

# 2015 ANNUAL REPORT



**LOCAL  
EDUCATION &  
ACTIVITIES  
FOUNDATION**

For St. Cloud Area School District 742

The District 742 Local Education & Activities Foundation (LEAF) is a citizens' organization whose purpose is to secure and channel private funds to support and enhance the educational process. The Foundation shall serve to promote the value of a comprehensive educational program and to increase public confidence and involvement in the public school system. It shall build links among the public school system, business and industry, government, civic organizations, and the public.



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For St. Cloud Area School District 742



## Dear Friends of Local Education & Activities Foundation,

*Thanks to you, LEAF is making a difference for students of District 742!*

Twenty years ago in the fall of 1996, LEAF awarded its first round of grants, a total of \$4,000 for extracurricular activities. Last year, with expanded purpose, LEAF contributed \$184,496 to District 742! With a focus on excellence and opportunity for our students, we now offer grants for both extracurricular activities and academics. We seek grants and accept donations for these programs that help to educate our students. Developing community partners is a priority. With these efforts, we have given \$1,261,061 to our schools since our beginning!

During 2014-15, LEAF provided over 100 grants. They reached students throughout the district, pre-school through high school, north, south, east, and west. Program areas included athletics, music, art, science, robotics, reading, journalism, history, technology and more. Here are just a couple examples:

- In May, 2015, LEAF sponsored Peacemaker, a joint concert of the Tech and Apollo choir and orchestra students, and the St Cloud Symphony orchestra, performed in Ritsche Auditorium. It was a thought-provoking concert, never performed in Minnesota before, with a focus on building community. Both students and audiences experienced a memorable event.
- PAKRAT (People and Kids Reading A lot Together) remains a priority for LEAF. After requests from schools for a Summer Roll and Read program (bookmobile), LEAF gathered community partners to buy a used school bus, remodel it, paint it, and stock it with books. Rotary, Kiwanis, Scholastic, District 742, and New Flyer, LEAF, and many volunteers provided the resources to get it done. For seven weeks over the summer, pre-Kindergarten through third grade students had new books to read every week. Many of these children might not have access to books otherwise. 94% of the teachers say it has increased the literacy development of their students and want the program to continue. It has overwhelming support of parents and students, as well.

You are making a difference in the lives of students in District 742. With your help, homeless students are served, athletes have new supplies, science labs get additional equipment, competitive teams travel to state or national events, books are added to classroom and school libraries.... You have helped enhance education in District 742.

*Thank you! It takes a community to educate our kids.*

Joanne Dorsher  
President of the Board



## PAKRAT

### ROTARY/LEAF-FUNDED ROLL & READ BUS DRIVES UP SUMMER READERSHIP

PAKRAT stands for *Partners And Kids Reading A-lot Together*. When the colorful Roll & Read Project bus pulled up to elementary schools, Boys and Girls Clubs and low-income neighborhoods this summer, children eager to access the mobile library's generous array of books came running and climbed aboard. The literary treasures they borrowed and shared with families fueled their imagination and improved their learning.

While many District 742 students enjoy the benefits of reading at home, a growing segment of learners does not have the same opportunities. Time and financial constraints

and other barriers make it difficult for many parents to read with their children at home, and the effects on children are more acute during summer months. Research has shown that as much as an 85 percent achievement gap can be attributed to "summer slide" caused by lack of quality educational materials available to them.

A Rotary Club gift of \$15,000, along with LEAF Foundation funds and a portion of an Otto Bremer Foundation grant, helped LEAF to purchase the bus and expand the summer program to all elementary school attendance areas in the district in the summer of 2015.

A \$4,000 gift from the Downtown Kiwanis Club and an \$8,000 grant from Scholastic Books will help ensure this quality program continues into 2016.

The PAKRAT Summer Roll & Read Program is a great example of what can be accomplished when a teacher has a great idea, colleagues step up to provide the professional classroom leadership to support the idea, and the community provides the needed financial support to make it happen. All of those things came together in St. Cloud and our students continue to benefit!



80%

of the students report that PAKRAT has made them a better reader



91%

of parents said PAKRAT made their children stronger readers



94%

of teachers say they feel PAKRAT has benefitted the literacy development of their students, and 95% of the teachers and 94% of the parents say they want the PAKRAT program to continue



2,318 Children  
Checked Out 4,475 Books





92

## adopt a classroom

Thanks to the generosity of so many, 92 classrooms were adopted in the Fall of 2015, making the 2015 Adopt-A-Classroom Project our most successful yet! A total of \$22,750 was collected and LEAF was able to provide \$250 grants to 92 separate classrooms through Adopt-A-Classroom grants. Our sincere thanks to the many businesses and individuals who contributed to make this effort a great success!

## Peacemakers Concert

A SHARED STAGE. A SHARED PERFORMANCE FOR PEACE.

In May, 2015, Tech and Apollo High schools came together to perform a concert that the choir directors say has never been done in Minnesota.

The event was funded in part by a \$3,000 Local Education & Activities Foundation grant.

The 90-minute concert "The Peacemaker" featured music by Karl Jenkins. The work projected words of peace from iconic, world-changing figures such as, Gandhi, Nelson

Mandela and Martin Luther King. It also used inspirational quotations and poetry of Mother Teresa, Anne Frank, the Dalai Lama, Shelley Malory, Terry Waite and Carol Barratt.

Karl Jenkins' The Peacemakers was a collaborative concert which involved 200 choir students from Apollo and Tech High School.

The thirty piece orchestra that accompanied the work was also made up of students from Apollo and Tech, as well as music

teachers from District 742 schools and area professional musicians.

This is the first time the two public high schools' choirs have come together for an event of this magnitude.

"It's been awesome to see them get to work together," said Nicholas Hollermann, Tech's choir director. "We don't usually get the opportunity to share the stage with them."

"Sometimes students can be resistant a little bit to wanting to talk about it, because it can be so personal. In the process, we've had some really amazing conversations. ... 'What does this mean in our community, and how does this affect what we're doing in life?'"





## Fund Options: LEAFs Expanding Impact

### RETIRED EDUCATORS ESTABLISH LEGACY FUND WITH LEAF.

Gifts of \$25,000 or more, given over a period of up to 5 years, allow donors to set up a Legacy Fund within LEAF that can be directed to benefit a specific activity or educational program, or be given in the donor's name to a program/activity chosen through the LEAF grant process.

As of December, 2015, a Retired Educators Legacy Fund has become the newest Legacy Fund established with LEAF. The Retired Educators Legacy Fund provides grants for both academic and activities programs. A total of 105 retired educators have donated \$26,676 over the past 4-years to create this Legacy Fund. Additions to the Retired Educator's Legacy Fund can be made by retired educators or any individual who wishes to make a donation in honor of, or in memory of, a favorite educator.

### CURRENT LEAF LEGACY FUNDS

- George & Shirley Torrey Fund in support of student activities
- Barclay & Janet Carriar Fund in support of student activities & academic programming
- Michael Faber Family Fund in support of student activities and academic programming
- Retired Educators Fund in support of student activities and academic programming
- Apollo High School Activities Fund
- South Junior High Activities Fund
- Tech High School Athletics Fund
- Tech High School Football Fund
- District 742 Chinese & Spanish Immersion Program Fund
- District 742 Homeless Student Services Fund

### LEAF BENEFACTORS RECOGNITION

LEAF Benefactors Recognition goes to those individuals who have made a provision for a future gift to LEAF in support of education in District 742 through their will, trust, retirement or life insurance plan or a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust. Individuals interested in becoming LEAF Benefactors should contact the LEAF executive director at 320-253-5780 or [bruce@leaf742.org](mailto:bruce@leaf742.org).

### CURRENT LEAF BENEFACTORS:

- George & Shirley Torrey
- Linda Prescott

"We will always be thankful to District 742 for providing our children with a good education, and we are strong believers that extra-curricular activities are very important to a well-rounded education. When we planned our will, we felt it important that we leave funds to our favorite charities. LEAF has been one of our favorites since 1993. Therefore, we have named LEAF as a recipient of a gift in our will." – Shirley and George Torrey

LEAF's expanding reach and the generous support of individuals and organizations is impacting more and more of our students. LEAF has established a proven track record of raising funds and getting them to the students who really need them. Teachers, coaches, advisors, and administrators submit proposals to receive grants from the LEAF endowment for their student groups.

#### LEGACY FUNDS

Gifts of \$25,000 or more (given over a period of up to 5 years) allow donors to set up a legacy fund within LEAF that can be directed to benefit a specific activity or educational program, or be given in the donor's name to a program/activity through the LEAF grant process.

#### MATCHING GIFTS

The employer's gift-matching program can enhance charitable giving. Many businesses provide such opportunities when you give to 501(c)(3) charitable organizations like LEAF.

#### MEMORIAL GIFTS

Memorial gifts to LEAF are recognized in the name of the deceased and invested in the LEAF Endowment. These gifts are a great legacy that provides opportunities for future generations of students far into the future.

#### PLANNED GIVING/BENEFACTORS RECOGNITION

Make a provision for a gift to LEAF in your estate planning to provide a legacy of support to District 742 students for years to come. Planned gifts through estate planning, life insurance and trusts can be arranged with the Central Minnesota Community Foundation by contacting LEAF's Executive Director.

#### IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

While financial contributions go directly to the programs supported by LEAF, we also need substantial in-kind services to help promote our annual events and fundraisers. LEAF in-kind sponsors are recognized in the same manner as our financial sponsors.

#### ADOPT-A-CLASSROOM

The Adopt-A-Classroom project connects businesses and individuals to specific classrooms to help provide needed supplies with tax-deductible \$250 contributions.

#### SUSTAINER

This is an easy way to give on an ongoing basis. Simply choose the amount you wish to donate monthly on the "donate now" form found on the LEAF web page. The amount will be added to your credit card monthly and LEAF will send you a tax acknowledgement at the end of the year.

#### BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

LEAF business partnerships show the community that your business appreciates and supports education. LEAF promotes your business while you and your customers support LEAF and District 742 students. Check out our web page to see the many businesses that support LEAF.

#### SPONSORSHIPS

Talk about a win-win opportunity! Sponsor specific LEAF events to help defray costs and assure the financial success of events, while illustrating that your business supports educational opportunities in our community. Currently several LEAF events offer sponsorship opportunities.

#### 2015 DONATIONS "IN HONOR OF"

By Ron & Marti Bunde in Honor of Ron Bunde

By Pat Welter & Patrick Henry in Honor of Pat Krueger

By Gene & Margaret Bjorklun in Honor of Vern Ehlers

#### 2015 DONATIONS "IN MEMORY OF"

By Bruce & Colleen Hentges in Memory of Mel Kiffmeyer

By Vern & Mary Ann Leitch in Memory of Mel Kiffmeyer

By Vern & Mary Ann Leitch in Memory of Kay Baschky

By Vern & Mary Ann Leitch in Memory of Harold Wolfe

By Ellie Wolfe in Memory of Harold Wolfe

By Bruce & Colleen Hentges in Memory of Don Nylund

By Chuck Sell in Memory of Don Nylund

By Vern & Mary Ann Leitch in Memory of Don Nylund

By Vern & Mary Ann Leitch in Memory of Harry Wenner

By Ron & Sharon Eickhoff in Memory of Harry Wenner

By Louise Muggli in Memory of Norman Welch

By Mr. & Mrs. Roger C. Huyink in Memory of Monrud "Doc" Dahl

By Bruce & Colleen Hentges in Memory of Marty Samuelson

By Richard & Elizabeth Svee in Memory of James B. Svee

By Ed Schnettler in Memory of Mary Schnettler



2015 Award Recipients: Lee Morgan, Barclay Carrier, Jim Pehler, Alicia Jepsen, Vicki Morgan, Justin Skaalerud, and Steve Taylor.

## Annual Appreciation Reception

The 2015 Appreciation & Awards Reception was held on Wednesday, February 18 at the St. Cloud Country Club. This event is all about thanking some of the many in our community who have helped LEAF do what we do.

### 2015 AWARD RECIPIENTS

#### LIFETIME SERVICE AWARD

*Given in recognition of significant and ongoing service to and support of the LEAF Mission*

**Barclay Carrier**

#### PHIL WELTER AWARD FOR VOLUNTEER SERVICE

*Given in recognition of significant and ongoing volunteer involvement in LEAF*

**Jim Pehler**

#### GEORGE AND SHIRLEY TORREY AWARD FOR CHARITABLE GIVING

*Given in recognition of significant financial or in-kind contributions to LEAF*

**Vickie & Lee Morgan**

**Wayne & Juli Schluchter**

#### COACHING/DIRECTING EXCELLENCE AWARD

*Given in recognition of demonstrated excellence in helping students excel through activities*

**Steve Taylor,**

**Tech High School Coach**

**Justin Skaalerud,**

**Apollo High School Coach,**

#### INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD

*Given in recognition of educational excellence in academics and the classroom*

**District 742 Early Childhood Education Program, Alicia Jepsen, Director**

## Night Of The Stars Variety Show

Presented on February 21 and 22 at the historic Paramount Theatre, The 2015 Night Of The Stars presented 31 separate acts and the performers delighted the large crowds with their talent and poise! Thanks to the supporters, volunteers, sponsors and audience, over 125 District 742 students had the great experience of performing to near sold-out crowds.







## 5th Annual Learning Renaissance

The fifth annual Learning Renaissance was held on Sunday, November 8 at the Café Renaissance in Waite Park. We had another successful event, raising more money than ever for our LEAF academic projects. We are thrilled to announce that we had a net profit of just under \$38,000 for the event and we met our \$10,000 match! We were also excited to donate \$2,866 to the One District/One Book project, and \$2,683 to the VEX Robotics program.

## Annual Golf Tournaments

### 2ND ANNUAL JOHN LIESER APOLLO ACTIVITIES GOLF SCRAMBLE

The 2nd Annual John Lieser Apollo Activities Golf Tournament attracted 114 golfers to beautiful Wapicada Golf Course. The event raised \$19,111 in support of Apollo Activities, with \$5,540 going into the LEAF Apollo Activities Legacy Fund.

### 7TH ANNUAL TECH TIGER SCRAMBLE

The largest turnout ever at the 7th Annual Tech High School Athletics Golf Tournament raised \$24,815 in support of the Tech Athletic Program. The tourney added \$9,122 to the LEAF Tech Athletics Legacy Fund, bringing the total Tech Athletics Legacy Fund to \$51,471 – over half way to their \$100,000 goal! The 2016 tournament will be held on Friday, August 12.

Sunshine, fun, stylish fashions, and a little golf. It just doesn't get better than that. The tournaments for our public high schools have continued to grow year by year and have raised some serious money for their respective legacy funds.





## Fund Options:

Athletic equipment and classroom supplies to club transportation and support of the innovative PAKRAT reading program, LEAF is making a real impact in students' lives.

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Jan. 1, 2015 to Dec. 31, 2015

#### Income:

Public Support Contributions	\$149,666
Earned Income	
Special events, net of expenses	\$78,762
Investment Income	(\$19,277)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$209,151</b>

#### Expenses:

Program Services Grants to District	\$187,611
Supporting Services Fundraising	\$21,664
Management & General	\$29,889
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$239,164</b>

<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>(\$30,013)</b>
<b>Net Assets Beginning of Year</b>	<b>\$1,057,672</b>
<b>Net Assets End of Year</b>	<b>\$1,027,659</b>

### FALL 2015 - ACTIVITIES GRANTS

School	Project	Grant Amount
Apollo	Girls Soccer Uniforms	\$1,500
Tech	Girls Basketball Uniforms	\$3,200
Tech	Boys Uniforms	\$1,300
Tech	Boys & Girls Track Equipment	\$1,400
South Jr. High	VEX Robotics Starter Kits	\$1,000
South Jr. High	Boys & Girls Basketball Uniforms	\$2,000
Talahi Elementary	Video Artist Residency	\$550
	Disadvantaged Student Activities Support	\$1,785
North Jr. High	"Draw for Art" Program Supplies	\$550
North Jr. High	Art Club Supplies	\$675
North Jr. High	Eagles Act Club	\$750
Tech	9th Grade Boys Basketball Jerseys	\$1,000
Tech	Boys/Girls Golf Mats	\$1,230
Tech	NASA Student Scholarships	\$1,200
Apollo	Wellness Center	\$500
Apollo	Wrestling Camcorders	\$320
District-wide	First Robotics Program	\$2,087
Tech	Orchestra Young People's Concert	\$300
Apollo	Creative Magazine	\$320
Tech	Health Occupations (HOSA) Conferences/Competitions	\$2,000
Tech	Girls Softball Jerseys	\$1,000
	<b>Total Fall 2015 Activities Fund Grants</b>	<b>\$24,667</b>

# \$1,206,597

in grants since the 1996-97 school year!

# Board Of Directors

Tim Beck – Treasurer  
Accountant-Clifton/Larson/Allen LLP

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Interim Academic Dean, SCTCC

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Educator

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Retired Physician

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Tech Activities Director

Pat Welter  
Retired Educator

Hassan Yussuf  
Community Volunteer

Phil Welter  
CSB/SJU Retired (Honorary)

## SPRING 2015 – ACTIVITIES GRANTS

School	Project	Grant Amount
Tech High School	Athletics Legacy Grant	\$2,117
Tech High School	Football Legacy Grant	\$1,661
Tech High School	Funding for track/CC tent/shelter	\$500
District Wide	Participation funding for K-12 free/reduced lunch students	\$600
North Jr. High	Vex Robotics expenses/supplies	\$1,000
North Jr. High	Mississippi Strings Camp scholarships for District 742 students	\$600
North Jr. High	Participation funding for students	\$500
Apollo High School	New football helmets for North-Side Youth Football	\$1,200
Area Learning Center	Entrepreneurship Camp	\$250
Area Learning Center	Youth Service Project	\$750
Oak Hill	Tennis nets for PE classes	\$300
South Jr. High	WeAct summer leadership program for students	\$1,227
Area Learning Center	MAAP STARS supplies/expenses	\$750
Tech High School	Nordic Ski equipment	\$500
Tech High School	New basketball uniforms for boys basketball	\$1,200
Tech High School	Speech Team coaches, travel & supplies	\$1,000
	<b>Total Spring 2015 Activities Fund Grants</b>	<b>\$14,155</b>

LEAF Awarded \$184,496 through a variety of grants during 2014-15 school year. See the total grants by category and the specific grants from the Cycle I & II Endowed fund grants below.

## 2014-15 LEAF GRANTS

Cycle I & II Activities Grants	\$38,862
NOTS Ticket Sales Grants	6,790
Contingency Grants	2,930
Cycle II Academic Grants	13,393
Adopt a Classroom Grants (92 grants)	2,750
PAKRAT Grants	22,050
Fund-A-Need Grants	5,549
Immersion Program (Chines/Spanish)	27,490
Homeless Student Services	13,092
Apollo/Tech Golf	14,632
Direct Flow-Through Grants	16,958
	<b>\$184,496</b>

## SPRING 2015 – ACADEMIC GRANTS

School	Project	Grant
Kennedy	Reading & Writing Instant Centers	\$200
Clearview	Drum Sets for Music Dept	\$450
Oak Hill	SMART Board for EL Program	\$1,500
Lincoln	Additional books with CD's to help students read	\$200
North Jr. High	National History Day activities	\$300
Lincoln	Field trip to Orchestra Hall	\$800
North Jr. High	Eagle Academy student service learning project	\$200
North Jr. High	Resources for MN History Museum classroom lessons	\$525
Kennedy	Reading & Writing Instant Centers	\$200
North Jr. High	School-owned music instruments for low-income students	\$1,500
Madison	Chrome Book Computer	\$300
North Jr. High	SJU Challenge Course for 7th grade students	\$750
North Jr. High	Classroom sets of wireless electronic temp probes that work with iPads	\$1,125
Westwood	Phys Ed Equipment for winter recess	\$500
Talahi	Native American one-week Residency	\$200
Early Childhood Ed	Books, instructional materials, etc	\$1,600
Tech High School	"We Need Our Space" campaign for teaching STEM concepts. TAIL Lab	\$3,043
	<b>Total Spring 2015 Academics Fund Grants</b>	<b>\$13,393</b>

# thanks

Thanks to all of our donors who gave so generously in 2015. Your continued support of LEAF's mission during times of economic uncertainty confirms the strength of our vision and our community's commitment to the students of District 742 and a world-class education. If you are a new LEAF supporter and interested in making a tax-deductible contribution, please visit our website: [leaf742.org](http://leaf742.org). The following donations were received during calendar year 2015.

## OVER \$20,000

Janet & Barclay Carrier

## \$10,000 - \$19,999

Anonymous  
St. Cloud Rotary Foundation, Inc

## \$5,000 - \$9,999

Tony and Elsie Dingmann Fund of the Central  
Minnesota Community Foundation  
Debbie & Jason Erickson  
J.A. Wedum Foundation  
Bill & Chip Martin-Chaffee  
Morgan Family Foundation  
South Jr. High

## \$1,000 - \$2,499

The Benevity Community Impact Fund  
Bernick's Beverages & Vending  
Bremer Bank  
Cargill Incorporated  
Central MN General Fund of the CMCF  
Dick & Mimi Bitzen Family Fund of the CMCF  
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Kiwanis Downtown Club Benevolent Fund  
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Donal & Lydia Wade  
Don & Jan Watkins  
John & Susan Weitz  
Pat Welter & Patrick Henry

## \$500 - \$999

Mark & Angie Benson  
Bob & Sandy Burtness  
Scheels of St. Cloud  
Community Giving  
Kevin & Beth Donnelly  
Heidi Everett  
Mark & Mary Geller  
Gray Plant Mooty  
Don Helgeson & Sue Shepard  
Bruce & Colleen Hentges  
Dennis & Joyce Hummel  
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David & Pat Krueger

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Karen Rizer  
Rock On Trucks, Inc  
Ron Schoenfelder  
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St. Cloud Administrator's Assoc.  
Stearns Bank  
Surgical Care Affiliates  
Tech Alummi Association  
John Torgerson  
Terese Van Orsow  
Scott & Joan Wilcox  
Yapel Orthodontics

## \$250 - \$499

American Heritage National Bank  
Anonymous - Julia Joplin  
Marianne & Rich Arzen  
Avery Pipeline Services, Inc  
Tara & Tim Bayerl  
Brenny Transportation, Inc  
Barb & Jerry Carlson  
Lynneth Carver  
Casey's General Stores  
Doug & Tarryl Clark  
Tami Deland  
Sonia Dickrell  
Dwayne & Cindy Dockendorf  
Kitty Dolan  
Tom Dolan  
El-Jay Plumbing & Heating, Inc  
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Eugene & Joanne Fischer  
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Teresa Giese  
GNP Company  
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Heartland Glass Co, Inc  
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Minnwest Bank  
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Tom Muller  
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North Central Bus & Equipment

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Project 325 Fundraising  
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Tri-County Abstract  
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UpFront Consulting  
Viking Coca-Cola  
Tolly & Karen Vollen  
Connie & Jerry Von Korff  
Waite Park 2012 Lions Club, Inc  
Bruce & Geri Watkins  
Wells Fargo Bank  
Joan Wertz & Margaret Schlangen

## \$100 - \$249

Dave & Jan Algoe  
All Star Trophy & Awards  
Don Anderson  
David Anfenson, American Family Insurance  
William & Adeline Armstrong  
Bank Vista  
Robert & Karen Bellmont  
Dan Berling  
Bernie Berns & Terrance Iverson  
Brian & Connie Berseht  
Jim & Ginny Bisek  
Bonanza SteakHouse  
Roger Bonn  
Kathy & James Brickley  
Burger King  
Peggy Carlson  
Bruce & Jo Ann Carlson  
Coborn's Inc  
Ann Cofell  
Dan & Elaine Cotton  
Mike Dols  
Kermit & Betty Eastman  
Steve Eckblad & Bev Williams  
Tom Eickhoff  
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Bill Frantti  
Frederick Liquors of St. Cloud, Inc  
Julia & Mike Frericks  
Tom Frericks  
Gerald Gerads & Carol Weiler

Christy Gilleland  
Gray Potato Farm  
Grayson's Berryland  
Roger & Carol Haire  
Ty & Joyce Hamerlik  
Michael Harmsen  
Kristin Hatten  
James & Crystal Heckendorf  
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Jim Knoblach  
Robert Kovell  
Joanne Kudrna  
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Jerry & Janet Larson  
Malinen Management, LLC, D.B.A. Little  
Caesars #2  
Shawn Mason  
Don & Dorothy Matakis  
A. Wage & Denis McMillan  
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