

Dorothy Safford  
Narrative

We at The Denver Brass and Cleo Parker Robinson Dance immediately thought of Dorothy when nominations for the Rex Morgan Citizen Volunteer Award were requested. Dorothy E Safford has been a highly active and visible advocate of the Denver cultural community for the last 22 years and has had great impact on our organizations for many of those years.

Dorothy permanently moved to Denver in the fall of 1986 and started volunteering in 1987. Her heart and soul is deeply involved with the cultural community as evidenced by her extensive list of volunteer activities:

The Denver Brass:

- Dorothy chaired & worked on the 'Medieval Feast' fund raisers. *These volunteer activities were very challenging and time consuming. Dorothy approached this with great energy and creative problem solving. We would have been lost without her!*
- Board Member (retired). *Dorothy was always a vibrant, actively engaged board member that brought much to the table.*
- Volunteering at concerts, helping wherever she was needed. *To this day, Dorothy is actively volunteering with The Denver Brass.*
- Advisory Committee member. *Dorothy is always there when we need her. She is truly a treasure and has greatly impacted our organization with her strong, dedicated commitment to The Denver Brass.*

Cleo Parker Robinson Dance:

- 10 years on the annual Gala Committee, mainly in charge of the auction – continue to participate on a limited basis. *Dorothy was fabulous at organizing and setting up the Gala silent auction, which was an enormous task and one that reaped great benefits for Cleo Parker Robinson Dance.*
- Volunteered in the offices for community outreach. *Dorothy would tackle any task that needed to be done from bulk mailing to making hundreds of phone calls.*
- Chaired/coordinated the formation of a Guild for CPRD. *The coordinating and chairing of the CPRD Guild was an insurmountable job and Dorothy assumed that position with relish and determination, resulting in a huge success.*

Dorothy has been involved with many other cultural organizations in Denver. Without dedicated volunteers these organizations would not be as successful as they are today. Following are some of the other volunteer activities Dorothy has garnered in her quest to further cultural experiences in Denver:

SCFD Campaign

- volunteered on the campaign then was hired when a staff member quit in mid-campaign:
- coordinated Speaker's Bureau volunteers
- coordinated the Phone Bank (supervising evenings as well as making the calls) – Was privileged to meet Rex Morgan during the campaign

Denver Museum of Natural History:

- Volunteered in the Adult Programs department before being hired as the Volunteer Coordinator for the 'Ramses the Great' exhibit
- Organized & coordinated the formation of the 'Egyptian Study Society' (formed primarily from the volunteer of the 'Ramses' exhibit who wanted to continue pursuing

their interest in Ancient Egypt with approximately 200 members) - was its first President. ESS is still active and will be celebrating its 20th year in 2009

- 2 years working with special curator to bring another Egyptian exhibit to the Museum – negotiations with Egypt fell through at the last minute
- Active member of ‘Member’s Council’ – rewrote the guidelines then facilitated & oversaw the dissolution of the committee
- Member of the Travel Committee – planning Museum Trips
- Organized/Chaired (with Staff supervision & support) a weekend conference held at the Museum: ‘Pyramids of the World’ – brought in expert speakers from different parts of the country, including Dr. Hawass from Egypt

Denver Public Schools:

- Guest lecturer on Ancient Egypt

Denver Museum of Nature and Science:

- Chair the Volunteer Enrichment Committee (committee plans and implements special events and continuing education for over 1700 volunteers)
- Team Leader for Tuesday morning shift on Special Exhibits
- On the committee to facilitate final implementation of the annual Volunteer Recognition Lunch & Dinner
- DMNS Inclusiveness/Diversity committee (one of only 2 volunteers on the committee which is composed of staff representatives from all departments)
- Placement Councilor: interview prospective volunteers – after each interview, file a report/recommendation with the Volunteer Coordinator responsible for the area in which the prospective volunteer is interested
- Recently invited to be part of a volunteer interview committee as part of the hiring process for a new curator

Dorothy has promoted community participation for many cultural events, chaired, coordinated and facilitated numerous volunteer functions, and worked as a citizen volunteer to support the most important cultural initiative in Denver – SCFD. She has been tireless in her efforts to support Denver Brass, Cleo Parker Robinson, SCFD, The Denver Museum of Natural History and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science.

We feel that Dorothy through her devotion and extensive efforts has significantly impacted the arts, science and cultural community in Denver for the last 22 years. She is a great lady and deserves all the recognition that can be bestowed on her for so many years of service to the community.