

PRESS RELEASE:

Crested Butte Community Foundation Announces Grants of \$30,000 and Honors Past Volunteer of Year Nominees

Last Tuesday, July 31st, the Crested Butte Community Foundation held a breakfast announcing the recipients of its annual grant awards to local non-profit groups and celebrated its fifth year honoring outstanding community volunteers with a special Volunteer of the Year presentation.

Founded in 2002, the Crested Butte Community Foundation began as a group of local and part-time residents who recognized that a local community foundation could provide much needed financial assistance to the non-profit organizations of the Gunnison Valley. Towards the end of 2006, the group hit the significant milestone of \$1 million in assets and had donated over \$250,000 to community organizations.

The foundation added an additional \$30,000 to its distributions with the announcement of this year's grants recipients. With 31 applicants and requests totaling over \$55,000, the anonymous CBCF grants committee of six local and part-time residents had its work cut out for it. After lengthy discussion, the committee came to a consensus on the recommendations, which were then unanimously approved by the foundation's Board of Directors.

Newly elected CBCF President Tim Fretthold presented checks to the following organizations:

Adaptive Sports Center, \$1,500 for the Gunnison Valley Summer Series; AIARE, \$750 for printed materials for the free avalanche awareness programs; Celebrate the Beat, \$750 to bring the Beat back to Crested Butte; Center for the Arts, \$750 to bring Alpin Hong to Crested Butte; Crested Butte Friends of the Library, \$750 for the Authors in the Schools program; Crested Butte Land Trust, \$1,500 for new office equipment; Crested Butte Mountain Heritage Museum, \$1,500 for the textile conservation project; Crested Butte Mountain Theatre, \$500 for general operating expenses; Crested Butte Nordic Council, \$1,000 for the Ski-4-PE program and \$2,000 for the Junior Nordic Team; Crested Butte School of Dance, \$500 for scholarships for local children; Crested Butte Search and Rescue, \$1,200 for two two-way radios; Crested Butte Ski Club, \$700 for the purchase of additional safety netting and \$1,000 for a new laptop for timing; Gunnison Country Partners, \$1,250 for mentor matching; Gunnison Ranchland Conservation Legacy, \$1,000 for the Miller Ranch Conservation Easement; Gunnison Valley Animal Welfare League, \$750 for the vet treatment; Gunnison Valley Observatory, \$500 for educational materials; High Country Citizens' Alliance, \$250 for the Red Lady Forum; Kids Kount, \$1,250 for design of the Gunnison Watershed School District website; KBUT, \$2,500 for the "Get Involved" project; Literacy Action Program, \$1,000 for ESL program; Office for Resource Efficiency, \$1,000 for a new computer and software; Old Rock Community Library, \$500 for children's educational media; Paradise Animal Welfare Society, \$750 for spaying and neutering services and medical assistance; Paradise Place, \$750 for teachers' continuing education; Sage Mountain School, \$500 for the scholarship fund; Ski for PE, \$2,500 for the general scholarship program; Stepping Stones, \$600 for a staff computer; West Elk Soo Bahk Do Moo Duk Kwan, \$500 for programming at the Jubilee House.

Once again, the foundation's grant cycle coincided with its Volunteer of the Year announcement. But rather than honoring a single member of the community who has shown outstanding volunteerism, this year the Board of Directors chose to celebrate the dedication and compassion of six past nominees, individuals who have spent countless hours over the years giving back to the community that has given so much to them.

The choice was difficult with such a vast pool of worthy recipients, but in the end CBCF Board Members Lois Rozman and Julia Shoup extended a special thanks to Maura Bailey, nominated by the Wildflower Festival; Skip Berkshire, nominated by the Crested Butte Nordic Council; Pat Bittle, nominated by the Adaptive Sports Center; John Hess, nominated by the Land Trust; Jackie Kingsbury, nominated by the Crested Butte Center for the Arts; and Sue Navy, nominated by High Country Citizens' Alliance. Past Volunteer of the Year winners were Maggie Dethloff from Stepping Stones (2003), Zach Targos of the Reel Fest (2004), Marilyn Phillips of the Mountain Heritage Museum (2005), and Don Cook of the Crested Butte Mountain Bike Association (2006).

For more information or to offer your support to the Crested Butte Community Foundation, please call 970-349-5996 or e-mail cbcf@crestedbutte.net.