2017 Year in Review

Grants

The Del Mar Foundation set a record this year by providing in excess of $100,000 in grant awards, (a portion of which is payable in 2018), to a variety of worthwhile causes and projects. The largest of these, (and in the history of our organization), came at the end of the year, when we awarded a grant to the City of Del Mar to assist in outfitting and furnishing the community spaces within the new town hall. We made this grant in the tradition of many of our earlier awards devoted to the creation of beautiful, vibrant community gathering spaces, like our support of the development of the Powerhouse years ago. It is our hope that, by making these funds available, the City will be able to activate these community spaces within the town hall more quickly than would otherwise be possible, and that everyone in Del Mar will benefit from a beautiful new space in which to enjoy lectures, concerts, discussions of current events, and each other's company.



While the Town Hall grant was the largest, it was far from the only award of the year. We helped share our wonderful community by presenting a grant to the Don Diego Foundation to transport ten buses full of Title I elementary school children – some of whom had never seen the ocean -- to the Del Mar Fairgrounds for a day to display plants that they had spent the previous 3 months tending from seedlings in the Fair's annual **Plant/Grow/Eat** program. We continued our support of **Del Mar Community Connections'** popular bi-monthly lunch program, enabling otherwise homebound seniors to connect with peers over a balanced meal at the Del Mar Community Building. The program includes food, speakers and music and serves about 400 seniors annually. We provided a grant to the **Friends of the Del Mar Library** to fund educational programs for children and teens. Working with the **Del Mar Lifeguards**, we funded the purchase of new beach wheelchairs, and the refurbishment of several others, to ensure that all people enjoy access to our beautiful beaches, regardless of their disabilities. We awarded a grant to the **Del Mar Garden Club** to support its labor to beautify our downtown storefronts. Although this project is ongoing, the results of their initial work are evident in the form of new plantings and decorative features all along Camino Del Mar. We also continued to support **Del Mar TV**, by engaging them to produce online videos of our popular DMF Talks lecture series available online at vimeo.com/channels/dmftalks.

Events







Our **Special Events** group outdid itself this year, adding on to our already busy schedule with a series of new events. We began the year by greatly expanding our annual Earth Day celebration, which included free snacks, dinner, music, and a variety of displays and talks at the Powerhouse. We closed the year hosting a free community party at the Breeders' Cup's Barn at the Beach, which featured great food, music and fun for everyone. In between, Special Events staged the second annual "*Picnic at Powerhouse Park.*" Family, friends and neighbors gathered for an old-fashioned community picnic where we supplied food, games, and entertainment, while also showcasing all of the phenomenal work performed by Del Mar's various not-for-profit community organizations. **Special Events** also hosted several "*Meet and Greets*" throughout the year, designed to bring out friends and neighbors

for casual meetings over wine and appetizers at Seasalt Del Mar, La Tienda and Jimmy O's. And lest our furry friends be forgotten, Special Events also staged the annual *Halloween Dog Parade* at Shores Park, which featured dozens of canines in costumes, as well as Doggy Yoga and the annual Valentine's Celebration for people and their pets.



The **Young Del Mar Committee** upheld its mission to provide memory making family events and activities for the Del Mar community by hosting the wildly popular *Easter Egg Hunt* in Seagrove Park, which annually attracts about 300 children. On July 4th, in partnership with the City, **Young Del Mar** took over Coast Blvd and held its annual *Independence Day Parade*. In October, the annual *Spooktacular Beach Bonfire* lit up a Friday night for hundreds of Del Mar area families who enjoyed spooky stories, s'mores and fun. Continuing in 2017 was *Cinema by the Sea*, a family-friendly outdoor movie series held at Del Mar Shores Park. This year also saw the return of the "*Brunch with the Band*" toddler concerts featuring the local group Hullaballoo. And, of course, Young Del Mar continued its popular *Parents' Night Out* series, providing a spectacular date night for the grown-ups.





The **Cultural Arts Committee** extended its perennially sold out "*First Thursdays*" concert series at the Powerhouse, which featured such artists as the Gilbert and Lorraine Castellanos Quintet, The Pacific Wind Quintet, The Peter Sprague Consort, the Ruby Blue Quartet, Gustavo Romero and more. Our equally popular "*Bluegrass and Beyond*" concert series attracted some world class musicians, including Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum, and two concerts by the Railsplitters.



The traditional **Summer Twilight Concert** series brought bands on four evenings and an afternoon to the outdoor stage at Del Mar's Powerhouse Park. Our community enjoyed food, dance, an always priceless Del Mar Sunset, and, of course, music from great musical acts, including: Sully and the Blue Eyed Soul Band; DSB – the Next Best Thing to Journey; The Ultimate Stones; the Mighty Untouchables and the Sensation Show Band. The Del Mar Foundation owes a debt of gratitude to our 2017 Twilight Concert sponsorship partners: Del Mar Plaza and the Brutten Family, the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, Gelson's Market, D'Arcy Capital Management, Jake's Del Mar, LAZ Parking, Marrokal Design & Remodeling, Poseidon on the Beach, Zel's Del Mar, and the Office of the County Supervisor, which provided us with a $15,000 Community Enhancement Grant to help fund this free concert series.



The **DMF Talks** speaker series provided another array of fascinating speakers, including: Dr. Erica Ollmann Saphire who outlined global efforts to combat the Ebola and Lassa viruses; Dr. Dan Cartamil from Scripps Institution of Oceanography on his Thresher Shark research and Nature photography in Baja California; Dr Todd Coleman of UCSD, whose research in "Wearables" is opening doors in medical research; Bill Toone of Ecolife Conservation, co-hosted with San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, speaking on his "Return to Madagascar"; and David Toler, discussing his ancestors and the history of the Native American Ipay/Kumeyaay tribes.



Our stellar year was only possible because of our donors, sponsors and volunteers, who have now grown our Community Endowment to be in excess of $2 million. In addition to our own endowment funds, the Foundation, through its Investment Advisory Committee, continues to provide financial management for the Lagoon Endowment, the Alvarado House Fund and the Del Mar Historical Society.

To our donors, sponsors and volunteers: Thank you for another great year!