

Enriching Lives

March 2017

TWO NEW FOUNDATION FUNDS

We are delighted to announce the opening of two exciting new Foundation Program Funds. We continue to marvel at the richness and diversity of offerings made possible through the magnanimity of our residents!

A generous gift from Alice Nelson has established the **Alice & Jim Nelson Choral Music Fund**. All through their childhood, Jim and Alice's children filled their home with song. There was always an upcoming recital for them to rehearse – practice, practice, practice! How fitting then, for the Nelson Fund to bring the gift of song to Alice's home community at Saint John's. The Fund will sponsor choral music performances by professional groups, and will include receptions. The concerts will kick off on March 29 with the Milwaukee Choristers, and future performances will include the Collegium Ladies in May and December, and a Cole Porter themed event in fall.



Alice and Jim Nelson



Nicole "Nici" and Bill Teweles

Nici Teweles is hoping to both entertain and build connections between residents with the creation of the **Bill & Nicole Teweles Entertainment Fund**. She recently reminisced about events that included audience-interaction when talk-backs became popular, and how much she and Bill enjoyed the chance to become part of the creative process. Actor Wendell Pierce would understand her decision. He muses, "And that's what art is, a form in which people can reflect on who we are as human beings and come to some understanding of this journey we are on." We are certain that residents will enjoy the programs made possible by this new Fund featuring live theater by local professional groups, film screenings with discussions, or visual arts-related exhibits. Please join us for the one-woman play, *VIRGINS TO VILLAINS: My Journey with Shakespeare's Women* that will be the inaugural event of the Teweles Fund on Sunday, April 2.

The Good News



FEBRUARY 2017 – OUR MESSAGE

This issue includes highlights of recent fundraising activities as well as stories of contributions that create opportunities for Saint John's to be an even stronger leader in retirement living. Through charitable giving to the Foundation, donors play an essential role in sustaining future needs while advancing our commitment to life-long learning and aging well. Thank you for supporting our mission to serve. As the Office of Philanthropy team, it is our privilege to connect donors with choices to fulfill their personal philanthropic goals and to align them with Saint John's organizational needs.

Sybil and Mary

FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

As stewards of the Foundation's purpose, Board members look forward to hearing from you.

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2016 FOUNDATION REPORT ON PHILANTHROPY

At year-end, the Foundation had an increase in net assets through contributions and earnings of \$934,016 – bringing total assets to \$6.2 million!

ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN STATUS REPORT

The Campaign to Endow the Albert O. Nicholas Chaplaincy & Chapel Music Funds was the 2016 fundraising priority with a goal of \$2.3 million to fully-endow both Funds. We are grateful for the abundance of gifts and pledges already committed that brings the combined balance to-date of \$1.9 million. The success in this initial year has created momentum that we hope will inspire additional donors to step forward in 2017.

GRANT AWARDS

In the final quarter of 2016, Saint John's Communities Foundation Board approved applications for grants from the Visually-Impaired Fund totaling \$8,200 to four worthy organizations: ABLE (Audio & Braille Literacy Enhancement), Center for Deaf-Blind Persons, Eye Institute of the Medical College of Wisconsin, and VisionFORWARD. Congratulations to all.

2016 COMMUNITIES REPORT ON PHILANTHROPY

The story continues here as the year finished with \$272,565 in contributions to operational support, including sales from the Thrift Shoppe and from SurprisingFindings which together generated total revenue of \$25,581 to support the Scholarship Award Program – a very good year. Donors to the Employee Holiday Fund contributed \$154,208, clearly demonstrating appreciation for 'service excellence' provided by staff.

Donors with Heart

LEGACY SOCIETY NEWS

The Legacy Society extends a warm welcome to newest members **Inez and Gene Gilbert**. These philanthropists are the latest to take advantage of a residency contract refund gift to create a lasting impact on the program offerings that so abundantly fill our calendars. As a resident of Saint John's, you, too, have at your fingertips this unique and easy way to make a lasting statement of support for your home and community. A percentage of the entrance fee that was paid when you moved to Saint John's is refundable to your estate. This refund, or any portion of it, can be assigned to Saint John's Foundation with a simple beneficiary assignment form available through the Office of Philanthropy. An attorney is not required nor do you need to change an established estate plan. A gift of your refund means that you will feel no financial impact during your lifetime, and your heirs may enjoy considerable tax benefits.



Gene and Inez Gilbert

You can designate a refund gift to any of our existing Foundation funds or establish a new named fund in our Foundation with a purpose to provide programming or support that speaks to your passion in life. The possibilities are endless, and so will be your mark on Saint John's as a member of our Legacy Society. What goals would you like to achieve with a planned gift?

Each November, the Foundation hosts a luncheon to honor donors who have arranged for legacy gifts in their estate plans, as well as donors who have lifetime giving levels of \$10,000 or more. President Renée Anderson addressed the 2016 gathering of 81 guests with deep gratitude. As of this printing, future legacy gifts total \$1,005,094 – up from \$638,666 at year-end 2015 – and more than tripled from \$334,321 at year-end 2014!

TO OUR SPONSORS

Thank you – for YOU make the magic happen! These recent gifts speak volumes about what's important to our community: **Claire Greene** for the Advent sponsorship of Early Music Now's The Rose Ensemble, **Suzanne Osetek** for the Feast of Crispian event, **Nancy Metz White** for outdoor sculpture garden maintenance, **Bill Eastham** for the January Florentine Opera performance, **Char & Bill Johnson** for a 2017 concert of the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra in memory of Ab Nicholas, **Kent Mayfield & Jack Ford** for supplementing the

First Nations: First Voices programs, as well as for a reception following the Present Music concert this month, **Karen & Art Beaudry** with **Louise Cardinal** and **Nat Beckwith** for the Storyteller series, **Bela Maroti** for the Florentine Opera's 2017 holiday series. AND we were gifted the perfect vehicle for use by the Medical Resource Clinic from **Jane & Chuck Jordan** – amazing!

Do you have an interest to promote?

Looking Ahead

Irish Study #15 by Terrence James Coffman



SPIRITUALITY SYMPOSIUM

Visionary philanthropists, **David & Nancy Klein Maguire**, designated funds in 2014 to open the Knowledge Initiative – to advance the study of aging and to further advance community at Saint John's. These funds have remained poised for the right opportunity. This gift has now become the source of funding for a deep exploration of spirituality and aging. A week-long symposium, *Moving Over Uncharted Ground: Aging as a Spiritual Practice*, is scheduled for March 5-12 here on our campus. Eight of the nation's most compelling thinkers will interweave scientific findings with music, art, lectures, and the stories of older adults to reveal the importance of aging's inner journey. Invitations have been sent to residents as well as professionals who work or study in the field of aging. As space is limited, registration is required to attend. Residents may sign up at the North or South Resident Service desk and others may learn more and/or register online at www.SaintJohnsMilw.org.

INVITATION TO GIVE

We encourage you to enjoy the gift of giving. Contributions to Saint John's Communities and Saint John's Communities Foundation qualify under Section 170(f)(8) as eligible for tax deduction.

For information about any form of giving, contact Sybil Bell at 414.831.6911 (SBell@SaintJohnsMilw.org)

or

Mary Przybylski at 414.831.6905 (MPrzybylski@SaintJohnsMilw.org).

Credit card gifting is available through our website at www.SaintJohnsMilw.org.

Once there, look for DONATE NOW in the banner above our logo or click on OUR FOUNDATION.

It's easy. It's secure.



Please join us at the
Saint John's Communities, Inc.
Annual Meeting of the Corporation
for the year-in-review,
Monday, May 1, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.
in the Cultural Arts Center,
followed by a Reception in the
Museum Gallery.

The 2016 Annual Reports for the Communities and the Foundation will be distributed that day.



SAINT JOHN'S COMMUNITIES FOUNDATION, INC.

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The Foundation is a charitable organization whose purpose is to solicit, hold, manage, invest, and expend endowed funds for the benefit of the residents of Saint John's and its programs and activities. Saint John's mission is to enrich the lives of older adults through gracious retirement living, spiritual growth, cultural and educational opportunities, and residential healthcare services.