



STORY COUNTY ALLIANCE FOR  
**PHILANTHROPY**

.....  
2022



The **Story County Alliance for Philanthropy** is interested in showing appreciation for all that has been accomplished in the name of giving – and to show that there is still much to do. By celebrating the annual Story County Philanthropy Day, the community will honor individuals, businesses, and organizations that provide essential services to county residents.

**17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
STORY COUNTY  
PHILANTHROPY DAY**

**THURSDAY,  
NOVEMBER 17, 2022  
11:30 AM to 1:15 PM**

**WELCOME**

*Jean Kresse  
President & CEO,  
United Way  
of Story County*

**MUSIC**  
*Alleygrass*

**PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**  
**Award Presenter - Sarah Buck**

**Award Winners**

Outstanding Business Philanthropist  
*Woodruff Construction*

Outstanding Group Philanthropist  
*Ames Noon Kiwanis Club*

Outstanding Philanthropists  
*Al & Karen Hermanson*

Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser  
*Dr. Jon Fleming*

Outstanding Youth Group in Philanthropy  
*Ames Middle School Kiwanis Builders Club*

**CLOSING REMARKS**  
*Sarah Buck*

## OUTSTANDING BUSINESS PHILANTHROPIST



### Woodruff Construction

Nominated by  
Boys & Girls Clubs of  
Story County

Woodruff Construction is a company with purpose. They seek out projects that serve local communities and align with their company values. If Woodruff Construction has a presence in a community, you can be sure that they are looking for ways to give back and make an impact. Story County has benefitted many times over from Woodruff's commitment to in-kind donations, volunteerism, and significant financial contributions.

Woodruff Construction has been a major supporter of organizations in Story County like Boys & Girls Clubs of Story County, YSS, and The Bridge Home. Woodruff has provided sponsorship dollars, hours of volunteer service, playground equipment installation, construction labor, renovation materials, and board leadership. They truly lead by example, offering generosity and opportunities for communities to grow and thrive.

### Previous Award Recipients

2005: Pella Rolscreen Foundation, SC  
2006: McFarland Clinic PC  
2007: Sauer-Danfoss  
2008: First National Bank  
2009: Burke Corporation  
2010: Greater Iowa Credit Union  
2011: Alpha Copies & Print Centers  
2012: Kreg Tool Company  
2013: 3M  
2014: Bethesda Lutheran Church  
2015: Wilson Toyota Scion of Ames  
2016: Country Landscapes  
2017: Renewable Energy Group  
2018: South Story Bank and Trust  
2019: RE/MAX Real Estate Center  
2021: Ames Ford Lincoln

## OUTSTANDING GROUP PHILANTHROPIST



### Ames Noon Kiwanis Club

Nominated by  
Geri Derner

The Ames Noon Kiwanis Club has been serving their community for 98 years. The desire of their club is to embody the definition of philanthropy: to promote the welfare of others. The Ames Noon Kiwanis Club has faced many challenges in its 98-year history, including the recent global pandemic. When challenging times arise, the Ames Noon Kiwanis Club adapts and continues their work of connecting youth and service organizations to resources and opportunities that improve lives and strengthens communities.

The club is able to provide these resources through a myriad of fun and creative fundraisers. Story County has benefited for many years from the club's annual Holiday Gift Wrap event, Knuckles for Kids, and their famous pancake breakfast. The club has offered support to deserving organizations like Ames Children's Choirs, Story Theater Company, and local Girl Scout troops. Story County is lucky to have such a dedicated and determined group of volunteers!

### Previous Award Recipients

2009: Heartland Senior Services Variety Show Committee  
2010: Mary Greeley Medical Center Auxiliary  
2011: Josephine Tope Community Auditorium Capital Campaign Committee  
2012: Ames Public Library Friends Foundation – Sales Committee  
2013: Kiwanis of Story County  
2014: Ames Police Benevolent Association  
2015: Altrusa of Ames  
2016: Ballard Education Foundation  
2017: Rotary Club of Ames  
2018: Ames Morning Rotary  
2019: Story City Friends Endowment  
2021: Northcrest Community Residents

## OUTSTANDING PHILANTHROPISTS



### Al & Karen Hermanson

Nominated by Ames Rotary Club

Al and Karen Hermanson have been quiet philanthropists for decades, faithfully giving their time and resources to improve the quality of life in Story County.

Over the years, they have made many significant contributions to dozens of Story County nonprofit organizations including Immanuel Lutheran Church in Story City, Riverside Bible Camp, Lutheran Services in Iowa and Ames Morning Rotary. They established an Agricultural Entrepreneurship Scholarship Award at Iowa State University which annually supports budding entrepreneurs in the various agriculture fields. They also established the Hermanson Charitable Donor Advised Fund at the Story County Community Foundation in 2015, which has since impacted 75 organizations and countless lives.

The Hermansons not only provide financial support to many organizations, civic projects, programs and events, they roll up their sleeves and get to work whenever a need arises. They often lead the charge, offering their commitment, expertise, encouragement and friendship because they believe strongly in their community and want to invest in its future. As visionaries,

they serve on various boards, councils and committees and take their roles very seriously.

Together, Al and Karen are a dynamic duo with big hearts and a passion for supporting Story County any way they can. They lead by example, holding true to their values and inspiring others to join them.

### Previous Award Recipients

2005: Janet S. and Donald R. Payer  
2006: Marge and Erb Hunziker  
2007: Ruth and Clayton Swenson  
2008: Sherry and Lee Sargent  
2009: Clare and Jim Frevert  
2010: Janice and Marvin Walter  
2011: Carolyn and Chuck Jons  
2012: Jennifer and Brian Dieter  
2013: Yvonne and Kevin Kinzler  
2014: Julie and Harold Pike  
2015: Hertz Family; Randy and Liz Hertz and Tom and Joyce Hertz  
2016: Bev and Warren Madden  
2017: Jeff and Peggy Johnson  
2018: Pat and Louis Bannitt  
2019: Ruth Harris  
2021: Sarah and J. Ben Buck

## OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER FUNDRAISER



### Jon Fleming, M.D.

Nominated by ISU Foundation and Mary Greeley Medical Center Foundation

Dr. Jon Fleming is a doer. He is well-known in the community for the high level of energy he brings to every role he serves and he is willing to help in any way necessary to ensure the success of the projects and programs he believes in. He has a talent and passion for helping organizations raise funds and has been quoted as saying he "likes to ask people for money" for good causes.

Jon served as a gastroenterologist at McFarland Clinic and Mary Greeley Medical Center from 1986 until his retirement in 2012. In 2011, he took on a leadership role with the Mary Greeley Foundation's Extraordinary Visions campaign, serving as co-chair of the largest fundraising campaign in the medical center's history and playing a key role in its success. He also helped the Ames Public Library in their fundraising campaign. Most recently, he served as campaign chair of the Forever True, For Iowa State nine-year campaign. His involvement and tireless efforts were central to it exceeding its \$1.5 billion goal.

As a good fundraiser, Jon is among the first to contribute personally to causes he cares about. He has served on several nonprofit boards and received many awards and recognitions.

Jon Fleming is a beloved physician, volunteer, fundraiser, ISU alumnus and friend to all who know him. He has created an inspirational legacy that others strive to live up to.

### Previous Award Recipients

2005: Verne C. Bates  
2006: Philip O'Berry  
2007: Suzan Shierholz  
2008: Linda and Bernie White  
2009: Heather and Gary Botine  
2010: Neala Benson  
2011: Rollie and Willie Struss  
2012: Dr. Jay Brown  
2013: Jim Black  
2014: Roger Kluesner  
2015: Monica Porter  
2016: Tim Day  
2017: Alan & Mary Christy  
2019: Sheila Lundt  
2021: Georges Niang Golf Outing

## OUTSTANDING YOUTH GROUP IN PHILANTHROPY



### Ames Middle School Kiwanis Builders Club

Nominated by Ames Town & Country Kiwanis

In September of 2021 sixth and seventh grade students at Ames Middle School, met for their first post-Covid year of the Ames Middle School Kiwanis Builders Club. Faculty advisor Erin Bettazza led the Club in brainstorming and planning for a year of service and leadership. The areas of interest were identified: literacy, mental health, environment, hunger and homelessness.

The group's many projects included a book drive in partnership with Raising Readers in Story County, they assisted with the school district's clothing drive, and made cards and posters for veterans, middle school students and the United Way annual food drive. Working with the Ames Town and Country Kiwanis they were awarded a grant to plant trees in conjunction with Ames Park and Recreation.

The many projects completed by the Club required leadership, creativity and organizational skills. As the year progressed, their projects grew larger and more complicated as the Club increased their skills. Their Earth Day/Arbor Day project required research to find funding, a plan for the grant required education, collaborating with other community groups, finding resources

and learning about tree planting. These many service projects demonstrate the warm, caring hearts and leadership of this small but mighty group of young citizens.

### Previous Award Recipients

2005: Kevin Geiken and Keegan Kautzky  
2006: Nevada Multiage Program  
2007: Cory M. Hanson  
2008: Joe Wallace  
2009: Central Elementary K-Kids  
2010: Story County Youth Philanthropists  
2011: Ames Public Library Teen Advisory Group  
2012: Nevada High School Key Club  
2013: Girl Scout Troops; 28 and 150  
2014: Mrs. Lynn Nielsen's Special Needs Class  
2015: Kate Hulshizer  
2016: Pi Kappa Alpha  
2017: AHS Reggie's Sleep Out Committee  
2018: Latinx Student Leadership Council  
2018: Michael Wiechmann  
2019: Roland-Story Community School District - Student Organizations  
2021: SHOP (Students Helping Our Peers) Food Pantry

## OTHER PREVIOUS AWARD WINNERS

### Rising Star Philanthropist

2021: Sia Agnihotri

### Spirit of Philanthropy

2010: JoAnn Mosley

## AWARD PRESENTER



Sarah Buck

For decades, Sarah Buck has been making her community a better place through volunteer service, leadership and generous financial support.

Sarah was employed by Mary Greeley Medical Center for 15 years before going to work for Iowa State University's Office for International Affairs. She later transitioned to the Iowa State University Foundation, retiring in 2005 as Vice President - Administration.

Since 1993, Sarah has served on the Mary Greeley Medical Center Board of Trustees, including 24 years as Board chair. She is an expert on effective governance and has received state and local awards

for her leadership and service. Recently, Sarah received the 2022 Volunteer Leadership Award from Mary Greeley. She has volunteered countless hours to numerous community organizations, offering her support and expertise on boards, committees, campaign cabinets, and more. In addition, she and her husband J. Ben Buck have made transformational gifts to several nonprofits in Story County.

Sarah and Ben were recognized with the Story County Alliance for Philanthropy -- Outstanding Philanthropist Award in 2021. They have been married since 1975 and have a blended family of four children, four grandchildren and three great-grandsons.

## ARTIST/PHOTOGRAPHER



### Ruben Ruiz

Deer Creek Ceramics  
Huxley, IA

Ruben's fascination with nature is a major influence in his work. His aim is to create pieces that inspire a smile. In 2005, he came in contact with clay for the first time at the Irvine Fine Arts Center in California where he learned wheel throwing. The hand building part of his work is a self-taught process.

His work is made with porcelain or stoneware clay. He wheel throws most of his pieces and then either alters them, adds texture, and/or creates sculptural details. Each piece is individually glazed and then fired in a reduction atmosphere at a temperature above 2100 degrees.

*Each SCAP award recipient received a beautiful one-of-a-kind piece of artwork made by Ruben.*



### Event Photographer

### Mark Looney

Munn Woods Studio  
Email: mark@munnwoods.com

## STORY COUNTY ALLIANCE FOR PHILANTHROPY MEMBERS

### Able Up Iowa

Anna Magnusson

### The Arc of Story County

Tricia Crain

### Boys & Girls Clubs of Story County

Kaitlin Binnebose

### The Bridge Home

Andrea Gronau

### ChildServe

Rachelle Flory

### Cultivating Hope Farms

Gina Perkins and Nicole Randick

### Friendship Ark

Jennifer Ellis

### Good Neighbor Emergency Assistance

Charlie Weber

### Iowa State Memorial Union

Tim Reuter

### ISU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Lisa Stephany

### ISU Foundation

Jodi Knox

### Mary Greeley Medical Center Foundation

Rita Gilbertson and Crystal Davis

### Octagon Center for the Arts

Heather Johnson

### Story County Community Foundation

Liz Zuercher

### United Way of Story County

Emily Randall & Jean Kresse

### Youth and Shelter Services

Jill Niswander

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[powersolutions.danfoss.com](http://powersolutions.danfoss.com)

#### FIRST NATIONAL BANK

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[www.fnbames.com](http://www.fnbames.com)

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Reiman Gardens will lead in the areas of preservation and conservation and focus on inspiring our visitors to environmental stewardship. Education and understanding of how plants, insects and man interact will remain at the core of our future. [www.reimangardens.com](http://www.reimangardens.com)

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#### STIFEL

Daniel P. Divine, Senior Vice President/Investments, is with Stifel, a full-service financial services firm established in 1890, which provides securities brokerage, investment banking, trading, investment advisory, and related financial services to individual investors, institutions, corporations, and municipalities. [www.stifel.com](http://www.stifel.com)

#### STORY COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Providing the means by which Story County residents can give where they live to build a brighter future for all. [www.storycountyfoundation.org](http://www.storycountyfoundation.org)

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#### UNITED WAY OF STORY COUNTY

A strategic leader in building countywide partnerships to identify needs and to develop, support and evaluate effective human services especially in the areas of health, education and financial stability for our diverse community. [www.uwstory.org](http://www.uwstory.org)

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## THANK YOU

to all who played a role in the Story County Philanthropy Day Celebration. We are grateful to live in communities with people who care and give so freely of themselves to improve the lives of others.



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