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Wednesday, September 1, 2021

Four outstanding nonprofits recognized as 2021 Piñon Awards recipients

Awarded organizations to receive \$4,000 grants, recognition at award ceremony

Santa Fe, New Mexico -- The Santa Fe Community Foundation, New Mexico's largest nonprofit funder, is pleased to announce the winners of its 2021 Piñon Awards. The awards, conferred annually by the Foundation since 1987, recognize mission-driven nonprofits for their outstanding contributions to northern New Mexico communities.

This year's awardees, selected in four categories from 39 nominations submitted by the public, will be recognized at the 2021 Piñon Awards ceremony and dinner on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at La Fonda on the Plaza.

"This is an event of appreciation and gratitude," said Christopher Goett, president and CEO of the Santa Fe Community Foundation. "It's our annual opportunity to celebrate the generous spirit and vital work of the region's leading nonprofits, whose positive impact in northern New Mexico is immeasurable yet often goes unsung."

In keeping with past years, the four winning nonprofits will each receive a \$4,000 unrestricted grant from the Santa Fe Community Foundation with underwriting support from Enterprise Bank & Trust and airtime on KSFR's *Community Matters* radio show to discuss the impact of their work.

2021 Piñon Award Categories and Winners

Courageous Innovation Award: Sky Mountain Wild Horse Sanctuary

The Courageous Innovation Award honors an organization that uses a bold approach to solve a persistent problem in the community. Sky Mountain Wild Horse Sanctuary works to create healthy ecosystems for wild horses and to give sanctuary for vulnerable mustangs where they live free. The Sanctuary's bold, science-based methodology addresses habitat loss, climate change, and range conditions that affect wild mustangs on the Carson National Forest, tribal, and private lands, allowing them to live, thrive, and remain in a natural environment that is a healthy and sustainable ecosystem.

Quiet Inspiration Award: Communities In Schools of New Mexico

The *Quiet Inspiration Award* honors an organization whose hallmark is to work quietly and respectfully among a wide range of people in the community. Communities In Schools' mission is to surround students with a community of support, empowering them to stay in school and succeed in life. Through its evidence-based approach, adapted to meet each school's unique needs, Communities In Schools strategically aligns and delivers needed resources so that students can focus on learning.

Tried & True Award: School for Advanced Research

The *Tried and True Award* honors an organization that is known for consistent, high-quality programming, despite changes in the external environment. The mission of the School for Advanced Research is to advance creative thought and innovative work in the social sciences, humanities, and Native American arts. Throughout its 114-year history and amid a global pandemic, the School has continuously provided consistent, much-needed services and opportunities to the community.

Visionary Award: Hermit's Peak Watershed Alliance

The *Visionary Award* honors an organization that can anticipate the unmet needs of future generations and has the stamina to achieve success. The Hermit's Peak Watershed Alliance works to protect and restore the ecological and cultural heritage of watersheds in the Hermit's Peak region through ecological restoration, environmental education, and community action. The nonprofit has quickly grown to become one of New Mexico's most dynamic and respected environmental stewards and has already accomplished major construction projects on the Gallinas River watershed, captivating the imagination and support of the greater Las Vegas community.

Award Ceremony Details

What: 2021 Piñon Award ceremony and dinner

When: Thursday, October 21, 2021 | 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Where: La Fonda on the Plaza ballroom

Tickets: \$50 for nonprofit individuals; \$75 general admission

Purchase Online: www.SantaFeCF.org/2021-pinon-awards

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About the Santa Fe Community Foundation

The Santa Fe Community Foundation was founded in 1981, designed to bridge philanthropy and nonprofits. The SFCF's mission is devoted to building healthy and vital communities in the region where

- Racial, cultural, or economic differences do not limit access to health, education, or employment
- Diverse audiences enjoy the many arts and cultural heritages of our region
- All sectors of our community take responsibility for ensuring a healthy environment