

2015 Year in Review

Grants

As we all know, Del Mar is a wonderful place to live. Nature provides a lot of our magic, with help from the City of Del Mar, numerous community-based organizations and hundreds of individuals. The Del Mar Foundation strives to grant more than \$40,000 per year to worthy projects, and we continued this tradition of supporting the City of Del Mar and local organizations in 2015. During the year, we partnered with the **Friends of the Powerhouse** to purchase a new rescue boat for the Del Mar Lifeguards. We also provided a grant to **Del Mar Community Connections** to support its popular Tuesday Lunch Connection 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. The Foundation also provided funding to the **San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy** for an extension of the scenic and popular River Path Del Mar connecting the Grand Street Bridge with Jimmy Durante Boulevard along San Dieguito Road, due to be completed in June 2016. We were also pleased to partner with a local family to fund the installation of a **pet friendly drinking fountain** at the entrance to Del Mar Shores Park at 225 9th Street. Additional grants went to the **Community Emergency Response Team**, to improve its emergency services network; **Free Flight Bird Sanctuary**, to fund its docent program; **Del Mar TV**; improved lighting for the **Powerhouse**; and a generous



supply of firefighter hats to be distributed to all “junior firefighters” fortunate enough to tour the **Del Mar Fire Department**.

Events

The **Young Del Mar** committee continued its mission of providing memory making family events and activities for the Del Mar community by hosting **Parents Nights Out** at local Del Mar venues like Hotel Indigo, L’Auberge Del Mar, and Zel’s Del Mar. Young Del Mar also hosted the wildly popular annual **Easter Egg Hunt** in Seagrove Park, which attracted over 300 attendees and featured a full sized Easter Bunny (who sounded remarkably like William Lutz). 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 kids who enjoyed spooky stories, s’mores and more. A three-part **parent education series** held in conjunction with Del Mar Hills and Del Mar Heights elementary schools featured a panel of parenting experts, including local favorite Susie Walton. **Trip to the Tropics**, a new cultural event, brought an entire Chamorro community to the Powerhouse for an immersive event featuring food and dance.

The **Cultural Arts** committee continued its perennially sold out **First Thursdays** concert series at the Powerhouse, which featured such artists as Gustavo Romero, The Claire Lynch Band, North Coast Repertory Theatre, Eve Selis and more. Our equally popular **Bluegrass**

and Beyond concert series attracted an array of world class musicians, including The John Jorgenson Quintet, Blue Highway and the Railsplitters.

The traditional **Summer Twilight Concert** series brought bands on five different evenings to the outdoor stage at Del Mar's Powerhouse Park where our community enjoyed food, dance, an always priceless Del Mar sunset, and, of course, music from great bands including: Hotel California: A Tribute to the Eagles; Mark Wood and the Parrothead Band; Berkley, Hart, Selis and Twang; Tim Flannery And The Lunatic Fringe; The Mighty Untouchables; and The Soul Persuaders. We owe a debt of gratitude to our Twilight Concert sponsorship partners: Jake's Del Mar, Jelley Properties, Lutz Insurance Services, Pacifica Del Mar, Poseidon on the Beach, Zel's Del Mar, Del Mar Thoroughbred Club, LAZ Parking, Marrokal Design & Remodeling, D'Arcy Capital Management, Del Mar Rendezvous, Whole Foods Market Del Mar, and a \$10,000 grant made possible through the Office of County Supervisor Dave Roberts. We are also grateful to our major donors, who received preferred "front row" seating as a token of our appreciation for their support.

For those with inquiring minds, the **DMF Talks** speaker series provided abundant food for thought. The 2015 edition featured such varied speakers as Rabbi Ben Kamin discussing his recent book "Dangerous Friendships"; Dr. Jan Karlseder of the Salk Institute on how to "Keep Tabs on Your Telomeres: The Role of Chromosome Ends in Aging and Disease"; Dr. Debi Kilb from Scripps Institute of Oceanography on "Our Next Earthquake"; Dr. Allen Shafter, Astronomy Department Chair at SDSU, speaking on "Seeing Stars: Time Domain Astronomy"; and Dr. Thomas Deerinck of UCSD's National Center of Microscopy and Imaging Research who shared stunning images of the brain during his talk, "Beauty and the Brain: Blending Art and Science."

The Del Mar Foundation **Special Events** committee held two **beach cleanup** events in partnership with the Del Mar Rotary Club: one in April in celebration of Earth Day, and the second in September to toast the end of summer. We staged another annual favorite, the **Halloween Dog Parade**, at Powerhouse Park, which featured dozens of canines in costumes. Proving that it is never a dog eat dog world in Del Mar, treats were provided for participants both two legged and four. We 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, Sbicca, L'Auberge and Zel's Del Mar. We were especially pleased to honor our donors and volunteers at our third annual **Celebrate Community** gathering outside the Del Mar Community Building, which featured local band Strange Brew along with some tasty treats for all.

Endowments

Finally, the Del Mar Foundation continues to manage its own Community Endowment, along with the Lagoon Endowment, and the Alvarado House Fund held by the Del Mar Historical Society. With over \$2 million in total managed funds, the Del Mar Foundation fulfills a valuable and unique role in the community.

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

