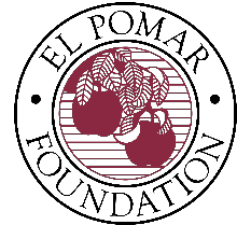


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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El Pomar Foundation Welcomes New Trustees and Staff, and Makes Promotions for 2025

Colorado Springs, Colo. — January 14, 2025 - El Pomar Foundation is pleased to announce the election of two Trustees to the Foundation's Board, as well as promotions and a new addition to staff.

In its December 2024 Trustees' meeting, the Board welcomed the following two Trustees, effective January 1, 2025:

COLONEL(RET) GAIL COLVIN, USAF

Ms. Colvin served as a Trustee of El Pomar Foundation's Board from March 2020-March 2024 and has been elected to return to the Board as a Trustee. She has also served as a regional council member on El Pomar's Pikes Peak Regional Council since 2016.

Colonel (Ret) Gail Benjamin Colvin (USAF) is Chief of Staff at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO. A key member of the university superintendent's cabinet, Ms. Colvin serves as the Academy's Chief Business Officer, overseeing a broad range of administrative, policy, and organizational functions of the Academy's 400-person staff supporting the commissioning and university missions as well as the installation's 10,000 personnel workforce, \$450 million budget, and over \$9 billion in real property and infrastructure.



Her 30-year military career is marked by diverse leadership experience in a wide variety of disciplines including joint military doctrine, research and development, and weapon systems acquisition. She has commanded at the squadron and group level and served in a variety of positions at the Joint Staff, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, and major command levels. Colonel Colvin served as the Chief of Joint Doctrine for the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and headed the U.S. delegation to the NATO subcommittee on Allied Joint doctrine. A native of Brooklyn, New York, she graduated from the Academy as a member of the first class with women in 1980.

She is a board member of the Colorado Federal Executive Board developing strategies and serving as a catalyst to increase government effectiveness for over 250 federal field offices, 53,000 civilian federal employees and 40,000 military personnel at six military installations throughout the state. She currently serves on several community boards and is a member of El Pomar's Elevating Leadership Development program Colorado Springs Black Advisory Council.

Ms. Colvin earned a master's degree in business administration from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, a Masters in National Security and Strategic Studies from Air War College, and is a certified Level 3 acquisition professional. She is the recipient of New York's 2007 USO Military Leadership Award, the Academy's 2008 Roy Wilkins NAACP award, USAFA's 2020 Distinguished Graduate Award, and a Colorado Women's Hall of Fame Class of 2024 Inductee.

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DAVID SIEGEL

David Siegel, an El Pomar Fellowship alum from the Class of 2012, serves on the Board as Fellowship Alumni Trustee.

David is executive director for the Ent Center for the Arts at UCCS, supporting the Galleries of Contemporary Art (GOCA), Theatreworks, and the academic mission of the University. Under his leadership, annual participation in Ent Center programs increased 73 percent, Theatreworks subscriptions have surpassed pre-pandemic levels, and the venue now hosts more than 430 events each year.

Before joining UCCS, David served as chief executive officer of the Bee Vradenburg Foundation, where he worked with businesses, artists, arts organizations, and community leaders to support the arts in the Pikes Peak region. During David's tenure, the foundation launched a direct support fund for individual artists affected by COVID-19 and created a low-barrier granting opportunity to support quick pandemic adaptations at local arts organizations. He received the Mayor's Young Leader Award for Community and Economic Development in recognition of his work to support individual artists and the arts community during the COVID pandemic.



David is deeply engaged in Colorado Springs. He remains active on the Bee Vradenburg Foundation board of directors and is also a board member of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic and Garden of the Gods Foundation. David served for three years as chair of the Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Advisory Board, co-chaired a statewide affinity group of arts funders, and served as board president for the Cultural Office of the Pikes Region (COPPR). In partnership with COPPR, David co-chaired the Arts Vision 2030 Cultural Planning process for El Paso and Teller Counties.

An artist in his own right, David maintains an active performance schedule and holds a degree in violin performance from the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. He is a member of several performing ensembles including *Grass it Up* and *Mango fan Django*, named best bluegrass and jazz bands respectively by the *Colorado Springs Independent*. David has opened for artists including the Yonder Mountain String Band and serves as music advisor for the Green Box Arts Festival where he has commissioned several new symphonic, choral, and chamber works.

"We are pleased and proud for David to join our Board as Fellowship Alumni Trustee, and to welcome Gail back as a returning Trustee," said El Pomar Chair, Dave Palenchar. "They have been extraordinary contributors to El Pomar and the stakeholders we serve, and each is deeply committed to serving Colorado's communities and people. We also sincerely thank Amy Humble, who departs as our most recent Fellowship Alumni Trustee, for her tremendous insight and contribution during her service."

With these additions, the full Board includes: **Andrea Aragon; Kathy Boe; Matt Carpenter** (Secretary); **Colonel Gail Colvin**, USAF (Ret.); **Mike Edmonds; Erik Estrada; Nechie Hall** (Vice Chair); **Bill Hybl** (Chair Emeritus); **Kyle Hybl (CEO); Ken Montera; Dave Palenchar** (Chair); **Emily Robinson**, and **David Siegel**; and **Thayer Tutt** (Vice Chair).

Also effective January 1, El Pomar is pleased to share the following staff promotions and new staff member:

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STAFF PROMOTIONS

- **Stacy Pons** has been promoted to Controller, expanding her role on the Finance team.
- **Connie Rickard** has been promoted to Senior Investment Analyst/Assistant Controller, expanding her role for the Investment Office and Finance.



Stacy Pons



Connie Rickard

NEW STAFF

- **Sharie Dodge**, joins El Pomar January 8 as Receptionist/Administrative Assistant, supporting Grants, Human Resources, and Executive Offices. Prior to El Pomar she served as Business Manager at Mountain Mudworks and Office Manager at Trails and Open Space Coalition.



Sharie Dodge

El Pomar Foundation is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in Colorado, contributing approximately \$25 million annually through grants in the areas of arts & culture, civic & community initiatives, education, health, and human services, as well as community engagement and leadership development programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations, including three historic properties open to the public: Penrose Heritage Museum, Penrose House Conference Center, and Will Rogers Shrine of the Sun. Spencer and Julie Penrose founded El Pomar in 1937 with the mission to enhance, encourage, and promote the current and future well-being of the people of Colorado.

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