

2000

## **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 - FM**

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 has been broadcasting since 1949 and provides approximately 85 percent of the programming broadcast on KFCF. 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 Radio's mission is to provide 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.

KFCF has broadcast a broad spectrum of locally produced programming for 25 years.

## **Fresno Poets Association**

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.

## **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.

## **William Saroyan Society**

The Fresno Free College Foundation works cooperatively with the William Saroyan Society on projects celebrating the life and works of the world famous local author. In September 2000 KFCF broadcast a three-hour reading of William Saroyan stories by local celebrities, produced by Ben Amirhkanian. The William Saroyan Society also sponsors an annual historic walk through the old Armenian Town where Saroyan grew up and has commemorative posters of the late author for sale.

## **Community Events**

**Gathering of the Oakies - American roots music evening at Club Fred**

**KFCF Family Cultural Festival at Intermountain Nursery**

**West Fresno Blues Masters - Film premiere and concert at the Downtown Club**

**William Mandel lecture at the Bonner Auditorium**

**KFCF Summer Heat Wave Party - Local musicians at Club Fred**

**An Evening with Jennifer Stone at Bonner Auditorium**

**Matthew Lasar lecture on the history of Pacifica Radio at Bonner Auditorium**

**John Ross lecture on Mexico at the Bonner Auditorium**

**Mike Davis lecture and slide presentation at Bonner Auditorium**

**Amy Goodman lecture on political crisis in Indonesia at the FFCF  
Annual Banquet**