



Fresno Free College Foundation

1995 – 1996 Annual Report

The Fresno Free College Foundation accepts and disburses monies through ten funds - the General Fund and nine special funds: KFCF, Ananda, Civil Rights Defense, Philip H. Stephens Handicapped Students, Chemistry Endowment, Gallery 25, Spectrum Gallery, Fresno Free Press. The Board of Directors has sole authority over the General Fund. The other nine funds are under the guidance of special committees which operate under authority of the Board. The FCC license for radio station KFCF - 88.1 FM in Fresno is held by the Foundation under authority of the Board of Directors.

Foundation Offices are located at 1449 N. Wishon Avenue in Fresno, the mailing address is Post Office Box 4364 Fresno, California 93744.

Fresno Free College Foundation

Fresno Free College foundation is a community-based membership organization dedicated to the principles that the well-being of the community is measured by the respect that it shows for the civil liberties, intellectual and artistic freedom of its citizens, and that the exercise of this freedom enriches the individual and society as a whole.

Since 1968, the Foundation has provided a flexible and responsive institutional structure for fostering the intellectual and political growth of the community. The Foundation is recognized by the State and Federal governments as a charitable and non-profit corporation under Section 501 (c) (3) of the IRS Code. Operational funds are derived from annual membership dues and from contributions. The Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors. Day-to-day operations are in the care of an elected president as outlined in the by-laws of the organization, and paid staff.

The Foundation operates both a general fund of discretionary monies disbursed by the Board and special funds for which underwriting is independently sought and earmarked funds accepted. Each fund is independently responsible for generating monies toward project activities, but fiscal activities are monitored by a CPA and the Foundation Board. In the past, the Foundation has received underwriting from the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the California Council for the Humanities, the California Arts Council, the City of Los Angeles, the County of Fresno and the Central California Forum on Refugee Affairs.

KFCF Fund

KFCF 88.1 FM began broadcasting on June 9, 1975, and, at that time, was the only public electronic medium serving the Fresno area. The station broadcasts 24 hours a day with 50,000 watts of equivalent effective power from a transmitter site at Meadow Lakes, 30 miles northeast of Fresno in the Sierra Nevada. With a elevation of 5,200 feet, the signal can be received as far north as Modesto and as far south as Bakersfield, as well as in many Sierra foothill communities.

Pacifica Radio station KPFA 94.1 FM in Berkeley is KFCF's affiliate / network. KPFA has been broadcasting since 1949 and provides a majority KFCF's programming. Pacifica is a landmark of community radio, providing diverse programming involving public affairs, music and the arts. Over the years, KPFA programmers have won every major award in broadcasting. KPFA is owned and operated by the Pacifica Foundation, which also holds the license to radio stations KPFK in Los Angeles, KPFT in Houston, WBAI in New York and WPFW in Washington, D.C. The Pacifica Foundation also operates the Pacifica Radio Archive of programs dating as far back as 1949.

Pacifica encourages and provides outlets for the creative skills and energies of the communities in which it broadcasts, with a commitment to produce programs that contribute to a lasting understanding between nations and individuals of the world. Pacifica stations are dedicated to the distribution of information and art for the enlightenment of the communities they serve.

Ananda Fund

The Ananda Fund has been providing financial assistance to needy children in Orissa, India for 32 years. Initiated by Ralph and Polly Victor in Seattle, Washington, the fund's sponsorship was undertaken by the Foundation when the Victors moved to Fresno. Since that time, Professor Surya K. Das has been responsible for the operation of the financial assistance program. In the past year, the Ananda Fund has continued to successfully provide scholarships to children from tribal families , whose parents are Nominal farmers with uneconomical small size landholdings and share croppers. These children would not otherwise be able to attend school for lack of proper clothing and books.

Spectrum Gallery

The California Photographers Guild sponsors the Spectrum Gallery and the various exhibits, lectures, slide shows and other activities to promote the art of photography. The Guild's operating costs are provided by membership fees and donations. The Gallery is located at 1306 N. Wishon in the Tower District. In June 1990, the Guild became one of the special projects of the Foundation.

Gallery 25 Fund

Gallery 25 is a cooperative of women artists from the Fresno area. Its principle purpose is to promote the work of women artists. The gallery came under Foundation sponsorship in 1984 and is very active with member and guest show artist showings.

Chemistry Endowment Fund

The Chemistry Endowment Fund was established under the name Science Education Fund. The purpose of the fund is to provide financial support for programs within the Chemistry Department at California State University, Fresno and other projects which will enhance the intellectual life and cultural life of the academic community and the community outside the campus.

Professors Kenneth Russell and Dale Burtner initiated the formation of the fund with their colleague Dr. David Frank, have provided the main financial support. Chemistry faculty, as well as former students, are being asked to contribute to the fund.

Mardi Gras Fund

The Foundation helped sponsor the Tower District Mardi Gras celebration. An evening of varied musical performances in several venues provided an enjoyable community event

Fresno Poets Association Fund

The Fresno Poets Association was organized to provide a forum for Fresno poets, aspiring poets and poets with national reputations who would provide programs for the literary, artistic and intellectual interests of the community. The programs are held at the Fresno Art Museum. Programs of the Poets Association are recorded on video tape and made available to FPA members. The poetry events have included local writers such as Peter Everwine, Phil Levine, C.K. Hanzlicek, Dixie Salazar, James Baloian, Wendy Rose and Jean Janzen, among others.

Chamber Music Fund

The Chamber Music Fund was formed by David Fox to bring chamber music events to the Fresno Area. Working in conjunction with the Foundation, the CSUF Music Department and generous donors, the fund had sponsored excellent musical events.

Voices Fund

Voices International is an independent production agency established through the Foundation to create public radio programs from and about the humanities and fine arts. It maintains administrative and production offices in New York City. Voices has produced the Beckett Festival of Radio Plays and has been nationally distributed, as well as spoken arts productions with German producers. Voices has received funding from an impressive variety of sources, including a major grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Phil Stephens Fund

The Phil Stephens Handicapped Students Fund was established in 1977 to assist handicapped students at California State University, Fresno. Since that time grants and loans have been provided at the campus as well as providing grants to the CSUF Disabled Students Services for purchase of computers.

Board of Directors and Staff

Board of Directors

Doug Noll, President
Attorney at Law

Stephen Barile, Vice-President
Water District Manager

Lynne Rodriguez, Secretary
Musician

Benjamin V. Amirkhanian, Treasurer
Retired Manager of Fresno Post Office

Don Fischer, Director
Social Services worker

Rand Stover, Director
Broadcast Engineer Consultant
Chief Engineer and Program Director, KFCF

Rych Withers, Director
Radio Engineer/Computer Consultant

Staff

Vic Bedolan, Executive Director

Rand Stover, Chief Engineer

Rych Withers, Subscriber and Computer Services