

# Newsletter

## July 2018



### BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Young actors performed for sell-out crowds in July during the Town Players production of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*. The Watertown Area Community Foundation awarded a grant to support this production, as well as an earlier production of *The Jungle Book Kids* performed by elementary aged actors. *Beauty and the Beast* actors included, top photo Brett Priest as the Beast and bottom photo from left: Marque McDonnell as Lefou; Macrae Walraven as Gaston, and Rose Grabow as Belle. The

musical was directed by Elizabeth Werness and assistant directors: Mike Jacobsen and Brett Ries.



### DIRECTOR NOTES

I can't believe August is upon us. As you can see, the Foundation, and Watertown for that matter, has had a busy summer!

Thousands enjoyed another successful fireworks show, sponsored by the City and other supporters on the Redlin Art Center grounds. Our Town Players Youth Theater performed "Beauty and the Beast" and rightfully received standing ovations.

I was also excited to hear that there are three more graduates from Codington County Drug Court as of mid-July. That brings the total graduates to 15 for this program that gives a hopeful alternative to those who are otherwise looking at jail/prison time and a continuing life of addiction. By successfully completing Drug Court, graduates learn other healthier ways to cope and tools to succeed as responsible citizens and healthy families.

# Women & Giving Grants Awarded

Women & Giving donors will be impacting women, families and youth again this year with grants and scholarships totaling more than \$24,000. The W&G Advisory Committee met to discuss the grant applications and award grants according to the Women & Giving mission: To help women and children in the community overcome barriers, increase their opportunities and achieve their goals.

The W&G advisory committee awarded the following grants:

- \$1,000 to the Boys & Girls Club of Watertown for play stations including a kitchen and playhouse.
- \$1,250 to Inter-lakes Community Action Partnership to support the Delta Dental Smile Mobile visit to Watertown this October which will serve children up to age 21.
- \$600 to LATI Educare to help with costs of diapers, formula, baby wipes, etc. for clients in need.
- \$8,318 to Lake Area Zoological Society to support two Girls Rule programs (one for 3<sup>rd</sup>- through 5<sup>th</sup>-graders and another for 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>-graders) at Bramble Park Zoo.
- \$800 to McKinley Elementary School Social Worker to help families in need of household and hygiene supplies.
- \$500 to Watertown Area Transit to help provide transportation for Beacon Center clients.
- \$1,675 to the Watertown Healthy Youth Coalition to support Project SUCCESS programs at the middle and high school.
- \$10,000 was set aside for scholarships (awarded this fall) to non-traditional female students attending post-secondary education in Watertown.

Watertown Area Community Foundation Women & Giving program began 15 years ago to educate and inspire women to be leaders in philanthropy. To date, the group has awarded more than \$170,000 in grants and scholarships supplies.

Special thanks to the Women and Giving Advisory Committee for their time and efforts in awarding this year's grants (noted at right). Committee members are: Prudy Calvin, chair; Sandy Albertsen, Jan Brooks, Chris Carter, Karla Christensen, Susan Geyerman, Nancy Linneman, Julie Ranum and Kathy Witte-Holmes.

## Watertown Area Community Foundation



**Front Row:** Angie Reppe, Laurie Benson, Kristen Henderson  
Liam Culhane

**Back Row:** Dr. Jeff Danielsen, Joel Vockrodt, Charlie Ewalt

Trustee Representatives: Scott Olson, Great Western Bank; and Tyler DeBoer, Wells Fargo Bank, NA; Staff: Jan DeBerg, executive director; Greg Blow, donor development; Julianne Endres, marketing/donor services; Jill Slobotski, administrative assistant.

*The Watertown Area Community Foundation is governed by a volunteer board who broadly represent the Watertown Community. These board members are appointed by the: City of Watertown, Watertown Area Chamber of Commerce, Watertown School District, Great Western Bank, Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.*

As of January 2018 our assets were approximately \$18 million. We have over 100 funds that provide grants and scholarships each year to residents and organizations in Watertown.