which was prepared in their home by Rio Chama Executive Chef Tom Kerpon with food donated by Sysco Food Services and wine donated by Southern Wine and Spirits. A highlight of the evening was a stellar performance by world renowned Tenor Neil Rosenshein and Santa Fe Opera pianist Kirt Pavitt. **(continued on Page 5)**



Alison & Jack
 Kramer,
 Neil Rosenshein
 and Kirt Pavitt

Chef Tom Kerpon



UPCOMING EVENTS

Tennis Tournament

NMCF's annual "Ladies Only" tennis tournament will be held on Tuesday, September 19th at Sangre de Cristo Racquet Club in Santa Fe. Only 48 players participate and awards will be presented to the top 12 players. The tournament begins at 8:30 am and concludes at 1:00 pm with a luncheon under the trees, provided by La Fonda Hotel. There is a \$75.00 fee for each player, which includes lunch and a "goodie bag". To sign up to play, phone Cindy Mares at (505) 982-3344. Tickets are also sold for the lunch only and are \$25.00. Lunch tickets may be obtained by phoning the NMCF office at (505) 986-2043. NMCF is very thankful to Rocky Royer and Jackie Grab of Sangre de Cristo Racquet Club for allowing us to use their wonderful facility. Special thanks, also, to Virginia Leyva and her staff at La Fonda for providing the lunch.

OVER THE RAINBOW

The Albuquerque Chapter of NMCF will present its new fundraising event called "Over the Rainbow" on Sunday, September 24th, from 2 to 5 pm. The location is the Wool Warehouse, 516 1st Street NW, in Albuquerque. Over the Rainbow is a musical theater event and will feature both children and adult singers from Musical Theatre Southwest, in performances from such well-known Broadway shows as The Wiz, Seussical, Beauty and the Beast, and others. The afternoon will begin with a buffet of heavy hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction. There will be activities for children, as well. Tickets are \$50.00 for adults and \$35.00 for children and may be obtained by phoning Margaret Putnam at (505) 292-0251 or NMCF at (505) 986-2043. All proceeds benefit grants to small children's organizations across New Mexico.

Become Involved

Contact Carol Kessler, Executive Director of The New Mexico Children's Foundation at P.O. Box 8182, Santa Fe, NM 87504-8182, phone (505) 986-2043 or email: nmchildrensfoundation@hotmail.com.

Our Grants for 2006

Arts to Boost Curriculum, Abiquiu - \$6,000
Boys & Girls Club, Abiquiu - \$3,500
Camp Corazones, Santa Fe - \$5,000
Canones Early Childhood Center, Canones - \$5,000
Child Rite, Inc., Taos - \$6,500
El Rito Library, El Rito - \$6,500
Embudo Valley Library, Dixon - \$3,500
First Judicial CASA, Santa Fe - \$3,500
Future Foundations, Grants - \$3,500
Gerard's House, Santa Fe - \$3,500 (Memorial Grant in honor of Ethel Ballen)
Hands on Community Arts, Santa Fe - \$3,500
Junior Achievement, Albuquerque - \$3,000
NM Suicide Intervention Project, Santa Fe - \$6,000
Santa Fe Teen Center, Santa Fe - \$3,000
Self-Help, Inc., Los Alamos - \$3,000
Youth Heartline, Taos - \$6,000
Zona del Sol, Santa Fe - \$3,000



NMCF needs your help to continue its efforts on behalf of the children of New Mexico. Your financial support in any amount will touch the lives of many.

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

____ I would like to volunteer for one of NMCF's upcoming events.

Please phone me: _____

New Mexico Children's Foundation
P.O. Box 8182, Santa Fe, NM 87504-8182
(505) 986-2043 - email: nmchildrensfoundation@hotmail.com
website: www.newmexicochildrensfoundation.org

Recent Donations to NMCF

Sharon & Elliot Zucker
Greg & Karen Loucks
Ed Ellis
Joan Ferrari
Lorrin Abbey
H.M. Morrison/Teresa Pierce
Gerald & Kathie Cole
Youth Development, Inc.
Doris Meyer

Richard Hertz
Eric Faust
Warren Wood
Lyn Schmidt
Dekker/Perich/Sabatini Ltd.
Jeffrey & Mary Brannen
Gwen Rutledge & Alexis Scott
Sarah Haas
Sharon Potter

Thank you to our contributors. Your gifts make it possible for us to provide support for the children of New Mexico.

NMCF NEEDS YOUR HELP

There are many reasons to give to New Mexico Children's Foundation, and just as many ways.

A cash gift is the easiest way to help NMCF with its programs for the children of New Mexico. Any amount is greatly appreciated, but for a gift of \$3,000, a fund can be established in your name.

Gifts of appreciated securities (stocks or bonds) may also be used to establish a fund or add to an existing fund.

Life insurance policies can be used as charitable gifts. You may name New Mexico Children's Foundation as beneficiary.

If you would like to discuss any of these options, please phone Executive Director, Carol Kessler at (505) 986-2043.

WHAT A GREAT PARTY -- THE NMCF ANNUAL CAR RAFFLE

The Pavilion at the Eldorado Hotel was the scene of New Mexico Children's Foundation's annual car raffle. More than 200 party-goers were treated to a sumptuous buffet and open bar, while waiting to see if they had won a Mazda Miata Convertible, which was provided by Don Chalmers Lincoln Mercury Saab in Santa Fe. A special thank you to Randy Randall for coordinating the event, and Rich Verruni, and the Eldorado Hotel staff, for making the evening one that was enjoyed by all. The winner of the car was Christine Gonzales of Santa Fe, who is shown with Randy Randall, at the moment her ticket number was announced as well as beside her new automobile. Thank you, as well, to our three stalwart auctioneers for the evening -- Randy Randall, Mike Cerletti and Al Lucero, who ensured that the auction was lively and entertaining.



EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Los Alamos National Laboratory Foundation's 10th Annual Conference on Education was held on Monday, July 31 at La Fonda Hotel. The keynote speaker was Dr. Alison Gopnik, whose talk was "A Child's Mind: How Children Learn and What They Tell Us About the Mind." Dr. Gopnik is Professor of Psychology at the University of California at Berkeley, and co-author of *The Scientist in the Crib*. Dr. Gopnik's research explores how young children come to know about the world around them. The work is informed by the idea that children develop and change intuitive theories of the world in much the way that scientists do.

The 10th Annual Conference also unveiled First Born Rio Arriba, an educational home-visitation program that will be implemented to improve the health and wellness status of first-time families. The First Born Program is a unique hospital-based, home visitation program that utilizes highly trained, professional and para-professionals to educate and help guide parents through the first three years of their child's development. For more information, contact Deborah Boldt, Program Officer, First Born Program at the LANL Foundation (505) 753-8890, extension 17.

NEWS FROM, AND OF, OUR GRANTEES

Tri-County Children's Advocates, Taos. Julie Parker Valus, has contacted us to report that the group has changed its name to **Youth Heartline**. The Board and Staff spent eight months deliberating on a name that would be more "user friendly" and easy to remember. They hope the community and the clients they serve will be supportive and encouraged that they are continually seeking to improve the ways that they are able to provide services to the neglected and abused children of Northern New Mexico.

Arts to Boost Curriculum, Abiquiu. The Albuquerque Journal North carried a full-page story about this current grantee which is providing arts programs in the schools of Espanola and Abiquiu. Rabia van Hattum is Executive Director, and credited New Mexico Children's Foundation for funding them for several years. Congratulations on the very positive article.

Camp Corazones, Santa Fe. Staff and several members of the NMCF Board attended a cookout at Camp Stoney, in Santa Fe, on July 28th to celebrate the counselors, children and parents who were attending Camp Corazones yearly camp for children affected/infected with HIV/AIDS. Executive Director, Jewel Cabeza de Vaca, and her dedicated staff make the camp experience a special one for the children who come from all parts of New Mexico. The camp is free-of-charge to the children and their families. 35 children, of all ages, and family members, seemed to thoroughly enjoy the cookout. The evening was topped off by a performance from the well-known Santa Fe women's marimba ensemble, Kumusha. Fun was had by all.



Children at Camp Corazones try their hands at playing marimbas under the guidance of members of Kumusha.

A Letter from Our President (continued)

At our most recent fund raiser, the **Annual Car Raffle**, we had a drawing for a pair of Fly Anywhere Tickets donated by **Southwest Airlines**. Carol Hrdlicka won the tickets and she and her husband Dick are preparing to fly to Hartford, Connecticut. To quote Carol, "I never win anything! This is great!"

So on our way to increasing awareness about the needs of children of New Mexico and raising money to fund those needs, we just once in a while have a little fun.

Please notice our upcoming events -- our annual Tennis Tournament and luncheon at the Sangre de Cristo Racquet Club and the Albuquerque Chapter's event, Over the Rainbow. Hope you can join us! It's a great cause.

And don't forget, Alice's Wonderland will be held on March 31, 2007.

Mimi Kingsbury

Executive Director Visits Grants Groups

We would like to thank Laura Malaj, Executive Director of Future Foundations Center, in Grants, for hosting a meeting of non-profits at their facility, on August 29th. Executive Director, Carol Kessler, used the opportunity to educate those attending about the history of New Mexico Children's Foundation, and to explain the grant application procedure. She also answered questions posed by the attendees. Future Foundations Center is a present, and past, recipient of NMCF funds. Laura also offered the services of their organization to help those interested in submitting an application. Among the diverse groups attending were representatives of Roberta's Place, a shelter for victims of domestic violence, Literacy Volunteers of Cibola County, and Robert Gallegos, Executive Director of the Cibola Valley Arts Council. At the conclusion of the meeting, Laura conducted a tour of their facility which is a real community effort. Five non-profit organizations share the building and current after-school classes include dance, art, music and cooking.

Next, it's on to Farmington.