

NEWS

News from Denver's GLBT Chamber of Commerce - October 2011

15th Annual Gay & Lesbian Business Award Winners Announced

The 15th Annual Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce Business Awards Dinner is set for Nov. 10, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Tuscan Ballroom on the campus of the University of Denver.

Awards were presented to the following:

Entrepreneurial Man/Woman of the Year – Brian Belt, At The Beach and **Robin Schoh** of Waxing the City.



Both were recognized for their successful businesses and for serving as role models in the GLBT Community

Professional Man/Woman of the Year – Christiana Sosa the Denver Foundation and **Marilyn Manning**, REV Networking. They were honored for making outstanding advances for the GLBT community through their employment and their professional community activities

Individual Community Ally – Mitch Morrissey, Denver District Attorney. Awarded for his remarkable efforts for the benefit of the GLBT Community.

Corporate Community Ally – CH2M Hill. Recognized as an entity that has demonstrated great support to the GLBT Community.

Non-profit Organization – Project Angel Heart. A non-profit organization that has demonstrated the highest standards of fiscal management and leadership in the community.

Tickets are \$99 per person on or before Oct. 13, and \$125 if purchased after that date. Visit denverglc.org for ticket information, or contact Cindy Saylor at 303-731-1908 or by e-mail at csaylor@hpnglobal.com.

Three New Members Welcomed to the Board of Directors

The DGLCC is very pleased and proud to announce the following have accepted invitations to join the Board of Directors:

Vincent Grandi will be joining as Events Chairman;

Todd Hoyt will be joining as the Ambassador Chairman;

John Josephson will be joining as the Technology/Website Chairman

Additionally, the other candidates have accepted to be involved in Committee work on an ongoing basis.

Special thanks to the Interview Committee: Sally, Christopher and Ed for their diligence and participation.

Here's to doing more great work for our members and the DGLCC.

2011 Board Members



Chairman

Tim Gaudette
H.M. Brown and Associates
tgaudette@hmbrown.com



Vice Chairman

Sally Taylor
dglcc@sallytaylorinsurance.com



Treasurer

Wade Frisbie
wade.frisbie@denverglc.org



Officer, Past Chair

Ed Robinson
rerobinsonjr@msn.com



Secretary & Newsletter Chairman

Kay Feldman
Newsletter editor/designer
bkfeld987@comcast.net



Outreach Chairman

Christopher K. M. Leach
Contract Furnishings, Inc.
leachc@contractdenver.com



Board Member

Dave Donaldson
Plant Man Denver
dave@plantmandenver.com



Membership Director

Cynthia Blunck
cynthia.blunck@gmail.com

*DGLCC Photographer
Lynne Lawlor Photography*

Letter from the chairman...

It is truly a strange and confounding feeling to be part of something so much bigger than myself. And to realize that I have direct capability to shape its direction to make it something I envisioned just a short time earlier. These past nine months as Chairman have been enlightening as to how an organization such as ours ebbs and flows, twists and turns, yet remarkably continues to move forward. The never-ending conclusion I come to is that there is no way in hell I could do this by myself. All of this leads to reiterating the large THANK YOU I tried to express at our recent Member Appreciation Party at the Warwick last week. I believe I saw the majority of our membership there for a fabulous night out together.

I have said this many times and will continue

say this and you will get tired of me, if you haven't already, BUT... this wonderful group of like-minded folks we proudly call the DGLCC would not, could not and will not work without the participation of so many people.

Recent achievements by the DGLCC such as implementing the Ambassadors Club and the selection of three new Board Members has resulted in profoundly positive feedback and humbling praise. As a prominent member I tend to receive a lot of this commentary, but I can only think of the solid and diligent Board members who have led many of these advancements. I turn to the passionate and dedicated faces I saw Thursday night and give thanks that I can rely on all of you as often as I do. I look to someone like Ed Robinson and know his blood sweat and tears over the last four years allow me to lead a well organized Chamber. The recent improvements we have implemented are not some sudden occurrence but an accumulation of hard work and well intended passion over the most recent several years.

So if I may once more express to you my thanks for all you do and all you allow me and our leadership to achieve. Right on, you rock...

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NGLCC Leadership Conference a Very Successful Venture

By Board Member Christopher K. M. Leach



In August 2011, I had the opportunity to attend the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce's 8th Annual National Business and Leadership Conference: Out for Business! in Las Vegas. More than 350 LGBT business owners, corporate partners and Council of Chambers and Business Organizations (CCBO) leaders gathered for the annual conference.

The program provided a wide array of sessions, meetings, networking functions and more. This allowed attendees the opportunity to hear from inspirational speakers, procurement specialists, government agency representatives, corporate partners and other panelists and participants.

I heard over and over again from participants that the NGLCC had really come into its own and that this was the most successful NGLCC conference to date. From my perspective, it was a success in every sense of the word. The conference would start at 8 a.m. and go until 6 p.m. with very informative sessions. I only left the hotel twice in five days! The whole experience was very engaging.

I attended the conference as both a representative of the DGLCC and as a small-business owner who had recently gone through the NGLCC's LGBT Business Enterprise (LGBTBE) certification process. Most of the sessions I attended involved the CCBO affiliate groups. There are 52 affiliate chambers in the U.S. and 28 organizations were represented at the conference.

There were organizations that are volunteer driven like the DGLCC and organizations that had annual budgets that exceeded \$1million plus with staffs of seven and everything in between. There was a lot of great sharing of ideas among the CCBOs. There is more information from the NGLCC website below that better describes the CCBOs and their purpose.

“The NGLCC CCBO is a mechanism for the exchange of thoughts, knowledge and ideas to promote and encourage open dialogue, coordination and cooperation between local LGBT chambers of commerce, business organizations and the NGLCC. The CCBO facilitates specific dialogue to address the goals, challenges, and successes faced by each

represented organization, while brainstorming various methods of support. By working together via the CCBO, represented organizations expand economic opportunities and the advancement of the LGBT business community on Capitol Hill, Wall Street and down Main Street USA. By acting as an advisory body to the NGLCC, and facilitating sectional programming at the NGLCC National Business and Leadership Conference, the CCBO ensures that the voices from business communities from across the country are heard, translated to and understood by all the various levels of leadership and elected officials working together for the advancement of the LGBT business community.”

The conference was full of information that I have tried to synopsize for DGLCC Members. I would be happy to elaborate or share more information with anyone interested!

Tuesday, August 2nd,

- pre-conference day
- participated in a 5-hour B2B Boot Camp for LGBT-Certified Business Entrepreneurs Excellent session.
 - learned how to engage meaningfully with other LGBT Business Owners
 - learned how to focus my interactions with the corporate partners and procurement officials
 - also a number of sessions scheduled with the different CCBO's by region

Wednesday, August 3rd,

- started the day with “Make the Most of Your CCBO Experience”
- met all of the other participants representing the other LGBT Chambers and reviewed how to navigate the conference for the best results
- a lot of excitement that Denver was engaged in the conference
- wasn't sure what to expect from the other LGBT Chambers, but this session set a positive, productive and exciting tone for the conference
- conference opened with a “Get Connected: Opening Breakfast” and set the tone for one-

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- #1 World's Most Admired Super Regional Banks - *Fortune, March 2011*
- Ranked #5 - Management quality (across all industries) - *Fortune, March 2011*
- Three years with "Outstanding" rating for Community Reinvestment Act (CRA)
- Highest ranked large commercial bank in customer experience - *Forrester's, January 2010*
- 25 Most Powerful Women in Banking annual award (5th consecutive) - *U.S. Banker Magazine, September 2010*

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NGLCC Leadership Conference ...

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on-one NGLCC “Matchmaker Meetings” between LGBTBE’s and Corporate Partners

- morning sessions included “Stand Up & Be Counted: Why Certification Matters”
- “Maximizing Certification ROI” and “Membership Benefits” for the CCBO group geared toward the different organizations sharing best practices to drive recruitment, retention and sustainable growth. We hit the ground running in the afternoon with sessions like, “Growing Globally”, “Doing Business with Corporate America”, “Strategic Growth” and “Corporate Partnerships”
- after a full day, I can attest that there is a Gay Agenda, and that is to take over corporate America and grow our businesses

Thursday, August 4th

- started with the “NGLCC Champion of Enterprise Keynote and Chamber Awards”
- then the opening of the “Market Place Expo” which was open most of the day and staffed by different LGBT Business Owners and Corporate Partners
- sessions this day also included, “Advocacy and Civic Engagement”, “Building Strong Local LGBT Business Communities”, “Collaboration”, Women’s Business Initiative Roundtable”
- ended with a networking reception

Friday, August 5th

- started the day with sessions about “Operational Excellence and Sustainability”, “Engaging Corporate Employee Resource Groups”, “How to Work with the Federal Government”, “Meet the Leaders: Corporate America and NGLCC Affiliates”, “Federal Agency Access” and “Business Financing” all before lunch!
- at lunch there was a “Gay Shark Tank” played out on stage with three businesses pitching what they do, how they do it and what they need to grow. Very impressive. Excellent panelists that provided feedback to the three very difference businesses that participated
- afternoon closed with “Understanding Corporate Culture,” “Joint Ventures and Tier 2 Opportunities”,

“Leadership and Organization Development”, “Tourism,” “Board Development”

- ended with a “B2B Networking Reception” for LGBTBE Certified Businesses

This article cannot convey enough the positive experience I had attending this conference. I can’t wait to attend next year’s conference and hope to have a Colorado contingent present.

There are many benefits to DGLCC Members that would like to do business on a national level. The NGLCC offers all affiliate members a free membership in the NGLCC. It also waives the fees associated with going through the LGBT Business Enterprise Certification process. There are also opportunities for training and discounts through other member organizations. I encourage you to visit www.nglcc.org to learn more about the NGLCC. And, I look forward to sharing more information with you in future newsletters and at events about the DGLCC’s involvement with the NGLCC.

Quarterly Luncheon Planned

Please join the DGLCC and Jamie Gallegos of Social Climb (www.socialclimb.com) for a high tech, interactive lunch at the Denver Film Society’s Hideaway Theater Oct. 13. On a full-sized movie theater screen, Gallegos will show how to better drive business through social media, website optimization and other cool techie things.

The Denver Film Society’s intimate Hideaway Theater is an optimal venue to have a presentation such as this. However, space is limited to the first 40 members.

The Theater is at DFS’s downtown location at 2510 E Colfax Ave., across from East High School, in the entertainment complex featuring the Tattered Cover Bookstore and Twist and Shout Records. (www.denverfilm.org)



Member Appreciation Party a Blast at Warwick



Ambassadors Pamela Howard and Todd Hoyt checking in Sue Foppé and Ric White



Cynthia Blunck, Bradford Chandler



Jay Sarria, Ric White



Suze Harvat, Jack Stone



Brian DeBoskey, Tim Gaudette



Vincent Grandi, Ed Robinson, Sue Foppé networking



Dave Sevick, Chris Kahlmeyer



Wade Frisbie, Travis Leiker



Vincent Grandi, Mark Renn



Rebecca Davidson, Tonia Zambrano



Ed Robinson, Shelly Maddy, Christopher Lovio, Mary Speagle



Shane Christley, Rob Toomey, Tim Gaudette



Nate Hill, Rochelle Landau



Robert Herbers, Henry Gutierrez



Bob Vock, Ric White



Sharon Sisneros Avaya, Jason Sipes, Sally Taylor



Craig Meisenbach, Terry Hildebrandt, Todd Hoyt



Kay Feldman, Kat Barbee, Eileen Kellogg

Member Appreciation Party a Blast at Warwick



New Board Member
Vincent Grandi



New Board Member
Todd Hoyt



New Board Member
John Josephson



Members and guests listening to
Tim Gaudette making announcements



Tricia Deml, Judi Spendelow,
Pam Coen, Mike Misgen,
Sally Taylor



Marsha Hoffman, Mary Speegle



Bob Vock, Angeline Jackson



Robyn Vie-Carpenter,
Jordan Feltner



Brian Maress, Jessica Graham



Dave Smith,
Craig Meisenbach



Norm Belson, Ric Durity



Nicola Modarelli, Will Cabana



Curt Childress, Robert Phifer,
Everett Schneider



Eric Marcum, Jim Taylor,
Jonathan McGrew



Robert Alexander, Paul Roberts,
Jonathan McGrew, Steve Ferenci

The link to the Online Gallery for DGLCC photos is:
<http://lawlor.digitaleventsonline.com> >Events >DGLCC.
All August events will be coming down at the end of October.



Phenomenal Growth: 34 New Members! Welcome!!!

Between April and August we have added 32 new members in a variety of categories

Gold Sponsorship Level

Denver International Airport
U.S. Bank

Silver Sponsorship Level

Isle Casino Black Hawk
Business Basic Level
Rene's Maison des Fleurs
Aqua Lounge
McGrew Group
The Food Guys
Dagley Insurance
Equality Vacations
Keller Williams, Vincent Grandi
MetLife, John Romero
Society of Hispanic Human Resource Professionals
W.J. Bradley Mortgage Capital Corp
Eco Plumbing
Velur Enterprises
Linda Kiker, Personal Chef
Feldman Nagel Attorneys
Romero & Wilson
Meters Touch
Norwex Enviro Products
World Financial Group
Legacy Home Improvement
Keller Williams Rochelle Landau
Team DNA Legacy Homes
Palette Painters and Gallery 5280 Designs
Buoyancy Digital, LLC
Events Unwrapped
Vivacious Goddess

Not for Profit and Individual Members

Sunday Afternoon Car Klub
The Alexander Foundation
Aaron Killpack
Prime Timers

Daren O'Brien
Cherry Creek Arts Festival

36 renewing members - Thanks!!

The GLBT Center of Colorado
The Warwick Hotel
St. John's Cathedral
Cruise Planners
Above & Beyond Property Inspections
Bennington, Johnson, Biermann & Craigmile
Tybor Tax
Foppe Creative
Trilogy Financial
Waddell & Reed
Remax Accord, Ed Robinson
Keller Williams Downtown, Tea Schook
Sixtus Publishing
Apis Business Solutions
O2 Creative
Contract Furnishings
Denver Center for the Performing Arts
Mile High Freedom Band
Community Shares
Denver Water
Plant Man Denver
Colorado Therapy Care
Your Castle Real Estate, Anne Price
Alphagraphics
Catherine Nevo, Massage Therapy
KISS Business Solutions
Ambler & Keenan
Gay & Lesbian Fund of Colorado
Marriott City Center
Mental Health Center of Denver
Paramount Realty, Stan Griffith
Wells Fargo Bank
Harmony: A Colorado Chorale
Eric & Samia Nash
State Farm Insurance, Susan Boynton
AARP of Colorado

Letter From the Chairman...

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Getting back to the business of the Chamber, I advise you to hurry up and get your tickets, sponsorships and/or donations for the 15th Annual Business Awards Dinner as our committee is so far ahead of plan that old attendance records look to be shattered. We have superlative award winners, enticing silent auction donations coming in and a stellar night planned. (NOTE - proceeds of the auction go to our Non-Profit of the Year: Project Angel Heart). Please come support your Chamber, recognize terrific business and community leaders as well as seeing many of us in our Sunday Go-to-meeting clothes. Thursday November 10, 2011 6 p.m. at DU's School of Hospitality Management. Please contact me at tim.gaudette@denverglc.org or Committee Chairman, Cindy Saylor at csaylor@hperformance.com.

Upcoming Colorado AIDS Project Events...

The Orange Party at Elitch Gardens

October 7, 7 p.m., Elitch Gardens | 2000 Elitch Circle

Join in for a private evening of music, dancing, rides, haunted fun and more as Elitch Gardens presents the very first Orange Party benefiting Colorado AIDS Project and The Center.

Featuring National headlining DJs: Micro out of New York, Lea Luna out of Los Angeles and Chaotic also out of New York, plus local favorites including Craig C, Rockstar Aaron, Tatiana and Gary Givant, this rocking night is sure to be a ghostly good time.

Testimonial for Clean Cut Contractors!

My partner and I have had several remodel projects stored in the back of our heads, and this past summer we decided to tackle one of our projects which were to remodel our master bedroom closet. It was a big undertaking, so we decided to commission Zack with Clean Cut Contractors to take on the job.

The project included taking our closet and building it out so we could have a hallway closet, and then a spacious closet for our bedroom. It also included putting up a wall where there was once a door, and then finally constructing a door to our patio which we've always had but have never had access to. Keep in mind that our house is well over 100 years old.

What I thought would take several weeks or months only took Zack and his crew less than 2 weeks! I've heard horror stories of people "living through a remodel," but Zack's company made the process easy and painless. I'm now encouraged to move forward with our other home projects at some point.

Clean Cut Contractors handled themselves professionally, came in under budget, and finished the project early. If anyone is thinking of remodeling their home and needs a professional that will handle the process as if it were their own home – a call to Zack is what I would advise.

~Todd Hoyt

Information for Upcoming Election...

Election Day – November 1

Website: www.denvervotes.org

Phone: 311 or 720-913-VOTE(8683)

Email: elections@denvergov.org

Twitter: www.twitter.com/DenverElections

Facebook: www.facebook.com

Apis Business Solutions selected as one of three finalists for the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce 2011 Emerging Business of the Year Award. Congratulations!



Summit of The Chambers Slated for October 27 at Mile High Station

The DGLCC will participate in the 2011 Summit of The Chambers. It is the organization's goal to revive the Summit of The Chambers and grow the event to be stronger and stronger year after year.

This year's event will be held on Oct. 27 at Mile High Station from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

A press release for this event can be read at <http://www.prlog.org/11622917-climax-to-buyers-sellers-fair-biz-after-hours.html>

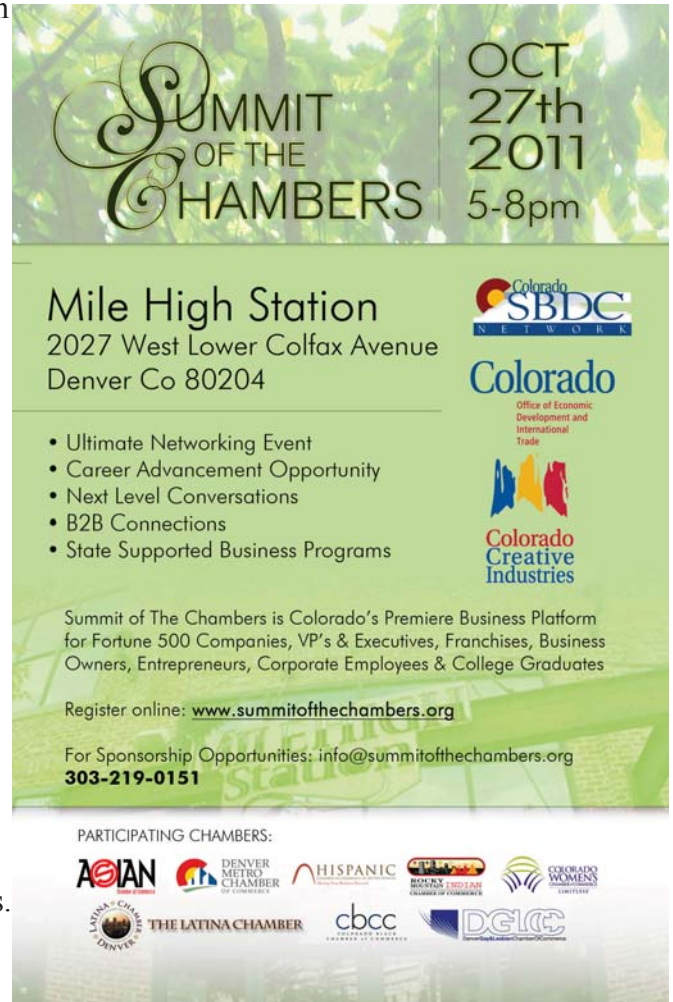
The DGLCC will have a booth to distribute and collect information at the event. Additional data from registrants and attendees will also be provided to the Chamber following the event.

The event website is now live. www.summitofthechambers.org

Event registration will open at \$20 on line for members and non-members.

Registered attendees can expect at high-caliber networking event with complimentary hors d'oeuvres sponsored by Wystone's World Tea & Catering. Cash & Credit Card bar will be offered during the entire event. Live Background music will accompany the festive vibe and ambiance.

Participating Chambers will have booth space on the main level at Mile High Station. The State of Colorado sponsoring departments will have booth space and small seminars/programs upstairs.



SUMMIT OF THE CHAMBERS OCT 27th 2011 5-8pm

Mile High Station
2027 West Lower Colfax Avenue
Denver Co 80204

Colorado SBDC NETWORK
Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade
Colorado Creative Industries


- Ultimate Networking Event
- Career Advancement Opportunity
- Next Level Conversations
- B2B Connections
- State Supported Business Programs

Summit of The Chambers is Colorado's Premiere Business Platform for Fortune 500 Companies, VP's & Executives, Franchises, Business Owners, Entrepreneurs, Corporate Employees & College Graduates

Register online: www.summitofthechambers.org

For Sponsorship Opportunities: info@summitofthechambers.org
303-219-0151

PARTICIPATING CHAMBERS:



LGBT History Month

October is LGBT History Month, and we want you to celebrate with us!

Our friends at the Equality Forum have selected 31 LGBT icons to honor this year--from Lady GaGa to Langston Hughes to Kye Allums--and each day of the month, we'll be using our Facebook page to share videos and information about these folks who are making history all across the world.

Get in the spirit of LGBT History Month--watch this video celebrating all 31 of this year's icons. Then, if you're still itching for more, visit the LGBT History Month website to see all the icons who have been honored each year since 2006.

For more information go to: <http://www.facebook.com/onecolorado>

Latino Small Business Summit Planned for October 6

A one-day event will connect you with the necessary tools and resources to help you grow your business on Oct. 6, at 2105 Decatur in Denver.

You will learn about how to obtain loans to expand your business, how to grow through corporate and government contracts, and about key technologies that will help increase efficiency.

Get the tools to grow your business! Attend the Latino Small Business Summit! <http://latinobusinesssummit.org> or call call 303-620-8076



Valuing Unique Perspectives



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LeRoy Romero Spoke at this Month's Breakfast



Vincent Grandi, Krista McGalliard, Jaye Alynn



Jay Sarria, Tim Gaudette



LeRoy Romero speaking



LeRoy Romero, Tim Gaudette



New Ambassadors Catherine Nevo and Billy Rediess signing in guests and members



LeRoy Romero, Karen Nakandakare, Willie Franklin



Judi Spendelow, Jeremy Anderson



Wade Frisbie, Nora Atkinson, Dave Donaldson



John Ehlers, Dayn Conrad



Ed Robinson, Marty Siemion



Emily Arnold, Tim Gaudette



Dayn Conrad and Dave Donaldson networking



John Ehlers, LeRoy Romero, and Krista McGalliard networking



Krista McGalliard, John Josephson, Jaye Alynn, Billy Rediess



Matthew Shepard Foundation Among 25 Charities Nationwide Chosen For \$1 Million 'American Giving Awards' Contest

The Matthew Shepard Foundation is among only 25 U.S. charities chosen to compete for grants ranging from \$125,000 to \$1 million through the American Giving Awards, presented by Chase.

Winners will be selected based on the public's votes on Facebook and Chase.com. The Foundation, founded by the parents of 1998 Laramie, WY hate crime victim Matthew Shepard, works to "Replace Hate with Understanding, Compassion and Acceptance" through community outreach, advocacy and by providing educational resources.

Its aim is to promote equality for all Americans regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation, and support gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered young people who face bias in their daily lives. The charity is among 25 past winners of grants from the online Chase Community Giving program, which awards grants based on the public's votes on Facebook.

The Foundation won two grants totaling \$62,000 in early 2010, which at the time funded major expansions of its online resources. "The Foundation is incredibly honored to be among this group of extraordinary charities," said Judy Shepard, president of the Foundation board and its cofounder, along with her husband Dennis.

"Even a \$125,000 grant would be an incredible boost to our ability to support school and workplace diversity programs, and provide information and inspiration to young people who are bullied, discriminated against

and made to feel alone because their peers see them as different."

Five categories of five charities are competing in the first round of voting; the top vote-getter from each category will compete in round two in December for grants of \$125,000 to \$1 million. The grants will be dedicated directly to the winning groups' proposed new charitable projects. The Foundation is seeking funding to develop online educational exercises to combat bullying and help victims develop skills to cope with and avoid harassment.

With offices in Casper and Denver, the Foundation, established in 1998, has reached several million people through school assemblies, media interviews, support of productions of "The Laramie Project," its youth-oriented online community MatthewsPlace.com, and other outreach programs.

For more information, visit the "American Giving Awards" page on Facebook.

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