

## Gene Barth

A resident of Oklahoma City for 41 years, Gene Barth truly made an impact on her community. Originally from Birmingham, Ala., she attended the University of Oklahoma where she studied art history. In 1972, Gene married Oklahoma City attorney Ed Barth who says, “When she came to Oklahoma City, she was Ed Barth’s wife, and later on, I became Gene Barth’s husband.”



Gene’s involvement in community organizations was as widespread as her interests. She served on the board of directors for the Integris James L. Hall Jr. Center for Mind, Body and Spirit, the OU Health Sciences Center Breast Institute and Payne Education Center.

Ed says that his wife had a true vision and passion for supporting and promoting the visual arts. She was involved in many arts organizations including Oklahoma Arts Institute, Ballet Oklahoma and the OU Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts Board of Visitors. She was also a member of the Contemporary Arts Council of the Museum of Modern Art and enjoyed traveling to New York City and abroad to visit contemporary art destinations. For many years, Gene helped to organize the Oklahoma City Museum of Art’s Renaissance Ball, an annual fundraising event for the museum.

In 1998, Gene and Ed established an advised fund at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation. Following Gene’s death in May 2012, her family created the Gene Barth Memorial Fund for the Oklahoma City Museum of Art that will ensure her support of the arts will continue in perpetuity.



Photo Provided

*Since 1976, the Oklahoma City Museum of Art’s Annual Renaissance Ball has raised more than \$5 million for museum operations and programs. In September 2012, the 37th annual fundraising event featured a balloon recreation of the Dale Chihuly Eleanor Blake Kirkpatrick Memorial Tower. Standing 20 feet tall, the tower was made of 1,500 balloons.*

Learn more about Oklahoma City Museum of Art through its profile at [GiveSmartOKC.org](https://www.givesmartokc.org).  
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