Mission Statement

Investing in ideas and leadership that contribute to and advance the cultural, intellectual, and social interests of the communities we support.

John Kirkpatrick discussing the business of ballet with Yvonne Chouteau (1929-2016). Kirkpatrick supported the efforts of Chouteau and her husband, Miguel Terekhov, toward the establishment of the Oklahoma City Civic Ballet (now Oklahoma City Ballet) and the School of Dance at the University of Oklahoma, the first fully accredited university dance program in the U.S.
THE KIRKPATRICK FAMILY FUND and the Kirkpatrick Foundation benefit from the foresight established by their founders, John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick, along with their daughter Joan Kirkpatrick, who believed a strong cultural and service community would benefit central Oklahoma well into the future, and a broad approach to giving would address the diverse needs of the community. To carry out their vision, John and Eleanor established the Kirkpatrick Foundation in 1955, provided leadership for the formation of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation in 1969, and established the Kirkpatrick Family Fund, the largest affiliated fund at the Community Foundation, in 1989.

Today, through the leadership of Christian Keesee, grandson of John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick, the Kirkpatrick Family Fund continues to honor their legacy and guiding principles by strengthening the cultural landscape, health, and wellbeing of the community.
DEAR PHILANTHROPIC PARTNERS,

2015 has been an exciting year for the Kirkpatrick Family Fund. In this year’s report, you will learn more about who we are, our work, and our plans for the future.

Of great importance to the Family Fund this year was the gift from myself and my son, Blake Keesee, of the Molly Spencer Farm (often referred to as the Kirkpatrick Family Farm) in Yukon, Oklahoma. The farm was originally purchased in 1894 by Molly Spencer, the maternal grandmother of John E. Kirkpatrick. It has been handed down over the generations from one family member to the next. The farm is currently less about farming and more about community. In particular, on an annual basis, thousands of people visit the farm for all variety of community events, such as Easter on the Prairie, the Iron Thistle Scottish Festival, and the Chisholm Trail festival. Small groups use the farm too, like the Boy Scouts and the Girl Scouts. After a number of discussions, Blake and I felt the farm would be better served – and its philanthropic mission better fulfilled – in the hands of the Family Fund.

Yukon is a westerly suburb of Oklahoma City. The farm consists of around 40 acres and is located right in the middle of the town. Interestingly, Molly Spencer’s husband, L.M. Spencer, and his brother, L.N., founded this small town in February of 1891. Molly and L.M. built the first brick house in town, as well as the first opera house, and were both successfully involved in real estate business.

We will soon begin planning future uses for the farm, but it will continue to be a place for community, civic, social, and philanthropic happenings.

If you are interested in knowing more about Molly Spencer and the early days of the Spencer family, a book entitled “Matriarch” was completed this year and will appear on the Kirkpatrick Family Archive website soon.
Lastly, I would be remiss if I didn’t mention my concern about a state question that will appear on the ballot in the election of November 2016. State Question 777 has been misleadingly dubbed ‘Right to Farm.’ If you’re not aware of this proposition, I urge you to investigate it and its ramifications very closely. In the end, we feel like this proposition will be very useful for large corporate agribusiness, but to the detriment of small farmers and the wellbeing of animals in our state. Please study this carefully.

Sincerely,

Christian Keesee

Christian Keesee checking in on the animals at the Spencer homestead, now known as the Kirkpatrick Family Farm in Yukon, Oklahoma. Originally purchased in 1894 by Mollie Spencer, great-great grandmother to Christian Keesee, today the farm hosts numerous events and educational opportunities for the benefit of the community.
THE KIRKPATRICK FAMILY FUND has quietly and effectively fulfilled the visions of the Kirkpatrick family for more than 25 years and will continue to do so in perpetuity. Since our inception in 1989, more than 700 QUALIFIED NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS have received more than $73 MILLION in project, operating and endowment-building grants.

In 2015, the Kirkpatrick Family Fund distributed grants to 156 organizations totaling $4,714,060 to support projects, general operations, and endowments.

Photograph courtesy of the Oklahoma City Ballet

Dancers listen to instruction at The Dance Center, the official school of the Oklahoma City Ballet.

2015 GRANTEES

ANIMALS
American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, New York
Best Friends Animal Society, Utah
Farm Sanctuary, New York
Humane Society of the Pikes Peak Region, Colorado
Humane Society of the United States, Washington, D.C.
Wildlife Conservation Society, New York

ARTS & HUMANITIES
Allied Arts Foundation
Arts Council Oklahoma City
Brightmusic Society of Oklahoma
Canterbury Choral Society
The Chinati Foundation, Texas
Church in the Wildwood (United Church of Christ), Colorado
Colorado Springs Children’s Chorale, Colorado
Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, Colorado
Colorado Springs Philharmonic, Colorado
Colorado Springs Youth Symphony Association, Colorado
Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region, Colorado
Fiber Artists of Oklahoma
Fine Arts Institute of Edmond
Friends of the Mansion
Green Box Arts Project, Colorado
Guy Fraser Harrison Academy
Harding Fine Arts Academy
ARTS & HUMANITIES
(continued)
Jazz in June
Judd Foundation, Texas
Kimbell Art Foundation, Texas
Mid-America Arts Alliance
National Society of Colonial Dames of America in Oklahoma
Oklahoma Children’s Theatre
Oklahoma City Ballet
Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre
Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center
Oklahoma Historical Society/Oklahoma History Center
Oklahoma Humanities Foundation
Oklahoma Museums Association
Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park
Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition
Oklahomans for the Arts
Paseo Arts Association
Perpetual Motion Dance
Philanthropy Southwest, Texas
Red Earth
Reduxion Theatre Company
Sooner Theatre
Chamber Orchestra of the Springs, Colorado
William Fremont Harn Gardens and Museum
Yukon Community Support Foundation

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES/HEALTH/SOCIAL SERVICES
A Chance to Change Foundation
Assistance League of Norman
Be the Change Inc.
Bethesda Inc.
Boys & Girls Clubs of Oklahoma County
BritVil Community Food Pantry
Calm Waters Center for Children and Families
Camp Fire Heart of Oklahoma
CASA of Oklahoma County
Center for Children and Families
Center for Employment Opportunities
The CARE Center (Child Abuse Response & Evaluation)
Christmas Connection
Citizens Caring for Children
Daily Living Centers of Oklahoma
Dentists for the Disabled and Elderly in Need of Treatment
Family Builders
HeartLine Oklahoma
Health Alliance for the Uninsured
Homeless Alliance
Infant Crisis Services
Kirkpatrick Family Fund Teen Pregnancy Prevention Special Projects
Library Endowment Trust
Limbs for Life Foundation
Metropolitan Better Living Center
Neighborhood Services Organization
Meals on Wheels of Norman
Oklahoma Alliance on Aging
Oklahoma Baptist Homes for Children
Oklahoma City Boathouse Foundation
Oklahoma Institute for Child Advocacy
Planned Parenthood of Central Oklahoma
Rebuilding Together OKC
CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES/HEALTH/SOCIAL SERVICES

(continued)

RAIN Oklahoma
Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma
ReMerge of Oklahoma County
Senior Law Resource Center
Special Care Inc.
Special Olympics Oklahoma
Skyline Urban Ministry
St. Anthony Hospital Foundation
Sunbeam Family Services
The Education and Employment Ministry
Teen emPower! Inc.
United Way of Central Oklahoma
Upward Transitions
The Urban Mission
Youth Services for Oklahoma County
YWCA Oklahoma City
Variety Care Foundation

EDUCATION

Community Literacy Centers Inc.
Donald Jones Oklahoma Contemporary Education Fund
Harding Fine Arts Academy
KIPP Reach College Preparatory
The Madeira School, Virginia
Marfa International School, Texas
Menil Foundation Inc., Texas
Menlo College, California
Myriad Gardens Foundation
Oklahoma Horticultural Society
Payne Education Center
Positive Tomorrows
Saint David’s School, New York
Teach for America
University of Oklahoma Naval ROTC

ENVIRONMENT

Barr Camp, Colorado
Gunston Hall Regents Fund, Virginia
Oklahoma City Beautiful
The Tree Bank Foundation

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Downtown Oklahoma City Initiatives
The Executive Service Corps of Central Oklahoma
Marfa Public Radio, Texas
Neighborhood Alliance of Oklahoma City
OKC Housing Services Redevelopment Corp.
Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits
Oklahoma City Navy League
Oklahoma City Police Department
Possibilities Inc.
Sallie Bush Community Building, Colorado
St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Marfa, Texas
Town of Green Mountain Falls, Colorado
Oklahoma City Police Department
The Matching Endowment Program

The Kirkpatrick Family Fund

provides leadership for building charitable organization endowment funds at the Oklahoma City Community Foundation through a unique matching grants program for qualified nonprofits in central Oklahoma. In 2015, the Kirkpatrick Family Fund made endowment gifts to the following organizations.

2015 Grantees

Nonprofits

Allied Arts
Catholic Charities
Choctaw Parks Foundation
Edmond Historical Society & Museum
Edmond Senior Community Foundation
Fields & Futures
Fine Arts Institute of Edmond
Friends of Libraries in Oklahoma
Health Alliance for the Uninsured
Kingfisher Educational Foundation
Kiwanis Special Activities Fund
Leadership Oklahoma City
Lincoln County Historical Society
Mental Health Association Oklahoma
Mesta Park Neighborhood Association
Noble Public Schools Foundation for Educational Excellence
OCU Economic Policy and Research Institute
Oklahoma Baptist Homes for Children
Oklahoma FFA Foundation
Oklahoma Foundation for Cardiovascular Research
Oklahoma International Bluegrass Festival
Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation/Boys Ranch
Oklahoma Military Hall of Fame Foundation
Oklahoma City Philharmonic
Trinity Legal Clinic of Oklahoma
The Urban Mission
Founded in 1988, the Oklahoma Philharmonic Society continues a more than 70-YEAR TRADITION OF PROVIDING INSPIRATION AND JOY for the community through professional symphonic music.

In 2015, the Kirkpatrick Family Fund provided a $125,000 grant that enabled the philharmonic to leverage a matching donor gift, increasing its endowment fund at the community foundation from $9.5 million to $10 million. Increased distributions from endowment funds provide helpful support for the philharmonic’s annual fund to ensure the engagement of superior guest artists for the classics series and offer the best in entertainment for its pops productions.
The Kirkpatrick family has had a presence in the Pikes Peak area that dates back to the late 19th century, and members of the family have been in continuous residence there since that time. The Kirkpatrick Family Fund honors this family legacy through the Historic Green Mountain Falls Foundation, a subsidiary of the fund that seeks to enhance historic preservation and the protection of open space, trails, parks, and projects that promote recreational opportunities in the communities of Green Mountain Falls and Chipita Park, Colorado.

In 2015, the foundation supported a Lake Street Beautification project at the heart of the mountain village, which included the relocation of a public restroom to be closer to the park, lake, and play area, as well as the addition of new sod and trees to set the backdrop for future outdoor art installations.

The first installation, Back to Kansas by artist Spencer Finch, arrived just in time for the town's annual Green Box Arts Festival and delighted tourists and citizens throughout the summer. The piece explores the subjective perception of color through vivid imagery from the classic 1939 film “The Wizard of Oz.” Mimicking a cinematic screen, an abstract grid of painted colors is illuminated by natural light as the sun rises and sets. Various squares translate details from the film's vibrant Technicolor scenes: red for Dorothy's ruby slippers, green for the Emerald City, orange for the poppies in the field. In daylight, changes in light conditions subtly alter the painting’s appearance. Minutes after sunset, as night approaches, the colors slowly evaporate.

Photograph courtesy of David Lauer Photography
STEWARSHIP
The Historic Green Mountain Falls Foundation, a subsidiary of the Kirkpatrick Family Fund, is committed to the enhancement and preservation of the unique qualities of Green Mountain Falls and Chipita Park, Colorado, by focusing on the maintenance and protection of open space, as well as the promotion of recreational offerings. In 2015, the foundation purchased 140 acres of land on Mount Dewey in an effort to preserve the beautiful backdrop the mountain provides by protecting it from future development. Additionally, the acquisition provides open space for residents of Green Mountain Falls and visitors with well-built, sustainable trails featuring magnificent views of the Ute Pass valley.

The foundation’s good stewardship of the property at Mount Dewey is reflected in the maintenance of its trails. In 2015, expert advice was sought by a technical advisory panel consisting of the Colorado State Forest Service, Timberline Tree Service, the local fire department and the Green Mountain Falls Trails Committee. The panel was formed to take a holistic approach in reviewing a variety of issues, including fire mitigation and safety, environmental impact, and the trails themselves. Their work resulted in the Mount Dewey Trails Master Plan, which was entirely funded, implemented, and sustained by the foundation. The plan included a fire mitigation project, the closure of six social trails, and newly created trails to maintain the property and alleviate fire mitigation issues, which are all essential for the protection of the neighborhood.
For 38 years, Neighborhood Alliance of Central Oklahoma has been giving citizens the tools and support they need to make a meaningful and positive impact on their community. Working closely with over 400 neighborhood and home-owner associations in the Oklahoma City area has translated to over 119,000 homes and hundreds of thousands of citizens working toward a common goal: to make Oklahoma City the best it can be by strengthening one neighborhood at a time.

The Kirkpatrick Family Fund supports the work of the Neighborhood Alliance and is committed to helping the organization create safe, beautiful and healthy neighborhoods through several successful multi-tiered programs: Building Better Neighborhoods, the Strong Neighborhood Initiative and the Southside Citizen Engagement Initiative.

The Neighborhood Alliance works with all ages and demographics, from schoolchildren to the elderly, and all ethnic groups. Many constituents live in distressed neighborhoods where crime, poverty, poor health, struggling schools, and apathy often prevail. These are the neighborhoods the organization nurtures on a daily basis through guidance and support, so they can eventually overcome their environmental and societal challenges, and become thriving and healthy environments for all their citizens.
Currently housed at the state fairgrounds, Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center will contribute to the already remarkable transformation of downtown Oklahoma City when it moves there permanently in 2018. The new building will be located on a 4.6-acre campus and will house a four-story, 50,000-square-foot building. Gallery space, classrooms, dance studios, a black-box theater, and numerous interior and exterior spaces will allow the organization to greatly expand its mission to provide “art for everyone,” and it is expected to draw 75,000 annual visitors to world-renowned contemporary art exhibitions and provide an extensive offering of classes for all ages.

In 2015, the Kirkpatrick Family Fund entered into an agreement with the city of Oklahoma City that allows the fund to improve and maintain Campbell Art Park, situated on Broadway Avenue at the north entry point to the Automobile Alley District and bordering the future home of Oklahoma Contemporary. The three-block arts park will house outdoor exhibition space and provide ongoing programs for Oklahoma Contemporary that will bring a new vitality to this important gateway into downtown.

Also in 2015, the fund provided a grant to help create the **SHOWROOM AT OKLAHOMA CONTEMPORARY** on the grounds of the organization’s future home. The Showroom, designed by HSEarchitects, consists of four shipping containers repurposed as an innovative two-story, 1,173-square-foot gallery. Temporarily housing exhibitions, events, and an art library, the Showroom serves as the first step toward Oklahoma Contemporary’s future home.
Arts & Humanities

Green Box Arts Festival

At an altitude of 7,800 feet, picturesque Green Mountain Falls, Colorado, is home to various festivals and events year-round. Most notably, however, it is known for the nationally-acclaimed Green Box Arts Festival, a nine-day affair that plays host to a variety of seminars, classes, concerts, performances, and artwork.

Among the many 2015 festival highlights, attendees enjoyed two new art installations from world-renowned artists. *Four Orbits*, a permanent installation for the town by artist Charles O. Perry, is a 21-foot bronze sculpture beautifully placed at Mountain Road Corner among the surrounding natural beauty of the area. On Lake Street, festival-goers enjoyed *Back to Kansas* by Spencer Finch, an abstract grid of painted colors that explores color through vivid imagery from the classic 1939 film “The Wizard of Oz” and illuminates as the sun rises and sets.

In addition to various art installations, offerings included dance workshops; performances by Kyle Dillingham & Horseshoe Road, Mark Arnest, Ofer Ben-Amots, Daniel Gilbert, Grammy-nominated bluegrass musicians, and acclaimed New York-based contemporary dance company KEIGWIN + COMPANY; silversmith, cooking, and astronomy classes; nature and art walks; and a variety of youth and teen photography, music, literature, and visual art classes. The festival also hosted four ArtDesk Conversations on education, contemporary art, contemporary dance, and animal welfare in the natural setting of the H.B. Wallace Reserve.

Photograph courtesy of Tom Kimmell Photography
EDUCATION
2015 proved to be a significant year in the Kirkpatrick Family Fund’s initiative to reduce teen pregnancy in central Oklahoma. The Central Oklahoma Teen Pregnancy Prevention Collaboration published “As a Matter of Fact,” a comprehensive plan that seeks to inform, educate, and rally the community to achieve an aggressive goal: **TO REDUCE TEEN BIRTHS IN CENTRAL OKLAHOMA BY ONE-THIRD BY 2020.**

In this report, several objectives were outlined:

**Goal 1:** Ensure every student in targeted school districts is taught an age-appropriate, high-quality, evidence-based sex education curriculum in school. Information on abstinence and contraceptive use will be provided.

**Goal 2:** Engage youth, parents, families, faith communities, and youth-serving nonprofits in all phases of planning and implementation of pregnancy prevention efforts.

**Goal 3:** Develop and market a coordinated system for ensuring access to teen-friendly, family-planning services and contraception for sexually active youth in Oklahoma County.

The Kirkpatrick Family Fund supported the Oklahoma City-County Health Department and partners of the collaboration’s successful efforts to apply for and receive a federal Health and Human Services grant of $6 million over five years. Planning is underway, and implementation will begin in the 2016-2017 school year. The effort will reach approximately 4,700 youth ages 12-19 per year.

This grant significantly validates the work performed by many organizations and individuals to reduce teen pregnancy, and it will allow the collaboration to expand efforts to deliver age-appropriate, evidence-based and medically accurate programs to 10 new ZIP codes with the highest rates of teen births.
Kirkpatrick Family Fund proudly supports the Center for Children and Families (CCFI), an organization committed to improving the lives of children through partnerships with families and communities. CCFI serves children and youth and their parents and/or caregivers, including women who are pregnant in Cleveland County and Pottawatomie County, areas that consistently rank first and third among Oklahoma counties for the highest number of confirmed child abuse and neglect cases.

To address these and other challenges, CCFI purchased and renovated a building from 2012 to 2014, which it used to create a Youth and Family Center with a small gym, four classrooms, an art studio, a large community room, a kitchen, and an outdoor playground that could accommodate a centralization of the Neighborhood Centers program. By centralizing the Neighborhood Centers program in its new facility, CCFI and its partners have been able to triple the number of neighborhoods served, the amount of time children and youth are in services, and the number of children served daily.

As CCFI completed its renovation project and began planning for the centralization of after-school services in its new facility, the need arose to affiliate with a national model that specializes in the prevention of high-risk behavior and promotion of positive developmental outcomes. In 2015, CCFI transitioned its Neighborhood Centers program into Cleveland County’s first Boys & Girls Club through an affiliation with Boys & Girls Clubs of America. This model targets the most underserved neighborhoods – including the hardest-to-reach families and youth – by serving 6- to 18-year-olds and their parents. The approach emphasizes prevention, provides a “drop-in” environment for older youth, and engages community partners.

Photograph courtesy of Center for Children and Families
Sustainability
Established in 1987 to promote and plant trees to enrich Oklahoma communities, the Tree Bank Foundation of Oklahoma focuses on urban forestry projects for communities, churches, schools, and nonprofit organizations across the state. Kirkpatrick Family Fund is honored to support this organization’s efforts to improve the livability of communities throughout central Oklahoma by providing trees that enhance and beautify physical surroundings.

Tree Bank Foundation trees are found at public buildings, community gateways, neighborhood common areas, nonprofit areas, and nonprofit agencies, as well as along highways and in public parks and countless schools. Since 1987, the foundation has provided economic and environmental benefits through **MORE THAN 186,000 TREES** valued at over $220 million, which provide over $1 million of air pollution removal every year. The Tree Bank Foundation has also distributed 108,000 seedlings, and each recipient receives tree planting and maintenance training. With new projects each year, the foundation continues to dramatically impact the lands of public and nonprofit organizations, and the people throughout Oklahoma.
A Message from the Director

The Kirkpatrick Family Fund saw progress in a number of initiatives in 2015. In this report, we have featured these initiatives and grantees that support our mission.

Oklahoma is the second-worst state in the U.S. for teen births, and the release of “As a Matter of Fact: Central Oklahoma’s Plan to Reduce Teen Pregnancy 2015-2020” is an important step in mobilizing our community to lower teen birth rates. This plan outlines necessary steps to engage the community, provide evidence-based sexuality education, and facilitate access to teen-friendly clinics.

The Fund worked with the Oklahoma City Parks Department to develop an agreement for Campbell Art Park, adjacent to the future home of Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center. Future improvements to the park will support Oklahoma Contemporary’s plans to manage and provide arts programming in the park and Showroom.

Mount Dewey, an acquisition through the Historic Green Mountain Falls Foundation, demonstrates our commitment to preserve open space and develop trails and recreational opportunities in Green Mountain Falls and the Ute Pass area.

Finally, the Fund continues to support the Kirkpatrick Foundation’s work in the area of animal wellbeing, specifically the implications of State Question 777, ‘Right to Farm.’ This legislation could have a negative impact on our animals, conservation, the environment, and family farming. I encourage you to visit the Foundation’s website for more information on this state question.

As one of the oldest philanthropic families in Oklahoma, the Kirkpatricks provide leadership and resources to tackle important issues that improve quality of life. The Kirkpatrick Family Fund is proud to be a part of this legacy.
A TRIBUTE TO DOUGLAS CUMMINGS

Christian Keesee alongside Douglas Cummings at his last Kirkpatrick Family Fund Board of Trustees meeting, on which he served from 1997 to 2016. Cummings is highly regarded for his involvement with many civic, cultural, and educational institutions, and we are grateful for his service to the Kirkpatrick Family Fund.
The Board of Trustees of the Kirkpatrick Family Fund continues to fulfill the philanthropic vision of its founders, John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick.

CHRISTIAN KEESEE
PRESIDENT

ELIZABETH EICKMAN
DIRECTOR

ANNE HODGES MORGAN
VICE PRESIDENT

NANCY ANTHONY
SECRETARY / TREASURER

LOUISA MCCUNE
ADVISOR

GEORGE DREW
JANE HARLOW
LESLIE HUDSON

ANN JOHNSTONE
JENNY LOVE MEYER
POilly NICHOLS

JAMES PICKEL
GEORGE RECORDS
JANE SUTTER

STAFF

ELIZABETH EICKMAN
DIRECTOR

TINA BURDETT
SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER

SARA MAYNARD
PROGRAMS MANAGER

MADISON ENNENGA
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
As early adopters of philanthropy in Oklahoma, my grandparents, John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick, inspired many benefactors to contribute to help strengthen all aspects of our community.

CHRISTIAN KEESEE