



210 N Santa Fe Avenue | Pueblo, CO 81003
www.sdc-arts.org | (719) 295-7200

FOR RELEASE: March 26, 2021

Contact: Margo Hatton
Director of Marketing & Development
719-295-7211 | margo@sdcc-arts.org

Arts Center Announces \$500,000 Gift

(Pueblo, Colo.- March 26, 2021) - The Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center is pleased to announce a \$500,000 commitment from the Jackson Foundation in support of a capital campaign to renovate the iconic Pueblo institution. The five-year commitment, starting in 2021, provides the capital campaign with one of the first gifts.

The Jackson Foundation, founded by Robert "Bob" Jackson, continues Jackson's legacy and commitment to Pueblo. A gentleman, businessman & politician, Jackson provided leadership to the community of Pueblo and Colorado until his death in 2012.

In 2022 the Arts Center will celebrate 50 years of arts integration in Southern Colorado. Founded in 1972 by Pat Kelly and Kathy Farley, the Arts Center was designed by John Hurtig and the architectural firm Hurtig, Gardner and Froelich. The unique architecture of the campus is inspired by the cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde. John Hurtig's daughter, Amy Hurtig-Smith, is the lead architect for the planned expansion and renovation. Plans include the application of Historic Landmark status as well as key updates to include adding a glass atrium to provide for additional space for programming, addressing accessibility issues and adding parking.

In addition, the Jackson Foundation has provided funding to make key upgrades to the Jackson Conference Center in anticipation of the 50th anniversary of the Arts Center. Upgrades include new audio and visual capabilities as well as refreshing the conference center with new wainscoting, paint and lighting.

"The commitment of the Jackson Foundation provides the Arts Center with a strong start to a capital campaign that will help provide for the next 50 years of the Arts Center. We are grateful for their continued support and partnership," states Arts Center CEO Jim Richerson.

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About the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center:

The cultural hub of Southern Colorado, the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center gives visitors the tools to think and act creatively through a three building complex including seven galleries offering the best in historic and contemporary art by artists of local, regional and national renown. The Arts Center offers the Buell Children's Museum, recognized as the second-best for art by Child magazine, a 500-seat theater featuring a variety of performing arts programs, both local and national, and two gift shops. Over 100 fine arts, dance, and leisure classes are available quarterly providing unique offerings to everyone from children to adults of all skill levels. Admission to the Arts Center is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children, seniors 65+, and military. For more information, please call 719-295-7200; stop by the Arts Center located at 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., just off of I-25, exit 98B, or visit online at www.sdc-arts.org.

