McGregor Fund Announces Grants for Eugene A. Miller Fellowship Program and Election of Joyce Jenereaux to the Board of Trustees

Detroit, MI, October 24, 2016 – At their September meeting, the McGregor Fund board of trustees selected three agencies to receive grants as part of the annual Eugene A. Miller Fellows Program. Now in its eighth year, the Program recognizes non-profit leaders by providing support for sabbaticals to longstanding chief executives of McGregor Fund grantee organizations.

This year, grants have been awarded to support sabbaticals for Dan Carmody, President of the Eastern Market Corporation, Rev. Faith Fowler, Executive Director of Cass Community Social Services, and Rick Sperling, President and Founding Artistic Director of Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit.

Each of the selected Fellows has designed a personal sabbatical plan that will provide a reprieve from their everyday responsibilities and allow them to pursue activities that will contribute to their skills, knowledge and commitment to their field. Grants of up to $50,000 are awarded to the agencies, which may also use the funds to support extra costs they incur that result from their leader’s absence.

In other business, the McGregor trustees elected Joyce Jenereaux at their June meeting to the Fund’s board, to fill a vacancy that was created with the retirement of James B. Nicholson in December 2015, who served on the McGregor Board of Trustees starting in 2004.


As one of Crain’s Detroit Business 100 Most Influential Women in Michigan in 2016, Joyce was instrumental in providing the strategy and vision that fostered explosive digital audience growth, revenue growth, innovative business model transitions and financial stability.
Under her leadership she oversaw the rebranding of Michigan.com from Detroit Media Partnership, a move that truly captured the digital prowess of the organization.

Ms. Jenereaux started her career with Gannett, owner of USA Today, in 1990 as a financial analyst at their Michigan.com site. Earlier, she earned her CPA designation at the public accounting firm Deloitte. She holds a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Eastern Michigan University, where she serves as a member of the Dean’s Executive Advisory Board for the College of Business.

She has twice served as the chairman of the board of Forgotten Harvest, one of the nation’s largest food rescue organizations, and serves on the board of Detroit Public Television, Inforum, CATCH, Metropolitan Affairs Coalition and Taubman Institute’s Leadership Advisory Board. In 2015 she was inducted into the CATCH Hall of Fame and in 2013 she was presented with the Neal Shine Award for Media Commitment to Philanthropy by the Detroit chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

The McGregor Fund is a private foundation established in 1925 by gifts from Katherine and Tracy McGregor “to relieve the misfortunes and promote the well-being of mankind.” The foundation awards grants to organizations in the following areas: human services, education, health care, arts and culture, and public benefit. The area of principal interest of the foundation is the city of Detroit and Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties. The McGregor Fund has granted nearly $242 million since its founding and had assets of $162 million as of June 30, 2016. Visit www.mcgregorfund.org for additional information.

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