

Donor Connection

Helping Donors Help the Community

July 2002

Dear Friends:

Welcome to a new edition of *Donor Connection*, a service we provide to donors who are interested in learning more about the work of charities in the central Oklahoma area. We consider donor education part of our commitment to serving our donors and helping the non-profit entities that have permanent endowment funds at the Community Foundation.

Toward that end, we also provide a considerable amount of information on our Web site, www.occf.org. When you need to locate a specific agency or perhaps to identify a contact within that agency, we would like you to think first of clicking on "Central Oklahoma Charities" after you enter our site. Continuing to upgrade our Web site to better serve donors is a priority consistent with our goal of being the source for information on charitable giving in Oklahoma.

Beginning with the previous edition, *Donor Connection* was revised to provide one opportunity each year for an agency to submit a request for donations. If you want additional information on any of the listings, please contact the agency directly. Our staff will also help if you prefer. Call **Gayle Farley** at **405/235-5603** at the Community Foundation, or drop her an e-mail at g.farley@occf.org.

Thank you for your support of the Community Foundation and the agencies we assist.

Sincerely,



Nancy B. Anthony
Community Foundation Executive Director

Dream With Us

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Oklahoma City

**Community
Foundation**

**Visit us at:
www.occf.org**

Oklahoma Youth Symphonies — Coaching and Equipment for Youth Musicians

Oklahoma Youth Symphonies, Inc. provides talented young musicians in grades 6-12 with the opportunity to study and perform challenging works of symphonic literature. The organization also focuses on encouraging its students to become responsible citizens by developing their leadership qualities.

Approximately 150 students comprise three ensembles that perform 5 concerts each session. Membership is by audition

and is open to all students. OYS programs include a Guest Conductor Concert featuring a recognized music educator as conductor and instructor for a weekend workshop, music coaches and a Concerto Concert featuring senior soloists. Donations are needed for the cost of coaching sessions; up to \$4,000, and purchasing small percussion instruments or rental of weekly rehearsal facilities.

Contact:

Ann M. Isenegger
Executive Director
Oklahoma Youth
Symphonies, Inc.
1000 W. Wilshire Blvd.
Suite 350
Oklahoma City, OK 73116
405/842-4090

Oklahoma City Museum of Art — Resource Center Equipment & Supplies

The Oklahoma City Museum of Art fosters the appreciation and enjoyment of the visual arts through exhibition, education, conservation and preservation. Serving a nationwide audience, the Museum offers programs in exhibitions, education, film and several visitor amenities.

The Museum's Library/Resource Center offers 7,000 volumes to teachers, students, professors and the general membership for

research and study in the visual arts. The center is in need of updated equipment. Monetary donations would help purchase subject headings, archival boxes, computers, and various equipment and supplies. Some of the items needed are: a TV with VCR, up to 3 computers, Library of Congress Subject Headings, 24th edition and an Anglo-American Cataloging Rules, 2nd edition.

Contact:

Jim Eastep
Development Associate
Oklahoma City
Museum of Art
415 Couch Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
405/278-8215
jeastep@okcmoa.com

Oklahoma Museums Association — Workshop and Conference Scholarships

Oklahoma Museums Association is the primary provider of training and information for the 300 museums and historical societies across the state. OMA offers valuable opportunities for professional development, including workshops, an annual conference, a quarterly newsletter and technical bulletin series, lending library materials and other programs to fulfill its mission

Requests from museum staff for workshop and conference scholarship assistance are on the increase. Donations are needed to help send them to a workshop. The cost to send one staff member is \$65 and \$100 will fund a scholarship to the conference.

Also needed are a used photocopier and a new 35 mm camera to prepare for and publicize training sessions and events.

Contact:

Cherie Cook
Executive Director
Oklahoma Museums
Association
2100 N.E. 52nd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73111
405/424-7757
ccoak@okmuseums.org

Oklahoma Community Theatre — Youth Conference on Theatre Arts

The Oklahoma Community Theatre Association (OCTA) was established in 1969 to promote excellence through communication, education, and celebration of achievements in community theatre production for adults and youth.

OCTA's youth programming for ages 12-18 offers financial assistance to the five-state regional college scholarship auditions and an annual statewide youth conference on theatre arts.

The conference is a three-day series of workshops conducted by university faculty members, theatre professionals and Oklahoma artists-in-residence.

OCTA is looking for donations to help cover the expenses incurred by this statewide conference. Some of the expenses are \$5,500 for youth conference instructors' fees and \$640 for youth scholarships to auditions and transportation costs.

Contact:

Kay Armstrong
Executive Director
Oklahoma Community
Theatre Association, Inc.
120 N. Robinson Avenue,
Suite 1805
Oklahoma City, OK
73102-7400
405/236-0788
octa@oktheatre.org

Education

Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence — Academic Awards Program & Banquet

The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence recognizes and encourages excellence in public education in Oklahoma with awards to students, educators and educational programs.

Each spring, the Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence brings Oklahoma's brightest academic stars into the spotlight during its annual Academic Awards Program and Banquet. One hundred graduating seniors from across the state are selected to receive

Academic All-State scholarships, while six teachers, administrators and education programs are bestowed Medal for Excellence awards.

The cost of the awards program is \$322,500. The foundation is looking for monetary donations to help offset the costs of banquet costs and awards for these deserving individuals and send a message that Oklahomans put a premium on excellence in education.

Contact:

Emily Stratton
Executive Director
Oklahoma Foundation for
Excellence
120 N. Robinson Avenue,
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Oklahoma City, OK 73102
405/236-0006
info@ofe.org

Oklahoma School of Science & Mathematics — Cultural Events

Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics Foundation fosters excellence in science and math education in Oklahoma by supporting the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics, its operations, students, faculty and scholarship programs.

More than 50 percent of OSSM students have said that they have never heard an opera or listened to a symphony. The

foundation is trying to change that by sponsoring a program that would give these students a chance to attend four different cultural events annually.

The Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics Foundation is looking for donations to supplement this \$26,000 program that will allow 130 students to participate. This will instill early exposure to fine arts that will continue into their future.

Contact:

Lissa Gumerson-Blaschke
Development Director
Oklahoma School of Science
and Mathematics Foundation
1141 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK 73104
405/522-7804
lblaschke@ossm.edu

Infant Crisis Services — 'Support a Baby in Crisis' Program

Infant Crisis Services (ICS) is an organization that provides for the basic needs of babies and toddlers, birth to 48 months, who are in crisis situations. ICS is a link to connect families with programs leading to self-sufficiency and other programs designated to meet families' needs on an ongoing basis.

Support a Baby in Crisis Program is designed to help a baby in immediate need of food and diapers. Currently 500-600

babies are being assisted on a monthly basis.

Donations are being accepted to help cover the expense of this program. A gift of \$40 will provide food for a month for one toddler. A gift of \$30 provides a "first visit pack" for one baby that contains: baby lotion, shampoo, diaper rash ointment, soap, pacifier, nipples, receiving blanket, wipes, socks, sleeper and a quilt.

Contact:

Miki Farris
Executive Director
Infant Crisis Services, Inc.
1933 NW 39th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
405/528-3663
info@infantcrisis.org

Neighbor for Neighbor — Box Fans

Neighbor for Neighbor is a non-profit organization founded in 1969 that provides emergency assistance with food, utilities, medical needs and transportation to jobs for families in crisis.

Neighbor for Neighbor is looking for donations to provide box fans for those who are without air conditioning or do not have the means to pay for an electric bill that

includes the cost of air conditioning. This outreach community program will continue throughout the summer months. Neighbor for Neighbor is expecting to provide for at least 50 fans for those in need during the heat.

A monetary donation of \$20 will provide a fan for a family. Donations of working used fans are also appreciated.

Contact:

Linda Bortha
Director
Neighbor for Neighbor
300 SW 13th St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73109
405/236-0473
linjbor@aol.com

Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled — Monthly Membership Scholarships

The Oklahoma Foundation for the Disabled is an organization that provides recreational, educational, socializational and pre-vocational activities for adults and children with physical or mental disabilities.

The foundation organizes activities, field trips and craft projects for these individuals. Most of the funding received is from membership fees. Due to the lack of income

from their members, the foundation is looking for donations to allow people to join free of charge. A person is charged \$50 to be a full-time member, \$25 will pay for a part-time member who attends on Thursday night only and \$35 per month will pay for bowling, movie and other activities. Volunteers are also needed for all programs.

Contact:

Georgia Devening
Executive Director
Oklahoma Foundation for
the Disabled
8421 N. Walker
Oklahoma City, OK 73114
405/842-6636

Make-A-Wish Foundation — Wish Fulfillments for Children

Make-A-Wish Foundation of Oklahoma grants the wishes of children between the ages of 2½ to 18 who are battling life-threatening illnesses to enrich their lives with hope, strength and joy. The statewide organization has granted over 900 wishes to Oklahoma children since being founded in 1982.

The average cost of a wish is \$5,000. The foundation depends on generous donations

and volunteers to make these wishes come true.

Monetary donations to help pay for these wishes are needed. Also needed are items such as: disposable cameras, gift bags and wrapping supplies, picture frames (5x7), digital cameras, event banners, printing services, color paper, printer cartridges, a fire-proof filing cabinet and restaurant and mall gift certificates.

Contact:

Rachel Lewis
Development Manager
Make-A-Wish Foundation
3030 N.W. Expressway
Suite #1300
Oklahoma City, OK 73112
405/943-9600
rlewis@wish.org

Oklahoma League for the Blind — Summer Camp

Oklahoma League for the Blind (OLB) is an organization that helps blind and visually impaired individuals develop independence and improve their quality of life through increased services and employment opportunities.

As part of a community outreach program, the Oklahoma League for the Blind hosts an annual youth summer camp. The camp provides blind children with similar summer experiences as sighted

children. Five days of the camp are divided evenly between boys and girls. Canoeing, boating, swimming, arts and crafts, an interactive museum and much more are offered at the Goddard Youth Camp on the Lake of the Arbuckles.

OLB is in need of monetary donations to help cover the cost of \$800 per child. Last year, OLB had over 20 children and enough volunteers to provide a 2 to 1 counselor to child ratio.

Contact:

Rhonda Buford
Public Relations/
Fundraising
Oklahoma League for
the Blind
501 N. Douglas Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73106
405/232-4644
rbuford@olb.org

Junior Hospitality — 'Girl Talk' Program

The Junior Hospitality Club promotes fund raising and volunteer activities among young women in the Oklahoma City area. The club exists to assist non-profit agencies in the Oklahoma City metro area. Through grant processes, agencies apply for funding for particular needs.

The club is targeting "at risk" girls by sponsoring an outreach program called *Girl Talk*. *Girl Talk* is an opportunity for

teenage girls to learn about proper nutrition, hygiene, health and educational choices. The 5-hour program will emphasize factors to consider in making good choices.

Cash and door prize donations (sample-size toiletries) are needed. A gift of \$25 will sponsor a girl, a donation of \$100 will cover printing and production costs and \$200 will cover the cost of the meal for the program.

Contact:

Sharyl Pickens
President
Junior Hospitality Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 20393
Oklahoma City, OK 73156
405/495-6464
SharylPickens@msn.com

Kerr-McGee Swim Team — Swimming Program Support

Kerr-McGee Swim Club provides a high quality, year-round swimming program for youth of all ages and abilities. The program includes swimming lessons for those learning to swim, a competitive swim program for those who want to challenge themselves and a fitness program.

The Swim Club is looking for monetary donations to help with their scholarship

program. The program helps pay the swim meet fees for competitions. A \$300 donation would send 12 swimmers to competition for one year.

Also needed is a \$500 bulletin board that would be used at Swim Club's Lighthouse practice pool. It would be used to post information about the team to the public and help with public and summer recruitment.

Contact:

John Brown
Head Coach
Kerr-McGee Swim Club
3333 W. Hefner Road
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
405/751-3344
tagibson@ou.edu

Health

Oklahoma Lupus Association — Scholarship to Camp Sunshine in Maine

The Oklahoma Lupus Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to finding the cure for lupus and serving people with lupus as well as helping their families and friends.

The association is trying to raise funds to send children who have been diagnosed with lupus to Camp Sunshine. Camp Sunshine is a retreat for critically ill children and their families located on Sebago Lake in Casco, Maine. The focus of the week long camp is alleviating the

strain that critical illness places not only on the child, but also on other family members. The camp is staffed almost entirely by volunteers and offers accommodations, counseling, medical services and recreational facilities. Families meet other families facing similar challenges.

Monetary donations are being accepted to cover the cost of tuition and transportation for the children and other family members. The program is free to participating families. A total of \$2,500 is requested.

Contact:

Ivan Holmes
Executive Director
Oklahoma Lupus Association
3131 N. MacArthur
Suite 106B
Oklahoma City, OK
73122-1021
405/495-8787
oklupus@flash.net

Easter Seals of Oklahoma — Special Medical Equipment Needs

Easter Seals of Oklahoma serves individuals with disabilities. They offer vision, hearing and speech screening; inclusive early education and child care; occupational, physical, speech and language therapy; and adult and senior day care services designed to provide special care for adults who are unable to care for themselves for extended periods of time.

They also offer direct financial assistance for medical and orthopedic equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, braces,

crutches, corrective shoes, as well as medical evaluations, eye and ear surgeries, eye glasses, hearing aids and emergency medication.

Easter Seals is looking for monetary donations to help with the cost of these items. A donation of \$500 will provide a standard wheelchair, \$50 will provide one session of speech or physical therapy, \$200 will provide an orthopedic medical evaluation and X-ray, \$90 will provide one pair of orthopedic shoes and \$600 will buy one set of a child's short leg braces.

Contact:

Annette Murphy
Resource Development
Director
Easter Seals of Oklahoma
2100 N.W. 63rd Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73116
405/848-2525
esaok@ilinkusa.net

The Nature Conservancy — Western OK Cooperative–Burn Cooperatives

The Nature Conservancy protects plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life by preserving the land and water.

As part of its *Western Oklahoma Initiative*, the Nature Conservancy is creating Burn Cooperatives, which bring together private landowners to conduct prescribed fires on their own and neighbor’s lands with technical expertise and equipment provided by the organization.

Burn Cooperatives introduce fire as an important land management tool for enhancing biodiversity.

The organization is in need of monetary donations to help purchase items for this project. Some of the items needed are: rakes, trained fire managers, axes, 2-way radios and a Weather kit, which provides information on temperature, humidity and other factors that determine whether a controlled burn can be safely conducted.

Contact:

Keven Virgilio
Associate Director of
Development
The Nature Conservancy
5801 N. Broadway
Extension, Suite 101
Oklahoma City, OK 73118
405/858-8557
kcolbert@tnc.org

Community Development

League of Woman Voters of Oklahoma — Signers, Web Site Staff

League of Women Voters of Oklahoma is a nonpartisan political organization that encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Their programs educate voters on the issues of the candidates and seek to register new voters.

Donations are needed to help supplement the costs of these programs. The voter service program will need help sending over

100 pieces of certified mail at \$3.50-\$4.50 a piece and a skilled web site person is needed at \$14 per hour to input information received into D-Net, a web site owned by the National League of Woman Voters. Also needed are four signers for the hearing impaired who attend the effective advocacy workshop in January. They will be needed for 6 hours each at a rate of \$40 an hour.

Contact:

Dolores Martin
State President
League of Woman Voters
of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 720695
Oklahoma City, OK
73172-0695
405/721-1776
jdkdmartin@msn.com

Fund for Oklahoma City — Great Grants Program

The mission of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation includes allocating unrestricted endowment earnings to address new issues and special needs in the community. The *Great Grants* program raises awareness within the community of a certain need or project. In these select areas, the Community Foundation is providing leadership. Donations of any amount can be applied to the Fund for

Oklahoma City that will help address the community’s needs in the future.

Some examples of specific grants include sponsoring the opening weekend of the Oklahoma City Museum of Art that allowed free admission for everyone and supporting the first season of Lyric Theatre in the refurbished Civic Center Music Hall. You can help by contributing to the Fund for Oklahoma City.

Contact:

Nancy Anthony
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n.anthony@occcf.org

Kirkpatrick Family Fund — Challenge Grants

The Kirkpatrick Family Fund, an Affiliated Fund with the Community Foundation, has a long history of helping organizations start and add to endowment funds. The trustees of the Kirkpatrick Family Fund have used challenge grants to encourage organizations to emphasize giving to endowments as a long-term support for their operations. The program offers to match the contribution of any donor who gives to a challenge grant agency, up to a certain amount.

The effort has been enormously successful, and has resulted in the Community Foundation managing the nation's largest agency endowment program with more than 250 agencies benefiting from endowment distributions each year.

If you would like to help the following organizations meet their challenge grant, you can send a check payable to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation, P.O. Box 1146, Oklahoma City, OK 73101-1146. Be sure to indicate the agency you choose to support.

- Oklahoma City University
- Willow Springs Boys Ranch
- Positive Tomorrows
- Boys & Girls Club
- B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation
- Integris/James L. Hall Center for Mind, Body and Spirit
- Meadows Center for Opportunity
- Capitol View Neighborhood Association
- Edmond Senior Community Foundation
- McCall's Chapel School
- Oklahoma City Orchestra League

Contact:

Susan Elkins
Grants Manager
Oklahoma City
Community Foundation
P.O. Box 1146
Oklahoma City, OK 73101
405/235-5603
s.elkins@occf.org

Bring us your dream... we've made Oklahomans' dreams come true for more than 30 years.



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