



THE MAGAZINE OF
THE BUSH FOUNDATION
Premiere Issue | 2014



Creative Development:

DEANNA CUMMINGS

MOTIVATION, DEDICATION,
INNOVATION

**Great
Green Ideas:**

Creating a Sustainable
Food System

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ON THE COVER: Bush Fellow DeAnna Cummings, who recently joined the Bush Foundation Board of Directors. Back cover: In-progress acrylic on canvas by Virdell Brown, JXTA Contemporary Arts Apprentice, 18 years old. Photograph by Thomas Strand

Welcome to

In 2013, the Bush Foundation celebrated its 60th anniversary by reflecting with Bush Fellows, Rebuilders and grantees on how our investment of nearly \$1 billion in grants and fellowships has made a difference in communities across Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and 23 Native nations. That's more than 2,300 Fellows and Rebuilders, and more than 1,700 grantees—a roll call that inspires us every day.

One thing nearly everyone shared with us last year was their desire to stay connected to the Foundation, to follow the continued progress of the remarkable individuals and organizations that we've intersected with over the years and to pass on some of the lessons they've learned.

We listened, and so we're introducing *b*, a showcase for people who are thinking bigger and thinking differently about what's possible in their communities. We've essentially repurposed our annual report, making it less about what the Foundation did in a single year and more about what is happening now because of investments we made, perhaps decades ago. We want to tell these stories in a way that doesn't just describe our mission but actually advances it. We hope the information and stories help to inspire, equip and connect leaders across the region.

We'd love to hear your feedback on this inaugural issue of *b* and ideas for future topics. Let us know what you think and share your own stories at bmag@bushfoundation.org.



Jen Ford Reedy
President

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The Bush Foundation invests in great ideas and the people who power them.
BushFoundation.org

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THE REVERB

Here's a little of what's been going on at the Bush Foundation.

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

It's been 60 years since **Archibald and Edyth Bush** established the Bush Foundation.



A lot has changed since 1953. Archie and Edyth Bush could never have imagined that the Foundation they created would be funding innovations in online education or supporting community engagement with immigrants from Somalia. There was no Internet in 1953. There wasn't even a country of Somalia.

While much has changed in 60 years, some things stay the same. At the core of the Bush Foundation is the drive to do the most possible good with the resources the Bushes left to the community.

The Board and staff of the Foundation spent much of 2013 looking back on its 60 years of investing in great ideas and the people who power them. We've produced a series of videos and a written history to highlight some of the Foundation's work through the years which you can find at bfdn.org/BF60.

The 60th anniversary celebration culminated in November 2013 with a "family reunion." Nearly 700 current and former Foundation staff, Board members, Fellows and Rebuilders gathered to reminisce and to celebrate the impact of the nearly \$1 billion the Foundation has granted to the community since 1953.

In recognition of its 60th anniversary, the Foundation has also made three "tribute grants" to honor its founders.

- In Archie's hometown of Granite Falls, Minnesota, we're helping to build an applied sciences lab at the Yellow Medicine East High School.
- In Saint Paul, Minnesota, where the Bushes made their home, we contributed to the Arts Partnership, a model of just the kind of collaborative, pragmatic, civic leadership we imagine Archie would be involved in, if he were alive today.
- We partnered with the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation in Winter Park, Florida, to honor Edyth's passion for the arts by refurbishing the green room and dressing room of a place where she was personally involved—the Orlando Repertory Theatre. 



Enjoying the Bush "family reunion" are (above) the Foundation's four presidents: **Jen Ford Reedy, Peter C. Hutchinson, Anita M. Pampusch and Humphrey Doermann.** Below, Bush Foundation Board Chair **Pamela Moret** acts as emcee for the event.

PHOTOS: BRUCE SILCOX



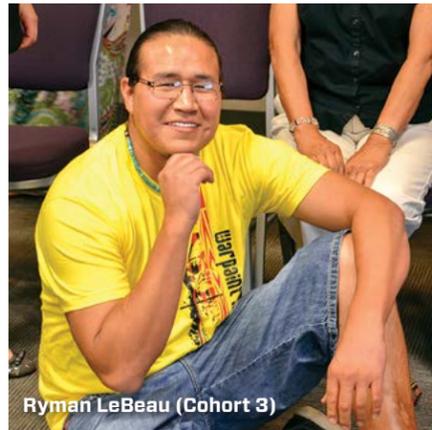
What happens when nearly 700 members of the "Bush family" gather to celebrate 60 years of investing in great ideas and the people who power them? Lots of smiles and hugs, renewed connections and the beginning of countless new collaborations to come. See more photos from the November 2013 event at bfdn.org/BF60photo.

Bush family reunion attendees (clockwise from top left): David Odahowski (center), president, Edyth Bush Charitable Trust and (over his right shoulder) John Archabal, Bush Foundation senior program officer and director of the Bush Fellowship Program (1973-2009); Lee-Hoon Benson, Foundation program officer (1998-2009) and Dee Thomas, Foundation Board member; Bush Fellow **Theartrice Williams** ('70) and Bush Educator **Bernadeia Johnson** ('97); Foundation Board member Tom Holloran (1982-2000) and Patty Holloran; Bush Fellow **Joi Lewis** ('06) and guest Joan Ostrove; Foundation Board members **Dwight Gourneau** (2004-12 & BF'90) and Eric Jolly; Bush Fellows **Shannon Gibney** ('05) and **Shalini Gupta** ('08).

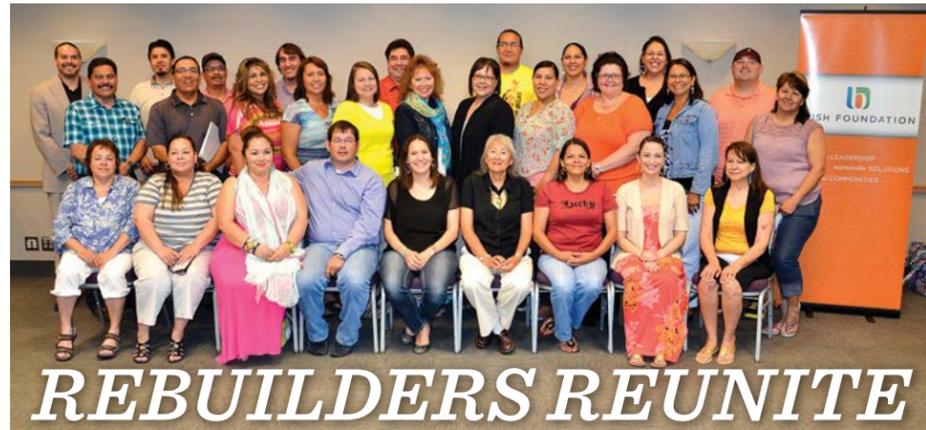
What Counts

Young men spend a lot of time WONDERING what kind of a job they should get. I don't think it matters what kind of a job you get. WHAT COUNTS is what you do with it after you get it.

—ARCHIBALD BUSH, *Saint Paul Pioneer Press*, 1959



Ryman LeBeau (Cohort 3)



REBUILDERS REUNITE



J.R. LaPlante (Cohort 1) and Julie Garreau (Cohort 3)

In June 2013, the first four cohorts of Native Nation Rebuilders came together for a reunion. Nearly half of the more than 60 Rebuilders named between 2010 and 2013 attended the first-ever event. Over two days, they were able to strengthen ties within and across cohorts, with some meeting each other for the first time. A Rebuilder said about the reunion, "There's so much passion for tribal nations—inspiring to see the talent and innovation throughout the region." Another appreciated the opportunity to "see what other cohorts are up to."

Native Nation Rebuilders complete a two-year program focused on strengthening their leadership skills and nation-building knowledge so they may be instrumental in moving their nations, in cooperation with elected leadership, toward realization of their tribes' unique goals. The Foundation announced a fifth Rebuilders cohort in March 2014 (meet them at bfdn.org/C5Reb) and will open applications for Cohort 6 on July 15, 2014. Learn more about the Native Nation Rebuilders Program at bfdn.org/Reb.

#Trending in 2013...

Facebook/Twitter
6.4 million impressions
up 677% from 2012

4,004 likes/follows
up 48%

BushFoundation.org
168,458 visits
up 62%

100,482 unique visitors
up 59%

@SCHUFMAN

Processing #nsnp2013 Day 1 with a glass of wine, and I keep coming back to this piece of paper (below) from @BushFoundation



@ALLIEMPLS

Read the profiles of the @BushFoundation #BFP2014. And use that anytime someone doubts change can happen. Wow. (See bfdn.org/2014BFP.)

@PAIGER33

Thanks to a @BushFoundation grant the Brookings Supports Breastfeeding group is talking all things babies & mamas. bit.ly/1kYhdXZ

@KTANDREA

Still noodling on the conversation from #workredux this AM. Thanks to @jjmillard, @cloudcarvings and @BushFoundation for doing the good.



WE'VE MOVED!

The Bush Foundation and Minnesota Philanthropy Partners share office space.



Open House October 2013



PHOTO: PAUL CROSBY

After nearly 60 years in Saint Paul's First National Bank Building, the Bush Foundation moved in August 2013, packing 36 staff members and 60 years of paperwork into our new location on the 25th floor of the U.S. Bank Center on East Fifth Street. While the actual distance traveled was across just one skyway, the moving process had begun more than three years earlier when Bush and MN Partners began discussing co-locating to a space that could meet the needs of both organizations moving forward.

"Like many nonprofits, we were interested in finding ways to make the best use of our resources through partnerships in our community," says Greg Keane, the Foundation's CFO, who oversaw the project.

Visitors to the Bush Foundation now arrive at a 24th-floor reception area (above)

shared with MN Partners. The modern and airy floor includes a cafeteria, conference rooms and other collaborative spaces designed by HGA Architects. One floor up, all Bush Foundation staff now work with smaller offices, larger conference rooms and better technology—all aimed at increasing staff collaboration and productivity. A communal kitchen space connects to a small "living room" for collaboration and conversations, overseen by new portraits of Archie and Edyth Bush (see page 33) by Bush Fellow **Frank Gaard** ('84).

Keane says the space may look like a serious upgrade to visitors, but "everyone is surprised to learn that we're actually saving money with this move—nearly \$46,000 a year that we can put back into the community." (Read what the Foundation learned from the move in our new "Learning Papers" series at bfdn.org/learn.)

Stop by to see our new digs and be sure to update your files with our address:



Bush Foundation
101 Fifth Street East, Suite 2400
Saint Paul, MN 55101

MOVING DAY SUPPLIES

23

BOOK CARTS

25lbs. PACKING PAPER

36

STAFF MEMBERS

50

POP-UP CARTONS

250

TOTES



THE ONES THAT GOT AWAY

Have you ever committed a crime you DIDN'T have to pay for?

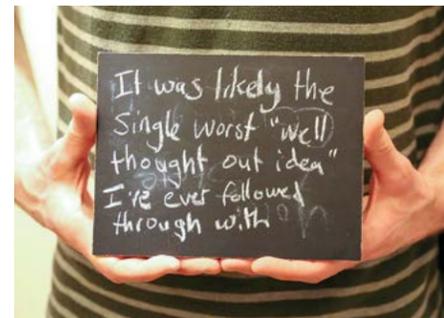
Photographs by Emily Baxter

When Minneapolis attorney **Emily Baxter** put that question out to her social network during her 2011 Bush Fellowship, she was astonished by how many strangers called to confess. "My phone just started to ring and ring," says Baxter, who works for the Council on Crime and Justice. Equipped with a recorder and a camera she bought with her Fellowship stipend, Baxter set out across Minnesota taking down these true confessions: the small-town teacher who never got stopped for driving drunk; the attorney who helped his college buddy sell drugs; the pediatrician who once blew up a port-a-potty. The more than 200 interviews she's conducted run the gamut from "egregious to petty, hilarious and heartbreaking," says Baxter, who boils each confession into a concise story arc and waits for participant approval before publishing "so that the final draft is a criminal report created by the participant."

The result is *We Are All Criminals*, a website/traveling art installation that Baxter hopes will create more second chances for the one in four Americans who has a criminal record. "Most of us have crossed the line at some point in our lives, but 75 percent of us haven't had to pay for our mistakes every day for the rest of our lives like people with criminal records do," she says. "When you start to consider all of the doors that could have been shut, when you start noticing the parts of your life that could have been foreclosed, you start realizing how fortunate you are not to be defined by the single worst thing you may have done in your life."

We Are All Criminals began as a footnote in Baxter's Fellowship application, but she believes it's been an effective way to make a case for greater compassion toward people with criminal records. "This project burrows into people's brains, and maybe even their hearts, and changes the way they view themselves and the system," says Baxter. "I don't think I'll ever be done with this. This is going to be a life project for me." 

 weareallcriminals.com





WINNING SOLUTIONS

From ending hunger across North Dakota to improving mental health care in the Black Hills of South Dakota, smart community engagement is the common denominator shared by the nine inaugural recipients of the Bush Prize for Community Innovation.

With one of the highest suicide rates in the nation, South Dakota's Black Hills community had a serious problem to solve: How to save lives by removing hurdles to emergency mental health care. "As a community, we were very good at serving people in a crisis—as long as your crisis happened between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on a weekday," recalls State Senator Alan Solano, who represents Rapid City. These findings, uncovered in a 2007 United Way community assessment, were no surprise to Solano. He also serves as the CEO of Behavior Management Systems (BMS) and was already meeting regularly with other leaders in the field searching for solutions. "But we'd reached the point

where we were having the right meetings, but with the wrong people," he says. With funding from the Bush Foundation and the John T. Vucurevich Foundation, BMS led the charge on a new approach to the problem in 2009, widening the circle with an all-hands approach they called the Black Hills Behavioral Health Collaborative. The Collaborative has more than 40 stakeholders—social service agencies and law enforcement officials, Native American groups and area schools. They broke the problems they saw into parts, creating subcommittees focused on everything from service integration to family advocacy. "At every step, we made sure we had the right people at the right meetings," Solano says.

The final result is the Crisis Care Center, South Dakota's first 24/7/365 emergency mental health provider. Today, adults in crisis who once faced a four- to eight-week wait for an appointment can receive immediate care through the Crisis Care Center, which has diverted more than 1,000 emergency room visits since 2011. "Another great outcome of the process was that organizations and agencies that might have treated each other as competitors really let their guard down to focus on what we can do that actually improves the community," Solano says. "The whole effort has really had a great domino effect for our community." That "domino effect" is the common denominator connecting BMS to the

eight other organizations selected to receive the inaugural Bush Prize for Community Innovation. "These organizations are doing very different things," says Mandy Ellerton, manager of the Bush Prize, "from working to end childhood exposure to violence in Grand Forks, North Dakota, to providing part-time jobs and career training for youth in North Minneapolis, to driving entrepreneurship for the Cheyenne River Sioux. But what they all have in common is a real drive to bring communities together to think differently about their whole approach to problem-solving, taking big risks that often have had big pay-offs."

For instance, the Cloquet Area Fire District found a way to improve emergency response in rural Carlton County, Minnesota, by merging three unique fire and emergency departments—going to the Legislature to change a district tax code in the process. A collaboration among Black Hills State University, Rapid City Area Schools, and Technology and Innovation in Education came together for Project PRIME, which uses math instruction as the leverage point for improving teacher instruction, getting families engaged in school work and shrinking the achievement gap for Native students. Anu Family Services in Saint Paul has changed the outlook for foster care children in danger of "aging out" of the system, often into homelessness, by finding them safe, permanent homes where they can heal the trauma of loss that often accompanies foster care placement.

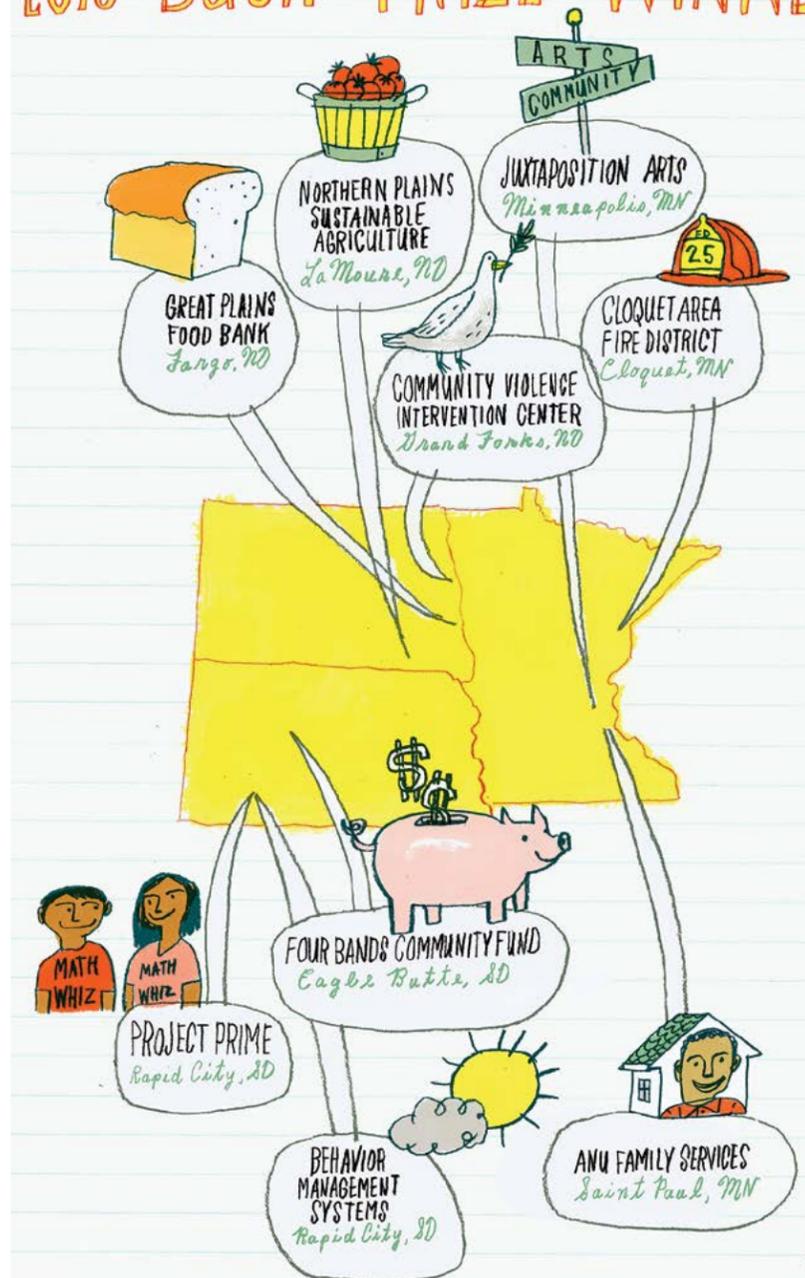
The Bush Prize expands the problem-solving capacity of the region's nonprofits and government entities that have a proven track record of innovation by providing an unrestricted grant of 25 percent of the organization's last fiscal year budget (up to a maximum of \$500,000). For the Farm Breeding Club of Northern Plains Sustainable Agriculture, that means \$76,000 in capital for a new testing garden or any of the other projects the organization has plotted on its wish list. "Most of the funding opportunities nonprofits are accustomed to getting are very specific and restricted for one thing, and one thing only," says director **Frank Kutka** (2000 Bush Fellow). "We do feel compelled to do something big with the Bush Prize."

"We are giving truly flexible creative capital to organizations with great track records of innovation," says Pamela Moret, chair of the Foundation's Board of Directors and a member of the Minnesota Bush Prize selection committee. "It's been both fun and inspiring to learn about the work of the nine Bush Prize winners. We're excited to see who applies this year and in years to come." **15**

PHOTO: COURTESY OF GREAT PLAINS FOOD BANK

ILLUSTRATION: ERIC HANSON

2013 BUSH PRIZE WINNERS



How did they do it?

What's the secret to getting great ideas off the ground? Visit bfdn.org/2013bp to see short films the Foundation produced about each of the nine Bush Prize winners.

How do we apply?

The 2014 Bush Prize selection period runs from April 8 to June 5. If your organization has a great track record of creating innovative solutions in your community, visit bfdn.org/applybp to learn more.

NATIVE ***NATION-BUILDING SPANS STRATEGIES*** ***AND GENERATIONS***

The Bush Foundation's work to support the self-determination of 23 Native nations builds on relationships formed across decades of support for Bush Fellows and for Native-focused education, legal, environmental and community projects.

Since 2009, we've supported tribes using various strategies to exercise their self-determination, some with support from the Bush Foundation—from intertribal energy initiatives (see page 16), to governance assessments, to programs that honor the successes of Native nations (see page 17), to leadership development programs for Native Nation Rebuilders (see page 32), to efforts to recreate culturally authentic governmental systems.

What follow are just a few stories of the amazing work going on across nations, strategies and generations.

The beautiful land of the Oglala Sioux people, taken during a staff trip to Pine Ridge in August 2013 (see page 18). During the visit, spiritual leader and advisor Wilmer Mesteth (right) accompanied staff to the Sacred Heart cemetery, burial site of 150 of the more than 300 Sioux killed in the 1890 Wounded Knee massacre.



Ogimaawiwin Enaakonigaadeg Gaa-waababiganikaag naagaanibii'igaadeg

TRANSLATION: THE CONSTITUTION OF THE WHITE EARTH NATION



Left, White Earth Nation Chairwoman Erma Vizenor; right, citizens of the White Earth Nation harvesting *manoomin* (wild rice), food they believe is a gift from the Creator, in the traditional way.

Erma Vizenor came home to White Earth Nation in 1991, returning from Harvard University with a suitcase full of books. A 1988 Bush Leadership Fellow with a master's degree in community organizing, she planned to spend the summer writing her doctoral dissertation about administrative planning and social policy. Those plans changed, however, when a group of Anishinaabe elders came to her with tobacco—a traditional token of respect—and a request to speak for them in their fight against cor-

ruption in the tribal government.

"I put my books away," Vizenor recalls. "They stayed unpacked for five years."

With more than 19,000 citizens, White Earth is the most populous of the 11 tribal nations that share geography with Minnesota. At the time of Vizenor's return from Harvard, citizens had growing concerns about their tribal government: Tribal officials were often elected without primary elections, winning with pluralities as low as 20 percent; the tribal council often overruled or controlled tribal courts, police,

PHOTO: BRUCE SILCOX

jobs and election results.

"The checks and balances were not there. Independent courts were not there," Vizenor says.

The years-long struggle against the status quo that followed would result in federal corruption convictions against three members of the tribal council. The

formational meetings across White Earth.

And, last November, nearly 80 percent of White Earth's voters approved the new constitution, which establishes an independent and separate judiciary and restricts the authority of the tribal council—measures Vizenor says were necessary to assure investors that partnering with

profound learning opportunities. I would never have been able to afford to go to Harvard on my own. And the degree from Harvard opened so many doors for my tribe. It has given credibility to me."

Vizenor's term as chairwoman will end by 2016. She is 69. After 20-plus years of work that started with doing what the elders asked of her, she is confident that the new constitution is on track and that differences with the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe that currently delay its implementation will soon be resolved.

After all, Vizenor's traditional Ojibwe name, given to her by her grandmother, does not suggest that she is going to give up easily.

Esh-quay-gah-bowah-e-quay, is the name.

The Last Standing Woman. 



PHOTO: WHITE EARTH NATION

fight would also propel Vizenor to national prominence as a champion for governance reform.

Reform has been the driving theme of Vizenor's leadership of the White Earth Nation. When she was elected tribal chair in 2004, she pointedly retained every tribal employee, ending what some saw as a patronage system and making it clear her eyes were set on reform. And after she was elected to a second term in 2008, she called for a constitutional convention; a year later, delegates ratified a draft document that had been shared with citizens at 55 in-

economic development projects on the reservation is a safe bet.

Vizenor attributes her tenacity to her traditional values, her upbringing and the influence of her late husband, Dallas (he died in 1998; the pair were high school sweethearts who rode the school bus together to school in Park Rapids, Minnesota). But she also gives credit to the Bush Fellowship that sent her to Harvard and put her on a path that has sent ripples of reform through Indian Country.

"I'm so grateful to the Bush Foundation," Vizenor says, "Most of all for the

THE ANISHINAABEG SPEAK

Preamble to the White Earth Nation Constitution

"The Anishinaabeg of the White Earth Nation are the successors of a great tradition of continental liberty, a native constitution of families, totemic associations. The Anishinaabeg create stories of natural reason, of courage, loyalty, humor, spiritual inspiration, survival, reciprocal altruism, and native cultural sovereignty.

"We, the Anishinaabeg of the White Earth Nation, in order to secure an inherent and essential sovereignty, to promote traditions of liberty, justice, and peace, and reserve common resources, and to ensure the inalienable rights of native governance for our posterity, do constitute, ordain and establish this Constitution of the White Earth Nation."

 Read the full text of the constitution at bfdn.org/xWENcon.

Native Nation Rebuilder Justin Beaulieu; below top, the eagle sculpture outside Seven Clans Casino in Red Lake has a 30-foot wingspan; bottom, on the shore of Lower Red Lake.



A NATION-BUILDING ERA

Photographs by Joe Rossi

“There’s no one way to do nation-building,” says Jaime A. Pinkham, vice president of the Foundation’s work with Native nations. “Each tribe moves forward from their unique political, cultural, social and economic situation. Some tribes are shoring up their existing governing functions while others want to take a close look at whether their current constitution expresses their culture and supports their contemporary sovereign right to protect their land and people.”

The Red Lake Nation has begun the work of drawing up a proposed new constitution with broad support among the citizens. Native Nation Rebuilder **Justin Beaulieu** (Cohort 2) is coordinating the effort.

Many tribal constitutions were dictated to tribes by the federal government in the 1930s. These old constitutions, says Beaulieu, were intended to provide a business model of decision-making, not a democratic, transparent and accountable system to serve the citizens. That is why he believes the Red Lake Nation constitution, which



A skateboard park in the town of Red Lake gives Native youth a way to take flight.

was adopted in 1918 and revised in 1958, is inadequate and why tribal leaders decided to consider constitutional reform.

“Our constitution is very open to interpretation,” said Beaulieu. Under the current structure, “whoever’s in power at whatever time can do whatever they need to get their agenda across. It’s written to run a business. But we’re not a business; we’re a nation. We’re worried about our land base. We’re worried about our future. We’re worried about our language. We’re worried about our children. And our constitution doesn’t speak to any of that. None of it talks about our tradition, our culture, our language, our historical leaders or our land and how important it is to us—our land and our water. It’s just how to run a business.”

Ironically, the instability and unpredictability of tribal governments operating under such loose rules has stifled economic investment on many reservations. Investors worry about the long term when few long-term safeguards are in place. The flawed structure is the trouble, Beaulieu says—not the leaders, but the laws. “How are you supposed to take care of the tribe and move it forward when you have to worry about how much workers get paid and you only meet once a month?”

And there are obstacles to reform that are very real and fairly universal—like people’s concern “about whether they are going to have shoes for the kids, or heat in their house during the winter,” Beaulieu says. “The first step is to educate people about what a constitution is.”

On that front, Red Lake has a website and Facebook page for the reform effort, in addition to holding community forums and meet-and-greets. At these meetings, Beaulieu and his colleagues in the reform effort attempt to allay fears that reform might open the way for the reservation to sell any of its 867,000 acres of land or open world-famous Red Lake to outside fishing. Those things aren’t going to happen, he says, and constitutional reform will actually help protect the tribe’s resources. **LD**

FOR MORE THAN 60 YEARS...

Investing in the great ideas and leadership of Native people

Over the last four decades, the Bush Foundation has invested in a variety of needs identified by tribes. For instance, growing the infrastructure and leadership capacity of tribally controlled colleges was an emerging movement through the 1970s and 1980s, when the Foundation awarded more than \$13 million in grants toward faculty development, indigenous language instruction and new facilities at institutions ranging from Sitting Bull College in Fort Yates, North Dakota, to Sinte Gleska College in Mission, South Dakota.

By the 1990s, tribal communities turned to the Foundation for help building the capacity of tribal courts through nearly \$2 million in investments in tribal law libraries in Native nations such as Red Lake, Turtle Mountain, Spirit Lake, Mille Lacs, Standing Rock and Rosebud.

And over those same decades, countless grants have supported a variety of community service programs focused on cultural preservation, domestic violence prevention, wellness and youth services.

The Bush Fellowship Program has provided vital support to tribes by investing in individual leaders who have gone on to create reforms in education, social and environmental sciences, the arts, business and government—local, state, federal and tribal.

The Foundation launched the Native Nation Rebuilders Program in 2010 to make a more concerted investment in existing and emerging leaders in tribal communities by arming them with deeper knowledge about how nation-building can strengthen their tribes.

Today, the Foundation’s work with Native nations includes funding for a wide range of projects.



From left, Jen Ford Reedy and Jaime A. Pinkham of the Bush Foundation meet Oglala Sioux Tribal President Bryan Brewer in August 2013.

For tribal nations like Red Lake and White Earth that have determined constitutional reform is the way in

which they want to pursue nation-building, the Foundation has provided support for activities the tribes feel will help them best approach that reform, including capacity building and citizen education. “The main objective for these nations is to design governing institutions that are actually theirs, not the ones imposed on them by the federal government,” said John Fetzer, associate on the Native Nations Team. “Governments that are authentic to their unique needs will help them achieve their own development and political goals.”

The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe used Foundation support for negotiation of a comprehensive tax agreement with the State of South Dakota and a series of small Foundation grants to educate its people about constitutional reform, while the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation has used Foundation support to implement MHA Nation Tomorrow, a citizen-led governance reform project. The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians used a grant to upgrade their election procedures to increase their citizens’ confidence and turnout to elect their leaders and decide major policy initiatives.





PHOTO: CLINTON GLOBAL INITIATIVE

Present for the announcement of the Sioux Wind Initiative at 2013 Clinton Global Initiative were (from left) Kevin Walker, Northwest Area Foundation; Melissa A. Berman, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors; Michael Geffard, Laiti Group; Caroline Herron, Heron Consulting; Board Chair Pamela Moret, Bush Foundation; Jon Canis, Arent Fox; Bob Gough, Intertribal COUP; President Bill Clinton, founding chairman, Clinton Global Initiative; Chairman Robert Shepherd, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate; President Bryan Brewer, Oglala Sioux Tribe; President Cyril Scott, Rosebud Sioux Tribe; Chairman Thurman Cournoyer, Yankton Sioux Tribe; Vice Chairman Eric Big Eagle, Crow Creek Sioux Tribe; and Vice Chairman Wayne Ducheneaux, Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe.

Sioux Tribes Announce Wind Power Collaborative at Clinton Global Initiative

Eight Sioux Tribes in the Foundation's region are collaborating to develop the largest wind power production facility in the United States—a partnership the tribes announced with the help of former U.S. President Bill Clinton last summer at the 2013 Clinton Global Initiative America. Six of the eight tribes were present. This historic alliance—involving the Cheyenne River Sioux, Crow Creek Sioux, Flandreau Santee Sioux, Oglala Sioux, Rosebud Sioux, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate, Standing Rock Sioux and Yankton Sioux—would capture the considerable wind power on Sioux reservation land through a project funded by more than \$1.75 billion in bonds issued through a multiracial power authority. The Foundation provided support to bring the tribal leaders together for early conversation about how they might work across their governments to jointly develop their resources for the first time in history.

🌐 Watch a video about the creation of the Sioux Wind project at bfdn.org/xsxwind.

RED LAKE WALLEYE RECOVERY PROJECT

Honoring success in tribal governance

The resurgence of walleye in Red Lake is one of the great conservation success stories in the nation—a role model for tribal governance that was recognized in October 2013 by the Honoring Nations award, a prestigious program supported by the Bush Foundation that acknowledges excellence in tribal governance.

The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development, which runs Honoring Nations, named the Red Lake Nation as one of three “all-stars” chosen from 112 past award winners. The award cites the crucial role self-governance played in their unprecedented seven-year effort to bring walleye back from the brink of extinction to thriving numbers that can now support subsistence and sport fishing.

Recognition of tribal governance innovation and excellence among the Foundation's tribal partners continues with the announcement in March of the semifinalists for the 2014 Honoring Nations Awards. The list included Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community and

Standing Rock Sioux Tribe. The five projects recognized across the four nations focus on land management, leadership development, poverty reduction, elder protection and law enforcement. Learn more at bfdn.org/xHonor.



PHOTO: IAN RECORD/NATIVE NATIONS INSTITUTE

The Red Lake people fish in the traditional way using nets, as shown in these stills from the documentary *Return of the Red Lake Walleye*, produced by the Native Nations Institute. Learn more about the film at bfdn.org/xwalleye.



PHOTO: HONORING NATIONS PROGRAM/HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Red Lake Nation Chairman Floyd “Buck” Jourdain Jr. (left) at the National Congress for the American Indian in 2013, where he accepted the “all-star” award from Honoring Nations for the Red Lake Walleye Recovery Project.



Top, Bush Foundation Board and staff at the sacred point of Red Lake; left, Red Lake Nation Chairman Floyd “Buck” Jourdain Jr. welcomed Board and staff; center, at the point of Red Lake, Miriam Jorgensen (Native Nations Institute), 2009 Bush Fellow Anton Treuer (American Indian Resource Center, Bemidji State University) and Foundation Board member Tim Mathern (BF’98); Rebuilder Tina Merdanian (center) hosted Foundation staff (from left) Dominick Washington, Allison Barmann, Jen Ford Reedy and Jaime A. Pinkham during an August 2013 visit to Pine Ridge.

Visiting tribal nations

At the invitation of the Red Lake Nation, the Bush Foundation’s Board of Directors held its May 2013 meeting at Red Lake. Chairman Floyd “Buck” Jourdain Jr. welcomed Board and staff to tribal lands; Rebuilders **Sam Strong** (Cohort 1), **Justin Beaulieu** (Cohort 2) and **Darrell Kingbird** (Cohort 4) accompanied the guests on a bus tour of several sites seldom visited by those who are not Red Lake citizens. The culmination of the day was visit to the Point of Red Lake, a body of water that is sacred to the Red Lake people.

In August 2013, four members of the Foundation’s staff traveled to Pine Ridge, home of the Oglala Sioux. Hosted by Rebuilder **Tina Merdanian** (Cohort 1), staff met President Bryan Brewer and visited the Wounded Knee burial site. Eleven of 90 Native Nation Rebuilders and several Bush Fellows are Oglala Sioux, including 2014 Fellow **Richard Iron Cloud**.

Rebuilders win election to tribal council

As the new chairman of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, **Dave Archambault II** (top) is among a number of Native Nation Rebuilders to be elected to a tribal council position in the last few years.

Archambault was part of the inaugural cohort of Rebuilders, selected in 2010. Two other Rebuilders from Cohort 1 have also since won a place on tribal council. The Lower Brule Sioux Tribe re-elected **Boyd Gourneau** (Cohort 1) as vice-chairman in 2012. And **LeRoy Staples Fairbanks III** (Rebuilders Cohort 1) won election in 2012 as the District 3 representative to tribal council of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe. In talking about his experience as a Rebuilder, Fairbanks (below) said that it had “opened my eyes to so many different things about what other tribes are doing and some of the successes that they’re having.”

The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe has two Rebuilders, both from Cohort 3, serving on tribal council. **Wayne Duchenaux II** was appointed vice-chairman after winning election in 2012 as the District 4 representative. **Ryman LeBeau** is the representative from District 5, re-elected to his second term in 2012.

And **David Tiessen Jr.** (Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa) was elected to tribal council to represent the Sawyer District in February 2013, and subsequently named a Cohort 5 Rebuilder in February 2014.

Chairman Archambault told a reporter from KXMB-TV (Bismarck) who covered his inauguration, “This is my home. And if there’s something that you can do to improve your home, then I don’t think you can sit back and watch anymore. You have to try to do something to make a difference. And this was just something that I thought I can do.”

This sentiment is echoed by those who apply each year to the Native Nation Rebuilders Program, whether their future vision includes running for tribal office or serving their Native nations in myriad other ways—by running a tribal program, educating youth, preserving culture, improving health care outcomes, managing a non-profit or providing economic development.

See footage of Chairman Archambault’s inauguration at bfdn.org/xArch. Applications for Cohort 6 of the Native Nation Rebuilders Program open on July 15. Learn more at bfdn.org/Reb.



Rebuilders Dave Archambault II (top) and LeRoy Staples Fairbanks III (bottom) are among several Rebuilders serving on tribal council.



GREAT GREEN IDEAS

Growing a more sustainable food culture has deep roots among a generation of Bush Fellows and nonprofit partners.

Saint Paul's Lower Town Depot isn't much to look at. A four-story pile of bricks and broken windows just a stone's throw from downtown, the abandoned industrial building has long been a magnet for vandals and a backdrop for photographers aimed at capturing gritty urban decay.

The building is an eyesore to many East Siders, but in the eyes of **Tracy Sides**, a public health Ph.D. and 2013 Bush Fellow, the depot had the potential to be an "Urban Oasis" for local food and the diverse cultural life of Dayton's Bluff. "This place is sitting right in the middle of the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary," she says. "It's an amazing location, and it's practically begging to be revitalized."

That was the pitch Sides made to the Forever Saint Paul Challenge, a contest sponsored by The Saint Paul Foundation in 2013 that asked residents where they would invest \$1 million to make the city more livable. One of 964 ideas submitted to the contest, Sides' vision was to transform the blighted complex into an urban food hub that could serve as a year-round marketplace for local produce, a commercial kitchen for community entrepreneurs, and a gathering place and gateway connecting this economically challenged neighborhood to the natural beauty of the Mississippi River valley.

"Food is such a fun way to explore diversity and to share the flavors of different cultures," says Sides, who stepped down from her post at the University of Minnesota's Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy to launch herself as a public health entrepreneur in 2012. "Even if you don't buy into the *kumbaya*, we're-all-one view of the world, food can be a great tool for teaching all of the ways we're connected to and rely on the natural world."

Illustrations by Shannon Brady • Photographs by Bruce Silcox

“Food has always been about RELATIONSHIPS, coming together as a family, knowing the farmers in your community, but we’ve reached a point in human history where most of us no longer know enough PEOPLE who could feed us.” —KATHY DRAEGER, 1999 BUSH FELLOW

Sides began her Bush Fellowship just as “Urban Oasis” was chosen as one of three finalists for the Challenge through a community-wide online vote. In September, Sides was waiting for her breakfast order at the Swede Hollow Café where she starts most of her mornings, when she excused herself to answer the call she’d been waiting for. She returned a few minutes later with her arms raised overhead in victory, “and the whole cafe erupted in cheers and lots of hugs,” Sides recalls. “It was just the perfect place to get such great news.”

Winning \$1 million toward making her vision a reality has “supercharged” Sides’ Bush Fellowship, filling her calendar with conference calls and planning meetings with the City and community partners such as the Lower Phalen Creek Project. But Sides’ sense of urgency runs deeper.

“Whether you look at our agricultural system, which is producing the kind of food that is making us sick,” says Sides, “or an energy system that’s leading us down the path of continued climate change, or an economic system that is perpetuating significant income inequalities—when you look at what connects all of those things, you can see that one of the best leverage points for change is food.”

THE SAVING REMNANT

“The three-state region the Bush Foundation serves is right in the center of the nation’s bread basket, so it’s probably no surprise that how we grow, distribute and think about food has some very deep roots among Bush Fellows over the years,” says Martha Lee, Bush Fellowship Program manager. “Tracy’s passion for building community and economic opportunities around food is one that’s been shared by many Fellows in the last four decades.”

In fact, not far from the future home of the “Urban Oasis” site is the historic Saint Paul Farmer’s Market, the first public market established in the city back in 1853. When a wave of 1970s- and ‘80s-era urban renewal threatened to destroy the market, the late **Ken Taylor** (1980 Bush Fellow) led the fight to preserve it. A champion of locally grown food and farmers who went on to form the Minnesota Food Association in 1983, Taylor was a pioneer in the community-supported agriculture movement, credited with convening conversations between farmers and food company executives about shifting to more sustainable agricultural practices. “I believe that the food we eat carries within it, in some form or another, the values that dominate the system which produced it,” Taylor wrote before he died in 1995. “Our food is a good measure of how we do business as a society—what there is to like and what needs to change.”

Fellows like Taylor helped to give the Foundation advance warning of many of the challenges familiar to farmers and consumers today—from the economic collapse of small farming towns,

to the rise of genetically modified foods, to the advance of “food deserts” with few fresh and healthy food options in the Twin Cities’ urban core.

In 2002, the Foundation responded to those and other warnings by creating an “ecological health” priority that included grant support for organizations driving a variety of environmental issues, including sustainable food development. Former Senior Program Officer Jane Kretzmann, who created and led the program area for the Foundation, says that grant requests that challenged conventional growing practices or accepted wisdom were often difficult for the Foundation’s Board of Directors to come to consensus on “because one of the questions we struggled with was, were these projects on the fringe, or were they leading edge? We worked hard to stay as close to the science as we could.”

The “ecohealth” funding program also informed the Bush Fellowship selection process. “The Foundation was always looking for levers of change, and the Bush Fellowships really helped to invest in individuals who were in the best position to make a difference,” says Kretzmann, now a senior fellow at the University of Minnesota’s College of Education and Human Development.

While the ecohealth priority ended in 2008, many organizations that led the early charge on sustainable food and farming have been successful applicants to the Foundation’s Community Innovation Grant program launched in 2013.

For instance, Renewing the Countryside II received a \$100,000 Community Innovation grant in 2013 for its work making farmland across Minnesota more accessible to new and young farmers, while building partnerships between food co-ops and growers. Northern Plains Sustainable Agriculture in LaMoure, North Dakota, became one of nine nonprofits to win the inaugural Bush Prize for Community Innovation in 2013 (see page 8). The Bush Prize gave a \$76,000 boost to the organization’s Farm Breeding Club, a project aimed at ensuring the nation’s food security by increasing crop diversity, and releasing more seed into the public domain.

“Sustainable agriculture is one of the best ways we can get after environmental health, because whatever is happening in our farms and wild areas is what’s happening to everyone,” says **Frank Kutka**, (2000 Bush Fellow) who co-directs the Farm Breeding Club, one of the first organizations of its kind in North America. The organization encourages members to cultivate and save the seeds from plants that produce the best yields and flavor from their own farms, helping to preserve heritage varieties lost in the spread of large-scale farming.

One of the Club’s early leaders and biggest proponents is **Theresa Podoll** (2007 Bush Fellow), who used her Fellowship to pursue a graduate degree in community development, skills that have helped her step into national leadership roles with such organizations as the Family Farmers Seed Collective and the Organic Farming Research Foundation. Now a nationally recognized voice on the value of seed stewardship, Podoll says “the gift the Fellow-



Bush Fellow Tracy Sides enjoys a meal at Swede Hollow Cafe in the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood, near the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary where she plans to create the Urban Oasis with \$1 million from the Forever Saint Paul Challenge.

ship gave me was immersing me in how to talk about these things I care about so much from a community perspective.”

Investing in grassroots leaders like Kutka and Podoll is one of the ways the Bush Foundation “got ahead of the curve” on many of the country’s concerns about sustainable agriculture, says Bush Fellow **Kathy Draeger** (‘99) who went on to serve as a consultant for the “ecohealth” grant priority. “Food has always been about relationships, coming together as a family, knowing the farmers in your community, but we’ve reached a point in human history where most of us no longer know enough people who could feed us,” says Draeger, who now serves as statewide director of the University of Minnesota’s Regional Partnerships. “Where I live in Big Stone County, the number of dairy farmers has dropped from 400 in 1960, to about 40 in 1980, and now in 2014 there is just one. Within just one generation, we have demolished all of that generational knowledge.”

“Not to be too melodramatic, but I think people like Frank Kutka and Theresa Podoll are like ‘the saving remnant,’ from the Book of Isaiah,” Draeger says—community leaders with the knowledge necessary to “fan the flames forward so that when we’re trying to solve the world’s problems, we don’t have to keep starting from scratch.”

BREAKING BREAD

But not every Bush Fellow with a great, green idea is a grower like Kutka and Podoll. **Heidi De Mars** (‘13) got her start as a grocery shopper.

Frustrated when she couldn’t find the fresh local produce she wanted to feed her kids after her family’s move to Bismarck, she joined a local CSA. There she connected with family farmers just as frustrated by growing food that, without good channels for distribution, often goes to waste.

“I started thinking I can’t be the only one around here who wants better access to good food,” says De Mars, who organized a truck stop meet-and-greet between two dozen local growers and consumers who began forming blue-sky plans about creating what would be Bismarck’s first food co-op. “I’m not trained to do this kind of thing, but it’s what I care about,” says De Mars, who began reading up on other Bush Fellows interested in sustainable food systems before becoming a Fellow in 2013. “I was floored by how many other people are looking at these questions in their own communities. I thought, ‘These are my people!’”

In fact, the last few years have produced a bumper crop of Bush Fellows exploring the ways that food can promote and preserve



Photographs by Thomas Strand



CREATIVE DEVELOPMENT:

DEANNA CUMMINGS

A major innovator in Minnesota's creative economy, 2007 Bush Fellow DeAnna Cummings has spent nearly 20 years building **Juxtaposition Arts** and the North Minneapolis community that surrounds it.

Seven years ago, **DeAnna Cummings** took a hard look at the high-traffic, under-resourced intersection in North Minneapolis where she and her husband Roger had planted their business, Juxtaposition Arts (JXTA), and realized the view still needed some improvement.

"When we looked out the window at West Broadway and Emerson, we asked ourselves 'is the community getting better?' In some ways the answer was yes, but in lots of ways, it was no," says Cummings.

Securing a permanent home for the once nomadic arts group had been a long-time dream the couple started in 1995 with their partner **Peyton Russell** (2012 Bush Fellow). But now the expanded programs they'd once imagined in their new three-building complex didn't seem to be generating enough impact for people within

their immediate community—or showing the big results that mattered to investors and partners. While the pair could point to plenty of success stories among the thousands of teens who'd taken part in their afterschool arts programs, they couldn't

ignore the growing joblessness, widening achievement gap and dwindling opportunities they saw for the youth of color outside their doors.

"I knew what I needed was to step away from the work and to see it from another angle," says Cummings, who has served as JXTA's executive director since its start, while Roger Cummings is the organization's artistic director. But with two children in school and two incomes now tied to the organization's survival, "The time was just never going to be there."

That's when **Leah Lorraine Nelson**, a 2006 Bush Fellow and friend, challenged her to think about applying for a Bush Leadership Fellowship, a program Cummings wasn't sure she was qualified for, having discontinued her undergraduate studies to start Juxtaposition. She made a nervous call to Martha Lee, Bush Fellowship Program manager, and asked if the Foundation ever paid for Fellows to go back to college. Lee admitted it was a long shot, but then asked Cummings if she'd consider setting her sights a little higher.

"Martha said, 'I suppose you could go back and finish that degree, but with the work you've done already, I bet you have bigger dreams for yourself,'" Cummings says. Lee suggested she learn more about

"I WANT PEOPLE TO SAY ABOUT ME THAT EVERYONE WHO'S WORKED FOR ME AND WORKED WITH ME IS BETTER FOR IT."

—DeAnna Cummings



sees—a busy commercial corridor bustling with people and vibrant new businesses. Since JXTA put down roots, nearby blocks have benefited from nearly \$47 million in new investments. The business itself has also been remodeled with the launch of JXTALab, a teen-run design firm viewed as a national model for everything from youth jobs training to creative place-making. The now four-building campus hums with activity, as students work on client projects that range from screenprinting to environmental design, and adult artists fill a new studio co-op on West Broadway.

JXTA's shift toward social entrepreneurship has brought in new revenue and measurable results: High school graduation rates in North Minneapolis hover near 50 percent. But for the students who've made a two-year commitment to consistent JXTA training, the rate is nearly 100 percent. Fueling JXTA's plans for the future is a Bush Prize for Community Innovation, a new grant initiative that recognizes organizations with a culture of innovation by providing grants equal to 25 percent of their last fiscal year budget, up to \$500,000 (see page 8). For JXTA, that means more than \$150,000 of unrestricted creative capital it can reinvest in North Minneapolis and beyond.

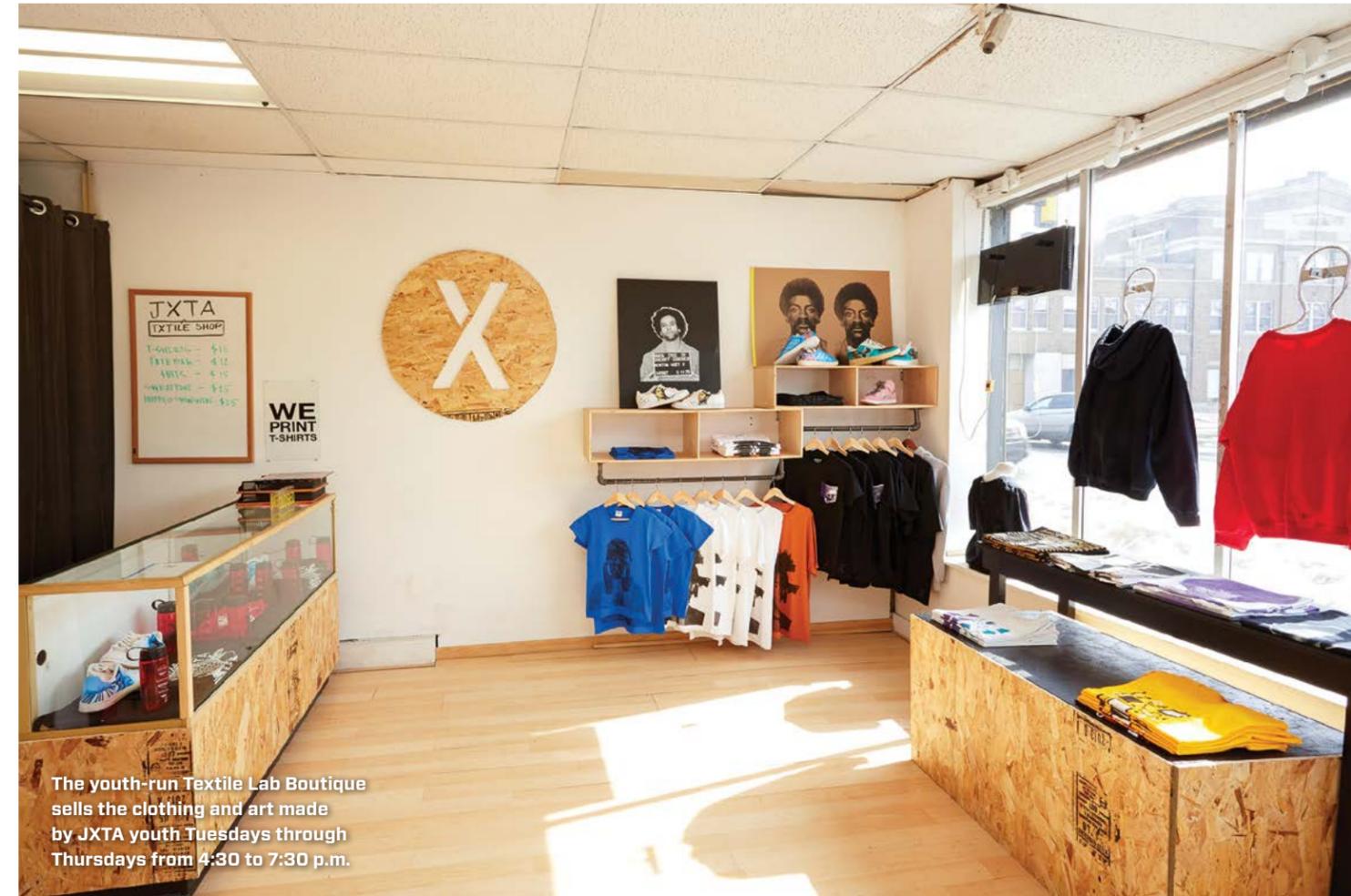
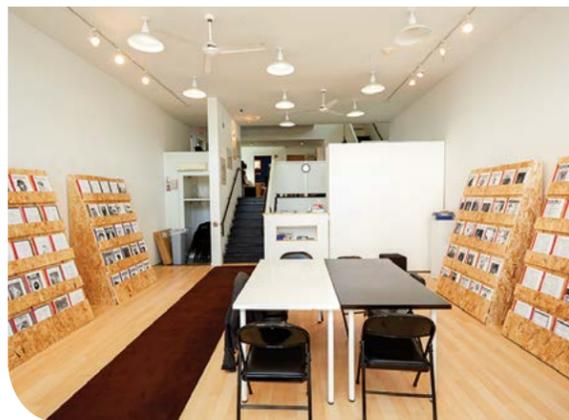
"One of my core beliefs is that if you give young people the resources and opportunities, they're going to reach just as high as you set the bar, and the same was true for me," says Cummings. "Nearly everything we're talking about today was buoyed and accelerated by the investment the Bush Foundation made in me, and in my development as a leader."

one of the few graduate programs in the country willing to consider nontraditional students like Cummings—Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. "The website had a splash page that said 'Come Change the World,' and I remember I just sucked in my breath and dove into every word, because it was like they were talking right to me."

Today, DeAnna Cummings looks out the windows of Juxtaposition's gallery space on Emerson Avenue and likes what she



JXTA Graphics Lab gives its youth workers both experience and marketable skills, from printmaking to design.



The youth-run Textile Lab Boutique sells the clothing and art made by JXTA youth Tuesdays through Thursdays from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Now before we go on, DeAnna Cummings wants to make sure that this article does not conform to the expected standards of the female nonprofit executive profile. "You know—the kind of story where it's all about being the benevolent giver, and staying in the background," says Cummings. "I think that's not the healthiest way for us as women to approach our work."

Cummings gives credit for JXTA's growing profile to its staff of talented professional artists and designers. ("Truly, the best people in the Twin Cities.") She also praises the hundreds of area teens who have worked on the JXTA team over the years and whose creative work and community-building around North Minneapolis prove the organization's case that youth are the neighborhood's "greatest asset—not some problem to be solved." But after nearly two decades as JXTA's top administrator, Cummings can also take credit for keeping the nonprofit thriving.

"It's important for me to say out loud I am the CEO of a million dollar business

that I started when I was 25 years old.' But if you stop by JXTA you will hardly ever see me. I'm in my office, or in a meeting or writing somebody about something we're working on. What you'll see are the young people, the artists, the artwork—the magic that happens at JXTA. Hundreds of people have contributed their gifts and talents to transforming the vision of an afterschool arts program into an institution that has made a difference for people and this place. That's something I am incredibly proud of," says Cummings, who tweets as @MizzBossLadyDee. She adds that earning a Bush Fellowship was no guarantee of success. "It's a wonderful recognition of your accomplishments and potential, but your problems don't magically go away. In fact, the challenges get bigger—just like the expectations."

One of the challenges Juxtaposition Arts faced in 2007 was figuring out how to move beyond what Cummings calls a "buffet-style" set of arts programs and toward higher-dosage efforts that could engage youth year-round, with hands-on



"IF YOU GIVE YOUNG PEOPLE THE RESOURCES AND OPPORTUNITIES, THEY'RE GOING TO REACH JUST AS HIGH AS YOU SET THE BAR, AND THE SAME WAS TRUE FOR ME."

—DeAnna Cummings

opportunities to create and build career skills. “I believe that in a 21st century, new millennium society, artists and arts organizations have to get off of our pedestals and get over the idea that we’re precious,” she says. “Sitting high above everyone and producing pretty objects isn’t going to cut it anymore, if it ever really did.”

Exploring how artists can drive relevant change in communities was a question that made her “a bit of an odd duck” amid the policy wonks at the Kennedy School, where Cummings began her Fellowship studies in 2008. Husband Roger examined many of the same questions from a design perspective (artist as planner/developer/innovator/incubator) as he pursued a parallel inquiry at the Harvard Graduate School of Design with a prestigious Loeb Fellowship in Advanced Environmental Studies. “With a mural, once you get it down you have to relinquish it to the community, and that’s sort of the approach we’ve had with JXTA,” says Roger Cummings. “In the beginning we had no intention of building an institution. We were looking for short-term, concentrated interventions that worked. As it turned out that’s the formula for how to build an institution.”

By the time they and their two kids returned to the Twin Cities in 2009, the couple had come up with a new strategic plan for JXTA designed to take advantage of the high concentration of youth under 18 in North Minneapolis, while taking aim at the low representation of minorities in the Twin Cities’ nationally recognized advertising, arts and design sectors.

“We restructured our program to leverage those realities and accomplish more equitable access to resources and opportunities for youth and emerging artists

in North Minneapolis. Today, JXTA is a teen-staffed art and design firm, where youth are employed part-time year-round and produce real products,” from custom t-shirts, to marketing logos, to business signage, to public art, and community engagement. “So now we’re employing kids, bringing in revenue, training them up with job skills and preparing them for higher education,” explains Roger Cummings. The shift in strategy has resulted in a 10-fold increase in JXTA’s reach in nearly every measure, from weeks of programming to annual operating budget, to percentage of revenue earned from client jobs.

An organizational revamp like JXTA’s is unusual in the arts world, says **Laura Zabel**, executive director of Springboard for the Arts (and a newly named 2014 Bush Fellow). “But DeAnna is one of those leaders who never gets confused about whether her job is to make change or run an organization. She is a national expert in this field, yet she’s always open to new ideas and new thinking.”

“DeAnna is really creative, but she’s very practical, too,” says Erin Jerabek Heelan, executive director of the West Broadway Business and Area Coalition, which has worked closely with both Cummings on projects to improve the economic vitality of the West Broadway commercial district. “When everyone is brainstorming in the clouds, DeAnna can take an amazing idea and figure out how to make it work on the ground.”

Though Cummings knew little about the complicated financing necessary to redevelop the four-property parcel that is

Continued on page 33



DEANNA CUMMINGS IN FIVE

When I was a kid, I thought I'd grow up to be:

A librarian. I'd wake up early in the mornings in the summers during grade school and middle school so I could get dropped off at our local library branch in Kansas City. I'd read a book a day, sometimes more, from the time I started reading when I was four or five years old until I was in high school. I actually had a job in high school working in the school library at South High.

Best advice I ever got:

“Don’t tell people what you think they want to hear. Tell them the truth.” John Spokes, the co-founder of the former Eye of the Storm Theater, once told me that many fundraisers are not successful because they spin their stories, try to say the right thing to get the funding. He told me that you get better results when you just tell the truth.

Things that tick me off:

Inequality, self-important people, all-isms, xenophobia, cheapskates who want to itemize a shared check—can we just split it?!

People might be surprised to find out:

I’m a natural introvert (I just play an extrovert at work), so I need time alone to balance out all the being-with-people I do in my day-to-day life.

My mantra:

“There is no one right way.” That is one of the things I find so fulfilling about working in the arts. A group of artists can all have the same assignment and each will approach it differently. In the end the varied approaches and results can be equally right and impactful and beautiful.

INVESTING IN PEOPLE

2014 Bush Fellows

A Bush Fellowship is both a recognition of extraordinary achievement and a bet on extraordinary potential. These 24 exceptional Bush Fellows have demonstrated creative, committed leadership and have compelling visions for what more they can do for the region. The Fellowship provides up to \$100,000 to help them realize their visions. The money can be used for academic programs or for self-designed programs to grow their personal impact. Since 1965, the Foundation has named more than 2,200 Bush Fellows.

Applications for the 2015 Bush Fellowship open in July 2014.

To learn more about the program and see video profiles of this year’s remarkable class of Bush Fellows, please visit bfdn.org/2014BFP.



Andriana Abariotes
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)



Jamal Adam
Minneapolis Community and Technical College



Sylvia Bartley
Medtronic



Jacquie Berglund
Finnegans



Tawanna Black
Northside Funders Group



Tane Danger
Theater of Public Policy



Makram El-Amin
Masjid AdNur



Nimo Farah
African Development Center



Susan Hakes
Cook County (MN)



Richard Iron Cloud
Oglala Sioux Tribe



Jessica Jackson
We IMPACT!



Syl Jones
Jones! Consulting



Megan Laudenschlager
Minot Area Community Foundation



Sherman Patterson
Minneapolis Police Department



Maureen Ramirez
Growth & Justice



Christina Sambor
Pearce & Durick



Lori Saroya
Council on American-Islamic Relations, MN



Marvin Sims
Mounds View Public Schools



Malini Srivastava
North Dakota State University



Chris Stewart
African American Leadership Forum



Michael Strand
North Dakota State University



Charlie Thayer
Indian Land Tenure Foundation



Jennifer Waltman
Hennepin County (MN)



Laura Zabel
Springboard for the Arts

PHOTOS: VIDTIGER

Native Nation Rebuilders

(COHORT 5)



Verzella L. Bauman
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe



Adrienne Benjamin
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

The Native Nation Rebuilders Program is a cohort-based leadership program to equip and connect Native leaders to drive nation-building efforts within and across their nations. The Bush Foundation launched the Rebuilders program in 2010 in support of the elected leaders of the 23 Native nations it serves, who said supporting the development of Native leaders was crucial to the long-term success of their nations. Today, almost 90 Native leaders call themselves Rebuilders, including these 26 Rebuilders who make up Cohort 5.

Applications for Cohort 6 of Native Nation Rebuilders open July 15, 2014. Learn more about these Rebuilders and the program at bfdn.org/C5Reb.



Luke Black Elk
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe



Curtis Buckanaga
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



Florence Clairmont
Yankton Sioux Tribe



Jennifer Cross
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



Dani J. Daugherty
Oglala Sioux Tribe



Guthrie Ducheneaux
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe



Karen Ducheneaux
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe



Gordon K. Fineday
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



Leonard Fineday
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



Donita Fischer
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe



Marcella Gilbert
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe



Laurie Harper
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



Pamela Johns
Red Lake Nation



Jerry Loud
Red Lake Nation



Joseph Regguinti
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe



Prairie Rose Seminole
Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation



Mato Standing High
Rosebud Sioux Tribe



Justin Taylor
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe



David Tiessen Jr.
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa



Stephanie Traversie
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe



Philimon D. Two Eagle
Rosebud Sioux Tribe



Courtney J. Two Lance
Oglala Sioux Tribe



Wendy Wells
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe



Roger White Owl
Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation

This could be you.
Applications open
July 15, 2014.



GREAT PEOPLE BRINGING NEW IDEAS

2014 MCF Philanthropy Fellows

The MCF Philanthropy Fellowship is a new program that embeds the Bush Foundation's commitment to leadership development into its operations. The program launched in 2013 in partnership with the Minnesota Council on Foundations and is designed to prepare individuals from communities underrepresented in philanthropy for careers at foundations. Fellows will work alongside Bush Foundation staff for three years and will also benefit from significant professional development and networking opportunities. "But the MCF Fellowship is about more than changing the face of leadership in philanthropy," says Stephanie Andrews, leadership development director at the Bush Foundation. "It's about infusing new ideas and viewpoints into philanthropy so that we can reflect the communities we invest in."



The 2014 MCF Philanthropy Fellows (from left), Coya White Hat-Artichoker, Dameun Strange, Carly Bad Heart Bull and Venessa Fuentes.

Applications for the 2015 MCF Fellowship will open in Fall 2014.

You can learn more about the work of the MCF Philanthropy Fellows by visiting bfdn.org/2014MCF.

Continued from page 30

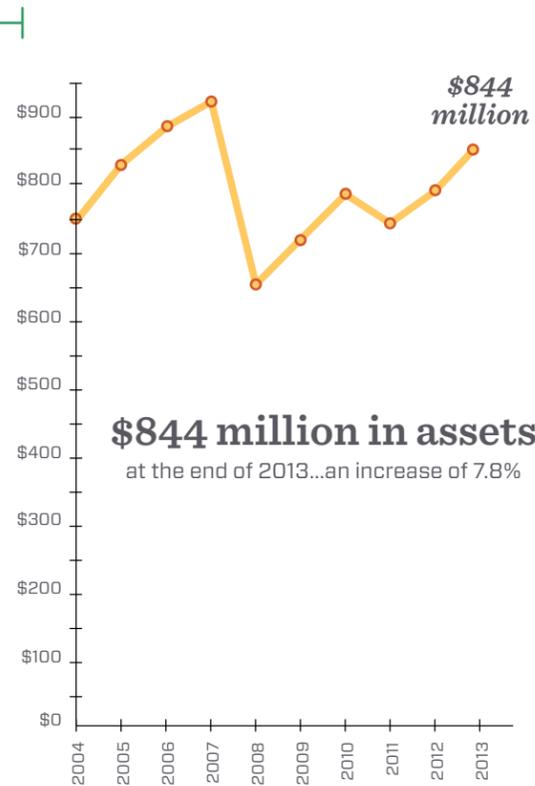
now home to JXTA, her "tenacity and openness to learning" was one of the reasons the Nonprofit Assistance Fund helped the organization purchase the corner, says executive director Kate Barr. "She works unbelievably hard, which is a great thing but also something you worry about with leaders, because you realize they can't sustain that forever," says Barr. "DeAnna realized that, too, and so one of the things that impresses me about her is that at the same time her organization has been growing, DeAnna has been on a parallel track where she's been learning about herself and her own leadership strengths. I would say that she's become more certain about what she wants to do, and more assertive about what she can't take on."

But one thing Cummings always makes time for is mentoring the next generation of leaders in North Minneapolis, says community organizer **Roxanne O'Brien**. "I met DeAnna when I was 14, and I was one of those young people who was always getting into trouble. I never signed up for a JXTA program, but I'd always drop in because there was this good artist energy there, and DeAnna was always the first person to come out of her office and say hello," O'Brien says. Cummings encouraged O'Brien to go to college while she worked to raise three kids, and mentored her toward pursuing her own Bush Fellowship in 2013. "It touches my heart to think of the way DeAnna has had a domino effect for other black women. With JXTA, she and Roger have made a light, showing people that you can create something beautiful with just an idea, just a spark. When I see her doing this, it shows me that it can be done."

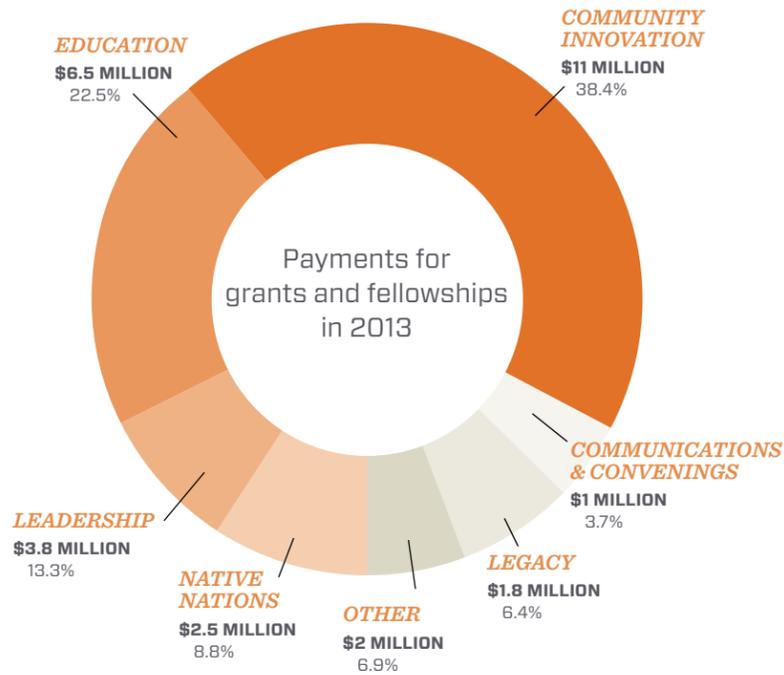
Cummings says, "I want people to say about me that everyone who's worked for me and worked with me is better for it. I want to draw out the best in people so much so that people are beating down the door to work with me and to further where they're trying to go in life."

Showing other women their leadership potential is one reason Cummings agreed to join the Bush Foundation's Board of Directors this spring. "At one point in my life, I might have thought 'I'm not a leader because I don't look like my idea of what I thought a leader should look like.' I'm not always completely buttoned down, and I talk a lot and sometimes too much. But I think when I got a Bush Fellowship, there were people in the world who said, 'Hey, if DeAnna is a Bush Fellow, maybe that means I can be a Bush Fellow, too.' That's the part of my life I'm ready to step into now, sharing what I've learned about honoring your history, and owning and using who you are and everything you're made up of in service of your work and in trying to make a difference in the world."

BY THE NUMBERS



40% increase in payments
in 2013...a total of \$28.6 million



152%
more applications
for the newest cohort of
Bush Fellows

119%
more applications
for the newest cohort of
**Native Nation
Rebuilders**

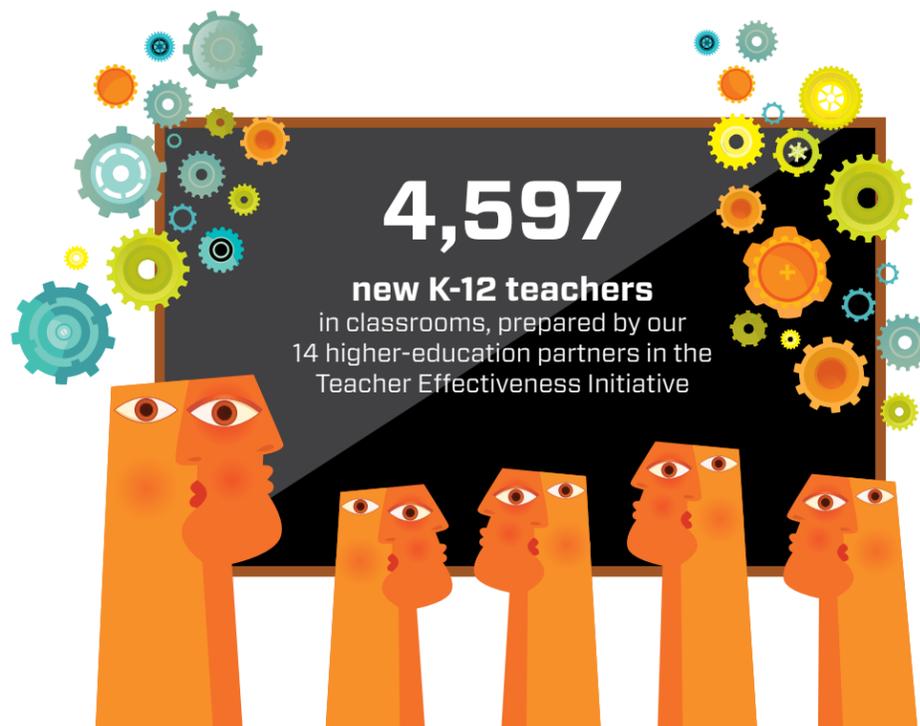
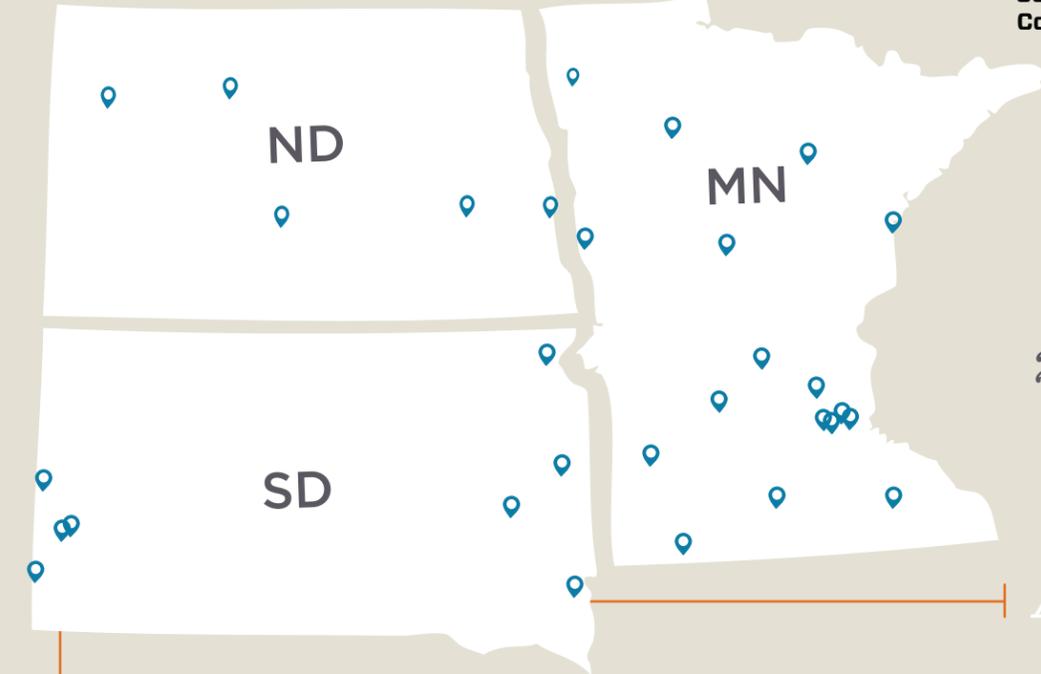


ILLUSTRATION: ISTOCK

COMMUNITY INNOVATION

In 2013, we launched two new programs—The Bush Prize for Community Innovation and the Community Innovation Grants.



30
stops on our
2013 road show

And after that...

936
applications
for Community Innovation Grants and
the Bush Prize reviewed in 2013

500
exchanges
via phone and email with potential
Bush Prize and Community Innovation
Grant applicants to provide support
during the application period

200
one-on-one calls
with organizations that didn't receive
funding to provide feedback on their
applications and to ask for their
feedback on our application process

9,336 pages

or

1.12 trees

saved annually by transitioning to
online Board materials

5 operating principles
adopted by the Board and staff in 2013:

- Spread optimism.
- Work beyond ourselves.
- Everybody matters.
- Steward well.
- More good. Every year.

LEARNING LOG

FULL-YEAR RESIDENCY PROGRAM GRADUATES FROM PILOT TO STATEWIDE EFFORT

The University of South Dakota, one of 14 partners in the Foundation's **Teacher Effectiveness Initiative**, is tipping the balance in teacher preparation from theory to practice, giving teacher candidates a full-year of classroom immersion.

Learning Logger: Rick Melmer

THE SETUP

We knew going in that teacher candidates have a kind of romantic notion of what teaching will be like. Spending 12 weeks in a classroom only gives you a little snapshot. But the truth is, it's a long year from August to May, and when new teachers take over their first classrooms they discover parents get mad, kids get difficult and it's challenging even for an experienced teacher to engage a classroom for a full year.

THE PROJECT

We believed we could better prepare new teachers to enter the classroom by changing the balance between theory and practice—not just getting them out into the classroom earlier (starting in their freshman year) and often, but moving seniors from a one-semester experience to a full-year residency model. We introduced the idea to our colleagues across USD's campus in the fall of 2008, and it took a year or two to lay the groundwork and get the buy-in we needed to begin the pilot.

THE LEARNING

1 Change like this is challenging, because it interrupted some course work and required change across the entire campus, not just the School of Education. But we had support from the president's and provost's offices, which was really key to our success.

2 In the field, we've learned a lot about the kind of mentor teacher the teacher candidates really benefit from working with—those who say, "come alongside me and let's do this together and I'll learn from you and you'll learn from me." It's hard work for both teachers, but after a full year, the teacher candidates feel prepared and confident that they can go out and do this. And they know what it's really going to be like.

3 What starts small can surpass your initial dreams. We piloted the full-year residency program in the 2010-2011 school year with 10 elementary education majors in Sioux Falls. For the 2014-2015 school year, every USD teacher candidate, with just a few exceptions, is in full-year residency. The South Dakota Board of Regents is implementing full-year residency in all state-run teacher preparation programs, and we're talking to other states that are interested in what we're doing in South Dakota.



THE LEARNING LOGGER

Rick Melmer is former dean of the School of Education at the University of South Dakota. He's currently working with the South Dakota Board of Regents, which in 2011 decided to implement USD's full-year residency pilot program in all state-run teacher preparation programs.

WE'RE LEARNING TOO

LEARNING FROM THE TEACHER EFFECTIVENESS INITIATIVE

A learning paper on a midterm evaluation by the Improve Group, which included interviews and focus groups with individuals from our higher education partners, teacher candidates, K-12 partners and the initiative coaches from FHI 360. This paper summarizes our learning from the evaluation and highlights implications for the Foundation's education work going forward. Read the full paper at bfdn.org/learnTEI.

LEARNING FROM THE INCOMMONS INITIATIVE

A learning paper on an external review by the University of Minnesota of InCommons, an initiative launched by the Foundation in 2009 to increase the leadership and problem-solving capacity of communities. In 2013, the Foundation ended the InCommons initiative and incorporated its most successful strategies into the core of the Foundation's work. Read the full paper at bfdn.org/learninc.

LEARNING FROM A SHARED FACILITY

A learning paper on the Bush Foundation's move to a facility shared with Minnesota Philanthropy Partners (see page 5). From creating a shared vision to the nitty gritty of who pays for what, the years-long effort culminated in an August 2013 move and promises a future of better workspace, better technology and lower costs. Read the full paper at bfdn.org/learnmove.

We're excited to introduce "Learning Logs" and "Learning Papers," both here in b and soon on our website. Rather than keeping grant and fellowship reports filed away, we will be asking the ORGANIZATIONS and individuals we fund to publicly log their learning—good, bad and ugly—so everyone can benefit. And through quarterly Learning Papers we'll share what we're learning, too.

—ALLISON BARMANN, VICE PRESIDENT OF STRATEGY AND LEARNING



Above, teacher candidates at Minnesota State University, Mankato; right, high school science teacher prepared by Valley City State University.



ABOUT THE TEACHER EFFECTIVENESS INITIATIVE

In 2009, the Foundation launched a \$40 million partnership with 14 colleges and universities in three states to improve their teacher preparation practices in four key areas—recruitment, preparation, employment and support—using data to inform change. The Foundation's overarching goal for our education work is to increase the percentage of students of all backgrounds who attain post-secondary success. Learn more at bfdn.org/TEI.

THE BUZZ

A showcase for the ongoing work of the network of more than 3,000 Bush Fellows, Rebuilders and Foundation Board members, consultants and staff. Share your news and stay in touch at bmag@bushfoundation.org.



PHOTO: BRUCE SILCOX

WANTED: YOUR STORIES

Story has an amazing power to transform. It can take what you do every day—what you’ve perhaps committed your life to—and turn it into inspiration for others and new allies for your work. That kind of alchemy can happen easily, as long as there’s a steady supply of one essential ingredient. Story.

We created *b* as a platform for you to celebrate your successes, share what you’ve learned and forge new connections—a place where your work can transmute to gold through the power of story. First step? Tell us what you think about *b*, what stories you want us to tell and what you’re up to. We’re waiting eagerly to hear from you at bmag@bushfoundation.org.

—VICTORIA TIRREL, Editor, *b*



Margaret Miles and Cathy ten Broeke with their son Louie.

PHOTO: MAX HAYNES

I DO, I DO...AT LAST

BUSH FELLOWS Margaret Miles ('91) and Cathy ten Broeke ('04) became the first same-sex couple to marry in Minnesota on August 1, 2013, when the marriage equality act became law in the state. “We knew this really wasn’t about us—it was about representing a moment in history for our state,” says ten Broeke, the State of Minnesota’s director to prevent and end homelessness, who had married Miles, an artist and development director at Saint Stephen’s Human Services, in a private ceremony with friends and fam-

ily back in 2001. At the stroke of midnight at Minneapolis’s City Hall, Mayor R.T. Rybak made their 13-year union official as they held hands with their son Louie, now six, in front of more than a thousand cheering supporters. “Margaret is a self-described major introvert, so it was a big stretch for her, but it was such a moving thing to take this vow as a family,” says ten Broeke. “We are the beneficiaries of the work of so many people who devoted their lives and careers to this cause, and being the recipients of that moment of justice was just incredible.”

BUSH FELLOWS & REBUILDERS NEWS

Saint Paul artist **Ta-coumba Aiken** (BF'92) earned a Guinness World Record for building the largest Lite-Brite installation ever with the 12-by-24 foot mural he created for the kick-off of the Forever Saint Paul Challenge. His creation required more than 596,000 Lite Brite pegs, and help from more than 600 volunteers (including some Bush Foundation staff, below).

Mode-sty.com, an online shop for conservative women’s clothing launched by **Zahra Aljabri**

(BF'12), turned heads in 2013 with features on Minnesota Public Radio, the line, TechCrunch, the gloss, FashionNotes and other media outlets.

The National Council on Family Relations elected **William D. Allen** (BF'95) as its president-elect. Allen is the owner of Healing Bonds, a family therapy practice in Minneapolis.

Lakota artist and art historian **Arthur Amiotte** (BF'80&'02), recipient of the Foundation’s 2012 Enduring Vision Award, worked with the South Dakota State Historical Society in 2013 to gather 31 of his original collages on loan from private collectors and museum collections throughout the United States. The result is *Transformation and Continuity in Lakota*



St. Paul artist Ta-coumba Aiken (center) with Bush staff

HAVE YOU BEEN COUNTED?

We’ve put out the call to the more than 2,300 Bush Fellows and Rebuilders—one of the most impressive regional networks of leaders in the nation—to respond to the Bush Census. The census will help us focus our efforts and resources to better connect Fellows and Rebuilders, both with each other and with other valuable leadership networks throughout region.

Take a minute now to be counted at bfdn.org/countme.

Culture: The Collages of Arthur Amiotte, an exhibition that opened at the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center in Pierre on April 19.

Twin Cities Business named **Margaret Anderson Kelliher** (BF'03) one of “100 people to know in Minnesota.” The former Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives is now the president and CEO of the Minnesota High Tech Association.

Terri Barreiro (BF'79) co-wrote *Social Entrepreneurship: From Issue to Viable Plan*. She is the first director of the Donald McNeely Center for

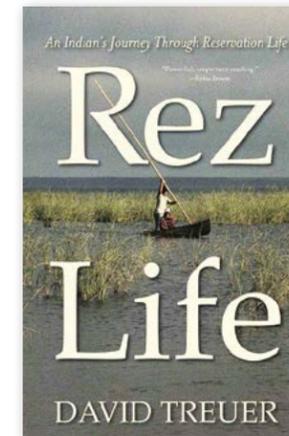
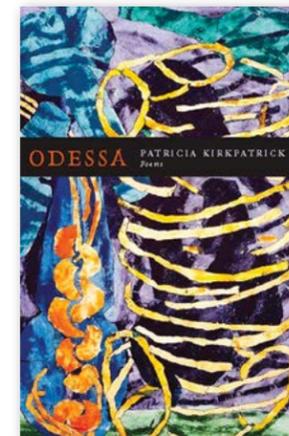
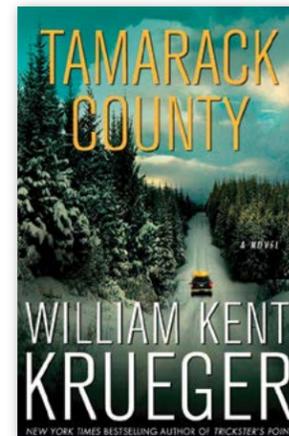
Entrepreneurship at the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University in central Minnesota.

Dan Bergin (BF'01) was nominated for a 2013 regional Emmy Award for *Asian Flavors*, a documentary he produced about how food connects immigrants with their homeland and culture.

Fast Company magazine talked to Finnegan’s CEO and founder **Jacquie Berglund** (BF'14) about her efforts to teach other social entrepreneurs how to bring mission-driven businesses to scale. Read the story at bfdn.org/xjberg.

Continued on page 41

AWARDS SEASON



William Kent Krueger (BF'88) won the 2014 Minnesota Book Award for his novel *Tamarack County*. Three Bush Fellows won 2013 Minnesota Books Award honors: poet **Patricia Kirkpatrick** ('90) for *Odessa* and novelist **David Treuer** ('03) for *Rez Life*. **Robert Hedin** ('97) received the Kay Sexton Award for lifelong contributions to the literary community.

“ORIGINAL LOCAL”

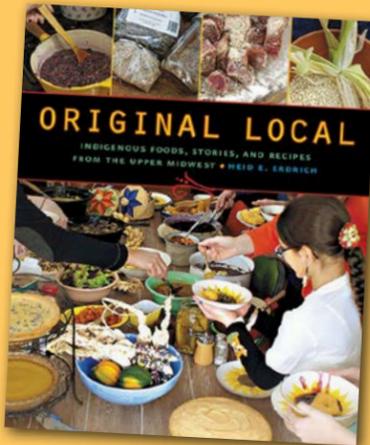


When poet **Heid Erdrich** (BF’01) set out to write a cookbook of indigenous culture for the Minnesota Historical Society Press, “First I thought I knew everything, then I realized I knew nothing, then I was surprised by how much knowledge there was in my own family. It was a beautiful thing to deepen my understanding of my culture

and my family, and I’m so happy to have done this for my children.”

Erdrich’s large family (including sister and 2007 Bush Fellow **Lise Erdrich**) all had a hand in shaping the meals that made the final cut, “and my husband washed every dish.”

Erdrich credits her Bush Fellowship with giving her the skills she needed to do a deep dive on indigenous food culture (“harder than a dissertation,” she says), and credits “**Famous Dave**” **Anderson** (BF’85) for putting the kick in her recipe for Cowboy Kicker Beans.



Cowboy Kicker Beans and Wiyyaas*

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 red onion, chopped
- 2 cups cooked or canned black beans, drained
- 1.75 ounces bison jerky, cut into bite-size pieces (optional for pacifists — kick *wiyyaas*)
- 1 cup stock
- 1/2 cup hot or mild Famous Dave’s BBQ Sauce (Devil’s Spit for hotheads)
- 1/4 cup maple syrup or honey
- 1/2 cup sundried tomatoes, cut into bite-size pieces

In a medium saucepan, set over low heat, warm olive oil and fry red onion until very soft, 5 to 10 minutes. Stir in beans, jerky, and stock, and increase heat to medium, and let mixture bubble for 1 minute. Stir in barbecue sauce and maple, turn heat to low, and simmer for 10 minutes. Stir in sundried tomatoes and simmer 30 minutes, adding stock if mixture seems dry. This dish is done when jerky is softened (which can vary with the type of jerky) and sauce is thick. Serve hot or cold.

From *Original Local: Indigenous Foods, Stories, and Recipes from the Upper Midwest* (Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2013). Used with permission.

*dried meat

ENTER TO WIN

Black Aperture, the first book of published poems by **Matt Rasmussen** (BF’09), was chosen as a finalist for the 2013 National Book Award, a contest he entered with a little boost from his Bush Fellowship.

“I paid for the entry out of the communications fund that I also used to set up my website,” says Rasmussen, who admits it was “surreal” to find himself in the running for the country’s most prestigious poetry prize. “I think the lesson I’ve learned is that you have to enter if you want to win. Without that Fellowship funding, I’m not sure I would have taken the initiative to send it in.”

A winner of the 2014 Minnesota Book Award and 2012 Walt Whitman Award, Rasmussen spent 10 years working on the poems in this collection about his brother’s suicide, a debut the National Book Award jurists praised as “pitiless, essential and keen as birth.”



PHOTO: STEPHANIE COLGAN

You can hear Matt Rasmussen read from *Black Aperture* at the National Book Award Finalists reading at bfdn.org/xmras.

Continued from page 39

Saint Paul Mayor Chris Coleman appointed **Eyenga Bokamba** (BF’06) as the director of Sprockets, a City initiative aimed at creating more learning opportunities for the 80 percent of time youth spend outside of school.

“Everybody is an educator—regardless of status, position, title or bank account. We all have gifts we can offer our youth,” says **Mary K. Boyd** (BF’86), who created the Every Body’s In coalition, a three-day community-wide conference in October 2013 aimed at connecting the dots between classroom time and community-based education.



Gary Cunningham, with Betsy Hodges

Karen Cadigan (BF’02) joined the Bloomington (Minnesota) Public Schools to lead its early childhood development initiative. She was previously the director of the Minnesota Department of Education’s Office of Early Learning.

Ellen Chaffee (BF’77) was appointed to the Des Moines University Board of Trustees in August 2013. She is a senior fellow at the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges and is the past president of two universities in North Dakota.

The McKnight Foundation honored **Sunny Chanthanouvong** (BF’12), executive director of the Lao Assistance Center, with the 2013 Virginia McKnight Binger Award in Human Service. Chanthanouvong is only the second Lao Minnesotan to receive the distinction, which recognizes Minnesotans who have demonstrated “an exceptional personal commitment to helping others in their communities but who have received little or no public recognition.”

C. Scott Cooper (BF’07) was named CEO of RE-AMP, a network of nearly 160 nonprofits and foundations across eight Midwestern states working on climate change and energy policy with the goal of reducing global warming pollution economy-wide 80 percent by 2050. He served as the Bush Foundation’s director of communication and engagement from 2009 to 2013.

Gary Cunningham (BF’91), vice president of programs and chief program officer at the Northwest Area Foundation, stepped into the role of First Man with the November 2013 election of his wife, Betsy Hodges, as mayor of Minneapolis.

Loretta DeLong (BF’90) coordinated the first-ever Weaving Warriors: North Dakota Women in Educational Leadership conference in September 2013. She is an assistant professor of educational leadership at the University of North Dakota.

Bob Derus (BF’88) was named interim city administrator of Dayton, Minnesota, in June 2013. Derus retired as city administrator of Saint Michael, Minnesota, in 2012.

Mark Dienhart (BF’89), recently named president and CEO of the Schulze Family Foundation, spoke with former Bush Foundation Program Officer Sarah Lutman of *Twin Cities Business* magazine about the future plans of the philanthropy created by Best Buy’s Dick Schulze. Read the story at bfdn.org/xmdien.



WHO IS MICHAEL SOLBERG?

Five quick facts about Foundation Board member Michael Solberg

- 1 A FAMILY GUY.** Michael and his wife, Charleen, live in Fargo in a household busy with the activities of their children—Grace (10), Charlie (8) and Rose (6)—whom they traveled to China to adopt in 2009.
- 2 PRESIDENT OF A GROWING COMPANY.** In 2004, Michael joined Bell State Bank & Trust as its chief operating officer; in 2009, he was named president. The family-owned company is the largest independently owned bank in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota.
- 3 A BELIEVER IN GREAT WORKPLACES.** Michael has helped guide Bell State Bank & Trust through unprecedented growth during his tenure, at the same time the Bank has received regional and even national recognition as a great place to work.
- 4 AN EVANGELIST FOR PAYING IT FORWARD.** In 2007, Michael and Charleen launched the Bank’s groundbreaking Pay It Forward program. Annually, every full-time employee receives \$1,000 (part-timers get \$500) to personally pay forward to those in need. Plus, each employee can choose a customer, vendor or community member to receive \$1,000 to pay forward to someone in need or to invest in a cause they care about. To date, the program has paid forward more than \$5 million.
- 5 A PROUD MIDWESTERNER.** Born in Finley, North Dakota, raised in Fargo, and a graduate of both Concordia College (Moorhead, Minnesota) and William Mitchell College of Law (Saint Paul), Michael believes that the Midwestern work ethic, strong faith and dedication to community and philanthropy make North Dakota the best place to build a business, a family and a life.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF CONCORDIA COLLEGE

Words to the Wise

“It’d be tragic to give money and not have it be fun,” Microsoft founder and philanthropist **BILL GATES** said in April 2013, at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, in conversation with Bush Foundation President **JEN FORD REEDY**. The exchange was part of the dedication festivities for the Grant Center, home of the Offutt School of Business and Barry Auditorium.

President Obama appointed **Karen Diver** (BF’02) to serve on the Climate Control Task Force. She is the first woman to chair the tribal council for the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

The Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis hired **Angie Eilers** (BF’08) as director, regional outreach and education. She also serves on the board of SciMathMN, a nonprofit, state-wide education and business coalition advocating for quality preK-16 science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education based on research, national standards and effective practices.

Filmmaker **Chris Eyre** (BF’07), chairman of The Film School at Santa Fe University of Art and Design, spoke with *Indian Country Today Media Network* about the Robert Redford Milagro Initiative, which is providing scholarships to indigenous filmmakers. “I am really glad that more Native people are working in film and music—the way we are progressing. It takes a whole group of people, with various points of view, to show that there is not just one Native America, but a whole spectrum of places, and people.”

Paul Fate (BF’99) retired from CommonBond, where’s he’s been CEO since 2007. “Paul

Fate has been a torch bearer for the affordable housing and community development industry for years,” says Minnesota Housing Commissioner **Mary Tingerthal** (BF’84). “He has greatly influenced policy and priorities locally and nationally and because of his leadership, CommonBond has provided the security and dignity of a home to thousands who otherwise would be left behind.” CommonBond is the Midwest’s largest nonprofit provider of affordable housing with services.

Photographer **Wing Young Huie** (BF’96) chronicled the businesses, residents, street

life and cultural diversity of Minneapolis’s Chicago Avenue corridor for his *We Are the Other* project in 2013, displaying more than 100 photos in store windows between 32nd and 42nd Avenues.

Rebuilder **Pamela Johns** (Cohort 5) and four Bush Fellows—**Tracine Asberry** (’07), **Tane Danger** (’14), **Nimo Farah** (’14) and **Gülgün Kayim** (’04)—were named by the Creative Community Leadership Institute as 2014 fellows.

Carol Johnson (BF’92) retired as superintendent of the Boston Public Schools in 2013. A former superintendent of the Minneapolis Public Schools, Johnson serves as visiting professor at Vanderbilt University’s Peabody College in the Department of Leadership, Policy and Organizations.

Retired Hennepin County District Judge **Franklin Knoll** (BF’77) was featured in the *Star Tribune* in February 2013 for the poetry he writes based on the detailed journals he kept during his years on the bench. Read the story at bfdn.org/xfkn.

Rebuilder **Jennifer Kolden** (Cohort 4) started a new job as director of development at the Native American Community Development Institute in Minneapolis. Her relocation to the Twin Cities will allow her to organize the urban citizens of the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation, where she is a citizen, around their constitutional revision engagement process.

Media artist **Kyja Kristjansson-Nelson** (BF’07) collaborated with dancer and choreographer Young Sun Lee and composer Evelyn Ficarra to create *soul/soul*, an experimental film that debuted at the Ansan Art Center in Seoul, South Korea, in September. Kristjansson-Nelson is chair of Minnesota State University Moorhead’s cinema arts and

digital technologies department. Watch *soul/soul* at bfdn.org/xKyja.

In May 2013, **Patrice Kunesh** (BF’09) became the deputy undersecretary of rural development at the United States Department of Agriculture. She is of Standing Rock Lakota descent and formerly served as the deputy solicitor for Indian Affairs at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

Former Clinton Administration adviser **Paul Legler** (BF’90) published his first novel, *Song of Destiny*, a 1960s-era coming-of-age story set near his family’s Jamestown, North Dakota, farm.

Muralist **Jimmy Longoria** (BF’10) received the Min-

neapolis Park and Recreation Board’s 2013 Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. Living the Dream Award and the Ordway’s Sally Award for commitment to the arts. Longoria is the co-founder of Mentoring Peace Through Art, a teen-driven nonprofit arts group that replaces gang graffiti with vibrant murals.

Marion McClinton (BF’93) directed the Guthrie Theater’s production of *Othello* in early 2014. Given the chance, here’s the question he’d ask Shakespeare about the play: Why does Othello believe Iago?

Kristine Miller (BF’12) received the 2013 University of Minnesota Outstanding Community Service Award for faculty mem-

bers who have made significant, demonstrable contributions to the public good through research, teaching and/or public service. Miller heads the landscape architecture department at the University’s College of Design.

The role of Hazelden’s CEO **Mark Mishek** (BF’85) expanded in 2013 with approved plans to merge with the Betty Ford Center. Mishek will lead the new Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation as president and CEO. Read the interview with Mishek in the *Los Angeles Times* at bfdn.org/mmis.

Jeff Freeland Nelson (BF’04) invented Yoxo, sustainable creative toys that hit it big over the 2013 holiday season with media coverage from the *Pio-*

neer Press to the *Today Show*. A former technical director at the Minnesota Children’s Museum, Nelson is CEO and founder of Play from Scratch.

Kari Niedfeldt-Thomas (BF’07), who is the manager of social responsibility at The Mosaic Company, was named to “The (Real) Power 50” in *Minnesota Business*.

Writer and South Dakota bison rancher **Dan O’Brien** (BF’01) made the keynote address at the Museum of the American Bison in Rapid City on the first National Bison Day, established in 2013 by a U.S. Senate resolution officially designating the first Thursday of November as a national day of recognition for North America’s iconic herd.

The Fabulous Ice Age



PHOTO: STILL FROM YOUTUBE/@KERI PICKETT

Keri Pickett’s (BF’92/’10) documentary *The Fabulous Ice Age* earned “Best of Fest” honors at the Minneapolis/Saint Paul International Film Festival. Inspired by her uncle, the former figure skater Roy Blakey (who is not pictured in this still from the documentary), the film chronicles the golden era of touring ice shows. Watch the trailer for *The Fabulous Ice Age* at bfdn.org/xkpic.



PHOTO: NORTH DAKOTA TOURISM

A New Place to Nest

Self-taught scrap-metal sculptor **Gary Greff** (BF '04) of Regent, North Dakota, just added another attraction to the Enchanted Highway, a 32-mile stretch of super-sized installations he began building along Interstate 94 three decades ago. Not another sculpture, but a new 90-room hotel he calls "The Enchanted Castle."

"The whole idea behind the Enchanted Highway was to bring people to town, so we always thought about having a place where they could stay," says Greff, 65, who gave an abandoned school building a medieval castle makeover. "The Enchanted Highway is unique, so we knew we couldn't have a cookie cutter hotel to go with it." Watch a short video about Greff's project at bfdn.org/x/enchant.

Irish traditional musician **Paddy O'Brien** (BF'06) published his memoir, *The Road from Castelbarnagh: Growing Up in Irish Music*.

Gregory A. Plotnikoff (BF'02) co-authored *Trust Your Gut* for people who suffer from gastrointestinal distress and disease. He is an integrative medicine physician at the Penny George Institute for Health and Healing and serves as a senior consultant to the Center for Health Care Innovation.

Frank Pommersheim (BF'83) presented the 2013 Constitution Day lecture at the University of South Dakota. He is a nationally recognized Indian law expert and a professor at the USD Law School.

Sharon Radd (BF'06) accepted a position as assistant professor in organizational leadership at Saint Catherine University.

President Obama appointed **Ranee Ramaswamy** (BF'96) to the National Council on the Arts. She is the founder and artistic director of Ragamala Dance and will serve a five-year term.

The National Rural Health Association honored Rugby, North Dakota, physician **Hubert Seiler** (BF'94) with its 2014 Practitioner of the Year Award. "I've been a rural health physician for my entire career, over 40 years," Seiler told *The Pierce County Tribune*. "I knew that I wanted to be in a place where I could practice all types of family medicine, and rural health allows for that."

Minneapolis-based photographer **Alec Soth** (BF'08) captured North Dakota's oil boom for a *New York Times Magazine* cover story, "The Luckiest Place on Earth." Watch a slideshow he narrated about the experience at bfdn.org/xasoht.

Alyce Spotted Bear (BF'88), who led the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nations from 1982 to 1987, passed away on August 13, 2013. In 2010, President Obama appointed her to the National Advisory Committee on Indian Education.

Mihailo "Mike" Temali (BF'98) received the 2013 E Pluribus Unum Prize from the Migration Policy Institute. He is founder and CEO of the Neighborhood Development Center in Minneapolis.

Anton Treuer (BF'08), executive director of Bemidji State University's American Indian Resource Center, won the 2012 Ken Hale Prize for linguistics, in recognition of his academic and community work with the Ojibwe language. His most recent book, *The Assassination of Hole in the Day*, won the Award of Merit from the American Association of State and Local History.

Robert Vanasek (BF'85) was recognized by Sokol Minnesota in 2013 for his service since 2008 as honorary consul for the Czech Republic in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota and South Dakota. He is former Speaker of the Minnesota House of Representatives and runs his own consulting business.

Sandra Vargas (BF'95) was named to the board of Independent Sector, a leadership network for nonprofits, foundations and corporations committed to advancing the common good. She is president of the Minneapolis Foundation.

Sean M. Virnig (BF'06) was named a 2013 Rising Alumni by the University of Minnesota for his leadership of the California School for the Deaf, an internationally renowned bilingual school in Danville.

BUSH STAFF & BOARD NEWS

Jen Alstad and **Lars Leafblad** both made *Minnesota Business* magazine's list of "The (Real) Power 50" in May 2013. Alstad, a member of the Foundation's Board, is the CEO and founder of bswing, a Minneapolis-based research and design firm. Leafblad is the Foundation's leadership and engagement director.

Several staff members began new responsibilities in 2013: **Stephanie Andrews** became the leadership development director, **Mandy Ellerton** became manager of the Bush Prize, **Brian Fier** joined the Communications Team as an associate, **Molly Matheson-Gruen** became manager of the Community Innovation Grants and **Rachel Orville** transitioned from consultant to associate on the Community Innovation Team.

Allison Barmann, vice president of strategy and learning, was named to the *Minneapolis/St. Paul Business Journal's* "40 Under 40," just weeks after joining the Foundation in March 2013. In March 2014, she was also named a Cross Sector Leadership Fellow by Presidio Institute (bfdn.org/xsector).

The Foundation welcomed **DeAnna Cummings** to its Board of Directors in February 2014. Read more on page 26 about this amazing 2007 Bush Fellow who leads the Bush Prize-winning Juxtaposition Arts.

The Young Nonprofit Professionals Network named **John Fetzer**, associate on the Native Nations Team, to its inaugural cohort of Leadership Institute Fellows. The experience is aimed at encouraging exploration of participants' big career questions while doing some serious skill swapping and network weaving across the local foundation and nonprofit worlds.

Eric Jolly, president of the Science Museum of Minnesota and a Foundation Board member, just began a four-year appointment by President Obama to the National Museum and Library Services Board. The voluntary board advises the director of the Institute for Museum and Library Services on general policy and practices, and on selections for the National Medals for Museum and Library Service.

Foundation Board member **Robert J. Jones** was installed as the 19th president of the University at Albany-SUNY in September 2013. He had served as senior vice president for academic administration in the University of Minnesota System since 2004.

Catherine Jordan left the Foundation in March 2013 to assist a new experiential-based charter school, Upper Mississippi Academy, with the creation of fundraising

plans. She is currently consulting with Circus Juventas, the largest youth performing art circus school in North America, to expand its facility and endowment. Catherine is also organizing a coalition to launch an annual Climate Walk to raise community awareness, build political will and generate financial contributions to improve climate justice and reduce the impacts of climate change.

Jane Leonard left the Foundation in March 2013 to start her own community and rural development consultancy, do grant review for the Otto Bremer Foundation and teach at Metropolitan State University. She continues to work on community change and leadership network development with colleagues around the country; check out her adventures at www.janeleonard.net.

Rebecca Martin left her work with the Education Team in

November 2013 to move to Wisconsin. She's now working as operations manager for *Nature's Pathways* magazine where she "continues to be passionate about bringing individuals in the community together to share knowledge and resources, and to become empowered to create the lives they dream about."

The Bush Foundation and Minnesota Philanthropy Partners co-located in 2013 to share expenses and space—now we're also sharing an employee: **Beth Norris**, the Foundation's part-time receptionist and office assistant, took a position with GiveMN, the Minnesota Philanthropy Partners affiliate behind Give to the Max Day.

D. Donald Peddie, the first director of the Bush Leadership Fellows Program from 1966 to 1989, passed away in March 2013. A long-time human resources executive at the *Star Tribune*, Peddie was instru-

mental in helping drive many Bush Fellows to his alma mater of Harvard University and recruiting potential students across the Midwest.

In April, **Jaime A. Pinkham** testified before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies in Washington, D.C., at the invitation of Rep. Betty McCollum on the work that he leads for the Foundation as vice president for Native nations.



Alice Sanborn

Alice Sanborn retired from the Foundation in June 2013 after serving as assistant director of the Bush Medical Fellows Program since 1999, assisting with the application, selection and mentoring of more than 100 Bush Medical Fellows.

Alfonso Wenker joined the Minnesota Council on Foundations in January 2014 as the director of diversity, equity and inclusion. In 2013, Wenker served as "founding fellow" of the philanthropy fellowship program the Bush Foundation began in partnership with MCF. In his new role, Wenker will also help to expand the resulting MCF Philanthropy Fellowship to other foundations.

Ann Yelich, the Foundation's long-time human resources consultant, moved her business to Nashville, Tennessee, in March 2014. She led the search process for more than half of the Foundation's current staff. 



PHOTO: JEFF AGHEN

Joining the Bush Foundation since 2013 are (from left) **Dominick Washington** as communications director, **Allison Barmann** as vice president of strategy and learning, **Maya Beecham** as education team coordinator, **Kayla Yang-Best** as education director and **Lars Leafblad** as leadership and engagement director.

THE FORECAST

Mark your calendar for upcoming convenings, and new grant and fellowship opportunities.

COMMUNITY INNOVATION

2014 Bush Prize for Community Innovation (Up to \$500,000)

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED
APRIL 8-JUNE 5

bfdn.org/applyBP

The Bush Prize honors and supports innovative organizations with a track record of making great ideas happen, providing creative capital for the organizations to use however they choose.

Read more about the Bush Prize on page 8.

Community Innovation Grants (\$10,000 to \$200,000)

APPLICATIONS FOR 2015 OPEN
AUGUST 2014

bfdn.org/infoCI

Community Innovation Grants support communities to use problem-solving processes that lead to more effective, equitable and sustainable solutions.

(\$500 to \$10,000)

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED
QUARTERLY

Through regional partners we've expanded the reach of Community Innovation Grants with three programs making grants between \$500 and \$10,000.

- **IN MINNESOTA:** Visit Headwaters Foundation for Justice **bfdn.org/xheadw**
- **IN NORTH DAKOTA:** Visit The Consensus Council **bfdn.org/xconsen**
- **IN SOUTH DAKOTA:** Visit South Dakota Community Foundation **bfdn.org/xsdcf**



Rebuilders from Cohort 5

NATIVE NATIONS

Native Nation Rebuilders Program

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED
JULY 15-AUGUST 28

bfdn.org/Reb

The Native Nation Rebuilders Program annually chooses up to 30 existing and emerging Native leaders who want to strengthen their leadership skills and nation-building knowledge so they may be instrumental in moving their nations, in cooperation with elected leadership, toward realization of their tribes' unique goals.

Read more about the Native Nation Rebuilders Program on page 32.

LEADERSHIP

2014 Leadership Network Grants (Up to \$200,000)

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED
APRIL 22-JUNE 12

bfdn.org/LNG

This new, flexible open grant program allows us to support the good work that others are doing to develop the leadership capacity of the region.

2015 Bush Fellowships (\$50,000 to \$100,000)

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED
JULY 29-SEPTEMBER 18

bfdn.org/BFP

The Bush Fellowship is both a recognition of extraordinary achievement and a bet on extraordinary potential. Funds can be used for academic programs or for self-designed programs to grow their personal impact.

Read more about Bush Fellowships on page 31.

2015 MCF Philanthropy Fellowships

APPLICATIONS OPEN
FALL 2014

bfdn.org/MCFellow

The MCF Philanthropy Fellowship prepares individuals from communities under-represented in philanthropy for careers at foundations.

Read more about MCF Philanthropy Fellowships on page 33.

CONVENINGS

OTA

FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA
September 12, 2014

WeAreOTA.com

Twice a year, people from across three OTAs (South Dak-, North Dak-, Minnes-) gather to transform themselves and the region. At OTA-Sioux Falls on April 4, more than 500 attendees (including Bush Fellows and Rebuilders) met at the intersection of community and creativity. We hope to see you at OTA-Fargo this fall.

Meet OTA's founder, Hugh Weber, on page 48.



OTA-Sioux Falls 2014

Road Shows

bfdn.org/opps

Stay tuned for the schedule of "Road Shows" coming to communities across Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and the 23 Native nations throughout 2014.



OTA-Sioux Falls 2014

bushCONNECT

GUTHRIE THEATER
MINNEAPOLIS
May 12, 2014



TICKETS SOLD OUT!

Join the waiting list for last-minute tickets at **bushCONNECT.org**.

bushCONNECT is a regional leadership networking event powered by the Bush Foundation and created in partnership with nearly 30 organizations from Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. bushCONNECT is about the connections people will make when we bring together different networks of leaders. It's about thinking bigger and thinking differently about what's possible in your community.

LOOK FOR a new grant program to open in late spring, developed to support organizations whose work benefits the overall education ecosystem within the region.

Keep current on all our grant, fellowship and convening opportunities at **bfdn.org/opps** and keep in touch at **bmag@bushfoundation.org**.

HUGH WEBER

CEO, OTA
Sioux Falls, South Dakota



AS CEO OF OTA, a network-building initiative for the three-state region, Hugh Weber proselytizes daily on the power of “creative collisions—those chance meetings and serendipitous encounters that can completely change your trajectory.”

So where does the Sioux Falls social entrepreneur find it? “The Queen City Bakery on Eighth Street is where I go when I’m in need of inspiration or intersection. It’s a place where on any given day you can find educators and entrepreneurs, community builders and members of the creative class,” says Weber, who offices nearby just to bask in the diverse crowd the café attracts, and for easy access to the bakery’s famed Brooklyn Black-out Cake. “There is the side benefit of having the best baked goods in the whole United States.”

Queen City Bakery is the brain-child of Mitch Jackson and Kristine Moberg, a South Dakota couple who “boomeranged” back to the state after living in New York City, a circular route that Weber says can be great boon to innovation and creativity across the Bush Foundation region. “You don’t want to encourage youth to leave, but you do want to encourage them to explore, and then provide them a landing place where they can return and thrive.”

IF YOU GO: Order an Americano and a peanut butter square, a nearly frozen confection that Weber says “will always treat you well.”

WeAreOta.com

Photograph by Wes Eisenhauer

PHOTO: PAUL CROSBY



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*When Advisory Committee members have conflicts of interest with Bush Prize finalists, we invite other community members to help select Bush Prize winners. **Tanya Krietlow and Toby Morris** also participated in the 2013 Bush Prize Selection Panel for South Dakota.

LEGEND

1. Bush Fellow
2. Native Nation Rebuilder
3. Consultant
4. MCF Philanthropy Fellow
5. Bush Board Member
6. Bush Staff Member
7. 2013 Bush Prize Selection Panel – North Dakota
8. 2013 Bush Prize Selection Panel – South Dakota



BUSH
FOUNDATION