



Summer 2010

Vol. XXVII, Issue 3

www.jeffersonfoundation.org



*Supporting
Jeffco Public Schools
in preparing
all students
for a
successful future!*

The Jefferson Foundation
809 Quail St., Bldg. 1
Lakewood, CO 80215
303.982.2210
www.jeffersonfoundation.org

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

- 1 Donor-advised funds the answer to tricky IRS rules
- 2 Individuals, businesses line up to Love Our Schools
- 2 School funding resources
- 3 TJF steps in to save four '09-'10 district art shows
- 3 Employee Appreciation Directory now available online
- 3 Lights On After School wraps up successful year
- 4 Upcoming TJF Events
- 4 Expanded Teacher Hero award winners announced

Foundation seeks to expand fund partnership opportunities

TJF offers its 501c3 tax-exempt status to schools and community groups so they can fundraise without worrying about increased IRS reporting burdens

This spring, the Internal Revenue Service stated it would begin revoking the tax-exempt status of 501c3 nonprofit organizations around the country that did not file a required year-end report more than three years in a row.

The announcement sent waves of panic through Colorado's nonprofit community.

"For the first time, the IRS indicated it would automatically shut down charities that weren't in compliance," said the Jefferson Foundation's Executive Director, Katie Tiernan.

"Their blanket revocations would include nonprofits that fundraised less than \$25,000 a year. While The Jefferson Foundation has maintained good standing with both the State of Colorado and the IRS, we immediately began to worry about the smaller charity groups around Jeffco that haven't filed with the IRS annually."

Luckily there is an alternative for schools and community groups that want to fundraise but don't want the hassle of creating and maintaining their own 501c3 nonprofit. The Jefferson Foundation houses about 25 donor-advised funds, with a value of more than \$450,000, that give full fundraising capabilities to schools and community groups without the burden of nonprofit financial tracking and reporting.

One-hundred percent of donations made to donor-advised funds are held in trust for the funds' specific purposes, such as school enrichment or college scholarships.



Second Wind Fund of Metro Denver started as a fund of The Jefferson Foundation. After growing under the Foundation's protective status, Second Wind is now the state's largest teen suicide awareness and prevention organization and is growing nationally.

Pictured: Walkers, runners and cyclists line up at the start of the 2009 Second Wind Fund Walk/Run/Ride to raise money for teen suicide counseling, awareness and prevention.

Monies held in trust by The Jefferson Foundation can be used only for purposes that benefit students of Jeffco Public Schools.

The Foundation manages the funds for the schools and community groups by tracking and depositing all donations, sending tax-exempt gift receipts to donors, writing checks from the funds to pay for programs or give scholarships from the fund, and completing all required IRS and State of Colorado reports and returns.

After an initial inception fee, the Foundation charges no additional overhead expenses to the funds it manages. Fund donors dictate how 100% of the money from the funds is spent.

Second Wind Fund of Metro Denver, now the largest teen suicide prevention organization in Colorado, originally started as a

fund of The Jefferson Foundation.

Operating under a mutual agreement from 2003 to 2008, The Jefferson Foundation provided financial and regulatory oversight, as well as 501c3 nonprofit status, to Second Wind. With those services, Second Wind was able to fundraise tax-exempt donations, pay expenses and maintain compliance with state and federal regulations without having to hire its own bookkeeper or auditor.

Examples of donor-advised funds of The Jefferson Foundation range from the \$148,000 **Salazar Literacy Fund**, which supports literacy programs in Jeffco schools, to the \$2,000 **Ruthie's Fund** which provides professional development funding for teachers.

To create your own donor-advised fund, contact Katie Tiernan at 303.982.2261.

New Love Our Schools Luncheon raises more than \$25,000 for TJF

With the help of some good friends, The Jefferson Foundation raised over \$25,000 at its First Annual Love Our Schools Luncheon. More than 300 guests were treated to student entertainment from projects that were funded by the Foundation, including the Green Mountain High School Trash Can Band, Mariachi Juvenil, Jefferson High School's TROOP Step Team, and Jeffco Spellbinders. The luncheon was underwritten by FirstBank of Colorado.

Retired Jeffco School Board member C. Hereford Percy was honored with the 2010 Norma Anderson Lifetime Service Award, which recognizes individuals who have made



L-r: Sen. Norma Anderson, Jeffco Superintendent Cindy Stevenson, honoree C. Hereford Percy and Foundation Executive Director Katie Tiernan at TJF's Love Our Schools Luncheon.

Jefferson County and Jeffco Public Schools a thriving community through their volunteer efforts and support.

In addition to a successful banking career culminating in the presidency of FirstBank North, Percy worked on school bond and mill-levy override campaigns and served as chairperson of the Jeffco Schools Financial Oversight Committee. In 2004, he was appointed to fill a Jeffco Public Schools Board of Education vacancy and served until 2007. He and his wife, Joanie, live in Arvada and their three children all graduated from Jeffco Public Schools.

Numerous individuals and community groups helped promote the event by inviting their colleagues and associates to attend and make a donation to the Foundation. Special thanks to table sponsors Nancy Crego and AdWest, the Arvada, Evergreen, Golden and West Serving Jefferson County chambers of commerce, Barb Hosler and Jim Tully, Beverly and Tom Brayden, Cindy Ayde and Ray May, Cindy Stevenson, Curt and Jane Gilmore, the Evergreen Chamber of Commerce, FirstBank of Colorado, Don Wick, Greg Drake, Golden Chamber of Commerce, Judy Dempsey, Ken Caryl Ranch Homeowner's Association, Barb Fuller and Key Club/Kiwanis of Jefferson County, Les Willson, Lori Hoffner, Michele Bishop, Steve Bell, Susy Fischer, Tori Merritts and the Young Professionals Network of the West Chamber.



Big thank yous to Denver investment firm **Stifel Nicolaus** for a recent gift in honor of **Steve Bell**. Bell, pictured above, is an Arvada High School graduate and a Founding Trustee and former Board Chair of the Foundation. Recently, he was the 2009 winner of the Foundation's Norma Anderson Lifetime Service Award and will be the new Chief Operating Officer of Jeffco Public Schools.

Summertime is no time to miss out on funding opportunities and other resources!

The Jefferson Foundation researches opportunities to help schools and community organizations do more. The following resources are separate of The Jefferson Foundation and are not endorsed by The Jefferson Foundation. *Contact the funders or companies directly to learn more. Have an opportunity you want to publicize to our schools and community partners? Email the details, including a website address for more information, to The Jefferson Foundation eNewsletter at newsletter@jeffersonfoundation.org*

Finish Line Youth Foundation Grants Program

Grants of up to \$5,000 for athletic, fitness and leadership education for disadvantaged and special needs kids. *Deadline: June 30, 2010*

Learn more at www.finishline.com/store/youthfoundation/guidelines.jsp

U.S. Bancorp Foundation Charitable Giving Grants

Grants to enhance the cultural and artistic life of low-income families and children in USBancorp communities. *Deadline: June 30, 2010.*

Learn more at:

www.usbank.com/cgi_w/cfm/about/community_relations/grant_guidelines.cfm

Best Buy Community Grants Program

Grants of up to \$5,000 for life skills, leadership and relationship skills development programs for younger teens. *Deadline: July 1, 2010*

Learn more at www.bestbuy-communityrelations.com

Social Venture Partners Denver 2010 Grant Cycle

Grants to small nonprofit organizations that promote early childhood and K-12 education. *Deadline: July 1, 2010*

Learn more at: http://www.svpdenver.org/grantmaking_process

Ezra Jack Keats Minigrant Program

Grants of \$500 for public school libraries to host programs encouraging literacy and creativity in children. *Deadline: September 15, 2010.*

Learn more at: www.ezra-jack-keats.org/

State Farm Company Grants

Grants to 501c3 organizations for safety, community development and education programming. *Deadline: October 31, 2010*

Learn more at: www.statefarm.com/about/part_spos/grants/cogrants.asp

United Healthcare Children's Foundation Health Care Grants

Grants of up to \$5,000 to help health organizations provide services to low-income families. *Deadline: Ongoing*

Learn more at www.uhccf.org/apply_applicant.html

Jeffco and Clear Creek School Employee Discount Directory

Coupons and discount services offered in appreciation to employees of Jeffco and Clear Creek school districts.

Learn more at www.dpub.us/FRD/JCC-2010.html

Learning Points Rewards (LPR)

A program of for-profit CreditBack, Inc., Learning Points Rewards offers cash back programs for schools when used with retailers nationwide.

Learn more at www.learningpointsrewards.com

Wells Fargo Membership Program

Jeffco school district employees are eligible for special account programs with Wells Fargo branch locations. Use code 195094 to identify yourself as a Jeffco employee.

Learn more by calling Terry Trujillo at 303.899.4609

Foundation saves '09-'10 Jeffco student art shows with last-minute funding

When budget cuts threatened this year to eliminate funding for Jeffco's district-wide student art shows, The Jefferson Foundation and its partners stepped up.

Repurposing the bulk of its marketing budget for 2009-2010, leveraged by two major donor-designated gifts, The Jefferson Foundation provided gap funding to ensure the continuation of all four shows.

About 2,000 students exhibited their artwork at the **Equity and Excellence Exhibit** in February (Jeffco Education Center), at the **Elementary School Art Show** in March (Red Rocks Community College), at the **Middle School Art Show** in April (Lakewood Cultural Center) and at the **High School Art Show** in May (Arvada Center for the Arts and

Humanities).

"The art shows are a wonderful combination of important arts enrichment programming in our schools and true community involvement in education," said Katie Tiernan, the Foundation's executive director. "We feel privileged to be involved."

The Jefferson Foundation would not have been able to fund the shows without additional financial assistance from Foundation supporter **Betty Wetherbee** and **Lakewood Masonic Lodge #170**.

In addition to funding the shows themselves, The Jefferson Foundation also purchased pieces from the elementary, middle and high school shows to hang in a special new gallery of student art in Building #1 of the district's 809 Quail complex.



Families, students, teachers and community members view work and congratulate proud artists at the 2010 Elementary School Art Show, held in March at Red Rocks Community College. The show, a long-standing tradition in Jeffco Public Schools, was made possible this year by funding from The Jefferson Foundation. With generous support from donor Betty Wetherbee and the Lakewood Masonic Lodge #170, The Foundation also funded the Equity and Excellence, Middle School and High School Art Shows this year.

TJF's Jeffco schools employee appreciation discount directory now available online

To say thank you to employees of Jefferson County Public Schools and Clear Creek Public Schools, The Jefferson Foundation and its sister organization the Clear Creek Education Foundation collaborate annually to publish a free guide to local discounts for school district employees.

Working with **Front Range Directories**, this year's guide will be available in the usual bound booklet, but also via an online publishing site. School employees can visit <http://www.dpub.us/FRD/JCC-2010.html> any time from now until April 30, 2011 to access hundreds of coupons and special offers. Special viewing instructions and coupon printing guides are located at the site. Users simply need a web browser to view the directory; no software downloads are required. Hard copies of the booklet will be distributed to all Jeffco employees in the fall.

Businesses included in this year's directory include automotive repair shops, attorneys, home repair and maintenance services, beauty salons, child care, restaurants and more. For example, **Westside Cycling** in Lakewood offers school employees a \$50 discount on bike purchases. **Bliss Bar and Bistro** in Arvada offers school employees a buy one entrée, get one free discount.

To learn how businesses can be included in next year's directory, please contact Christoph Wertz of Front Range Directories by email at christoph@frdmarketing.com.

Lights On After School program marks its third successful year in 2009-2010

Lights On After School, a partnership among The Jefferson Foundation, Mile High United Way and Jeffco Public Schools, served more than 1,150 students this school year. Five core schools with high need student populations in Jeffco received funding for comprehensive after school programs, while eleven schools around the district operated mini-grant sites during the year.

Now in its third year, LOAS projects support students' achievement and social development by engaging students through academic, recreation and enrichment opportunities. Research shows that students who regularly participate in after school programs demonstrate higher academic achievement and improved school attendance.

Jeffco LOAS students participated in programs that offered homework help and tutoring clubs; math and reading projects; art, music, dance, and drama clubs; video production and performing arts.



Students from Stevens Elementary School and Wheat Ridge Middle School who participate in the Lights On After School Mariachi de los Ninos and Mariachi Juvenil programs performed at The Jefferson Foundation's 1st Annual Love Our Schools Luncheon in April.

LOAS funds will be available for the 2010-2011 school year. Visit The Jefferson Foundation's website at www.jeffersonfoundation.org after June 15 to access program guidelines, application forms and more.



The Jefferson Foundation
809 Quail St., Bldg. 1
Lakewood, CO 80215

Phone:
303.982.2210

Fax:
303.982.2209

Email:
Info@jeffersonfoundation.org

Website:
www.jeffersonfoundation.org

***The programs of The
Jefferson Foundation
are funded entirely by
donations from
individuals, businesses
and partner
organizations.***

***To make a secure online
donation
or to learn more about how
you can get involved
with the work of The
Jefferson Foundation,
click here to visit us at
www.jeffersonfoundation.org!***

***Subscribe to the
Foundation's eNewsletter at
newsletter@jeffersonfoundation.org.
Be sure to include your
name and email address in
your message!***

Upcoming Jefferson Foundation Events: Hope to see you there!

Lights On After School 2010-
2011 Program Application
Deadline

Visit www.jeffersonfoundation.org
after June 15 for more information
on funds available, program
guidelines and to download
application forms
Friday, August 27, 5 p.m.

*The Jefferson Foundation,
Southwest Plaza and the
Columbine Courier present*
**10th Annual My Teacher, My Hero
Awards Celebration**
Come meet the teachers who make
Jeffco Public Schools Colorado's
best school district.
Southwest Plaza
Saturday, September 11, 11 a.m.

Jeffco Community Day with the
Colorado Rapids

Enjoy a day at the pitch with
discounted tickets, special seating
and fun surprises. Proceeds benefit
The Jefferson Foundation.
Discounted tickets coming soon to
www.jeffersonfoundation.org
*Dick's Sporting Goods Park
Saturday, October 2, 3 p.m.*

*Stay tuned for more events
coming this summer and fall!*

Want to get involved?

Give us a call!
303-982-2210

SAVE THE DATE!

25th Annual Crystal Ball
Celebrate the Foundation's work,
honor our annual award winners and
raise money for our programs!
*Arvada Center
for the Arts & Humanities
Saturday, November 6, 5:30 p.m.*

THE JEFFERSON FOUNDATION



Three Jeffco teachers to receive TJF's "My Teacher, Teacher Hero" award

Expanded recognition event highlights teachers who make a significant impact

There is no shortage of exceptional teachers in
Jeffco Public Schools, but three teachers stood out
from the rest among nominations for the 2010 My
Teacher, My Hero Award.

The award, sponsored by The Jefferson
Foundation, **Southwest Plaza** and the *Columbine
Courier*, honors three teachers annually who
demonstrate exemplary performance, dedication to
their students, innovation and inspiration in the
classroom and outstanding voluntarism.

The 2010 awards, the 8th in the history of the
program, will be feted at an open-to-the-public
celebration on Saturday, September 11 at the
Community Stage at Southwest Plaza in Littleton.

What the 2010 My Teacher, My Hero nominating principals said...

Columbine's Frank DeAngelis on Marsha Roman: "Marsha successfully develops a variety of new and innovative teaching strategies in her daily lessons."

Manning School's Erick Finnestead on Susan Coverduck: "[Her students are the] developing scientists that will solve the problems of our planet and explore new realms."

Hackberry Hill's Warren Blair on Sue Mogan: "She often takes her orchestra and choir students to play and sing for the elderly... In addition, Ms. Mogan is often asked by students and their families to play her cello at weddings and funerals."

Teachers are nominated by their principals and
awardees are chosen by a selection committee.
This year, the awards were expanded from south
and mountain schools to include all of Jeffco.

Honorees this year include **Marsha Roman**, a
special education teacher at Columbine High
School in Littleton; **Susan Coverduck**, a science
teacher at Manning School in Golden; and **Sue
Mogan**, a music teacher at Hackberry Hill
Elementary School in Arvada.

"This is one of our favorite events," said TJF's
Marketing Director **Anton Delgado**. "It's important
to shine light on the everyday heroes who make our
schools as great as they are."

About The Jefferson Foundation . . .

Incorporated in 1983, The Jefferson Foundation is the oldest continuous 501c3 nonprofit K-12 education foundation in Colorado. As an independent nonprofit organization, it raises funds, develops strategic partnerships and supports important programs and projects that enhance public education in Jefferson County. With more than 86,000 students and 12,500 employees, Jeffco Public Schools is the largest school district in the state.

The Jefferson Foundation strives to be the gold standard in educational foundations in Colorado. Its mission, to support Jeffco Public Schools in preparing all students for a successful future, is affirmed in 2009-2010 with a focus on closing achievement gaps and further increasing graduation rates.

For more information on The Jefferson Foundation, please visit www.jeffersonfoundation.org.