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JUNEAU COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HOLDS PHILANTHROPY DINNER

The Juneau Community Foundation held their fifth annual Philanthropy Recognition dinner on November 6. Highlights of the event included the Foundation having completed over \$1,000,000 in grants since 2005; the third year in a row of granting a quarter of a million dollars to over 60 organizations; and, increased confidence in the organization based on donors who have notified the Foundation of planned gifts in their wills.

The evening began with string music by the Juneau Alaska Music Matters (JAMM) third grade students from Glacier Valley Elementary School, led by founder and teacher Lorrie Heagy. Ms. Heagy thanked the supporters of JAMM, and spoke about the pivotal role the Community Foundation has played in connecting the JAMM program to several of the Foundation's donors, resulting in an expansion of the program to three elementary schools.

Marie Darlin, representing the Empty Chair Project, described the selection of the empty chair as a symbol to recognize the Juneau Japanese-Alaskans interned during World War II. Early on the Foundation took on the role of fiscal sponsor for this project, enabling the steering committee to focus on raising funds, designing the memorial, and working on the logistics.

Paul Douglas shared his story about the inspiration and influence of his two sons in the creation of the Douglas-Dornan Foundation, a fund of the Juneau Community Foundation. He spoke about the role that each of us can play in assisting our community in ways meaningful to us. During the past 20 years, the Douglas-Dornan Foundation has provided over \$300,000 in grants.

Sharon Gaipman told attendees why she and her husband put the Foundation in their will. She noted that although some bequests may be modest taken together they will help sustain, support and provide for our community. And, if each of us in Juneau gave \$1,000 the result would be \$30,000,000 for our community.

George Elgee was introduced by Foundation Board President, Eric Kueffner and presented with the Philanthropist of the Year award. Mr. Elgee remarked that the Juneau Community Foundation was created to remind people what Juneau has done for them and to make it easy to give back. "I feel that those of us who have come of age in Juneau need to give back to Juneau. Juneau has given us so much. I would like to see Juneau continue to be a place where people want to live and raise their families." The Foundation hosts this dinner to thank their donors.

Prior Philanthropists of the Year include: Simone Machamer, Peter Jurasz, Mun Chin Killeen, Keith Whitehead and Bill Corbus. The Juneau Community Foundation is a local charitable organization. For more information visit juneaucf.org or call Amy Skilbred at 907-523-5450.

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