

Women's Foundation presents \$181K to 5 community partners

OrgWatch

By Jenna Long

The San Diego Women's Foundation will award \$181,650 to five new community partners at its annual Grants Celebration on June 7 at the Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice at the University of San Diego.

Grants recognized programs that provide accessible artistic and cultural experiences that engage and educate underserved K-12 youth, while honoring the diversity of the San Diego region.

This year's awardees, now regarded as community partners, are: The San Diego Center for Children: "Therapeutic Music Program" (\$45,000); Playwrights Project: "Writing Lives" (\$29,650); San Diego Opera: "Words and Music" (\$50,000); California Center for the Arts, Escondido: "My Story: Literacy Through the Arts" (\$25,000); and Eveoke Dance Theatre: "REFUGE in the Arts" (\$32,000).

These grants mark the 11th year of granting for The San Diego Women's Foundation and move the organization past the \$2 million mark in donations to 58 nonprofit

programs since its founding.

"Our focus on arts and culture recognized several outstanding community partners that connect underserved children with artist and cultural experiences," said Cindy Olmstead, immediate past president of The San Diego Women's Foundation. "These partners have demonstrated a true commitment to K-12 youth, and the results of their programs have enriched the lives of these children as well as their communities."

In related news, The San Diego Women's Foundation has named Eileen Haag, a long-time community leader, as the new president of its board of directors for 2011.

Haag published community newspapers for more than 20 years and has provided consulting services to a variety of clients. After the Witch Creek fires of 2007, she chaired the RB United Coalition, to help Rancho Bernardo recover and rebuild after losing more than 300 homes. She has also chaired the board of directors at Casa de las Campanas, a continuing care retirement community, the Rancho Bernardo Community Foundation, and has served on the board of the Poway

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Center for Performing Arts Foundation. She has been named a Salvation Army Woman of Dedication, a Soroptimist Woman of Distinction, and has been inducted into the Rancho Bernardo Hall of Fame.

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