In 2009, the AFP Foundation for Philanthropy continues its commitment to secure major gifts that will fund ten strategic initiatives identified by AFP as priorities for the fundraising profession. Generally, programs related to strategic initiatives are not supported by AFP members’ dues and occur only when the foundation successfully acquires funding for them.

“Our collective investment in AFP’s strategic initiatives builds a stronger and increasingly vital profession for the future,” said AFP Foundation chair, Donald G. Rizzo, CFRE. “Educational programs and tangible resources that promote ethical and effective fundraising are the core of the foundation’s mission and represent the primary focus of our major gift solicitations.”

Rizzo, who serves as the 21st chair of the AFP Foundation, is vice president for Institutional Advancement at the University of Hartford in West Hartford, Connecticut. He is strongly committed to the work of the foundation, having served continuously on the foundation board since 1991 in numerous leadership and fundraising roles. Rizzo applauds the abundant energy, experience and talents of his fellow board members. “It is truly a privilege to work with such a remarkable team of colleagues. Together we will work to strengthen the foundation’s major gifts program and respond to the unique challenges facing fundraising professionals in this turbulent economic period,” said Rizzo.

The foundation’s success is attributable to the dedicated service of its officers and directors. Three new directors joined the board in January who will serve three-year terms. They are Brian J. Bonde, ACFRE, president of Children’s Hospital of Orange County and vice chair, fundraising for the development of the Pacific Symphony and vice chair, fundraising of AFP Foundation for Philanthropy. These organizations are working together to enhance the skills of fundraising professionals as a source of vitality to strengthen philanthropy across society. Following the conference, AFP will make a model available to all AFP Chapters that wish to replicate this initiative at the local level.

The foundation has recently submitted a proposal seeking corporate support for another AFP strategic initiative—Youth in Philanthropy. Funding in this area would sponsor a chapter-wide program to introduce philanthropy to children and youth by teaching the values of saving and sharing their time, talent, and treasure.

The foundation will continue to pursue major gifts to fund the 2009 strategic initiatives. “We have prepared proposals to expand the AFP Collegiate Chapter Program and to develop a comprehensive ethics curriculum. We will continue to seek support for educational programming in chapters and research that enriches our knowledge of fundraising,” said Gary L. Good, CFRE, vice president of development of the Pacific Symphony and vice chair, fundraising of AFP Foundation for Philanthropy. “Major gifts fund important strategic initiatives in the present that strengthen the profession in the future.”

In the current year, members of the foundation’s Strategic Initiatives Committee are seeking major gifts that will open new opportunities for fundraising professionals. In response to a grant submitted earlier this year, we are pleased to announce that The Philadelphia Foundation has awarded the AFP Foundation a special sponsorship grant of $20,000 as the Presenting Sponsor of The Color of Money Conference. “We are honored to partner with The Philadelphia Foundation and acknowledge with great appreciation this generous investment in promoting diversity,” said Rizzo. The Color of Money Conference, to be held June 24, 2009 in Philadelphia, is a ground-breaking, professional development conference for fundraisers of color. It reflects the commitment of a unique consortium of parties including AFP, the AFP Greater Philadelphia Chapter, The National Center for Black Philanthropy, and the AFP Foundation. These organizations are working together to enhance the skills of fundraising professionals of color as a source of vitality to strengthen philanthropy across society.

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S

even new members were inducted into the Omega Circle on October 18, 2008 in Nashville, Tenn., bringing the total membership to an impressive 143. The Omega Circle recognizes donors who have made a planned gift valued at $5,000 or more to AFP Foundation for Philanthropy or AFP Foundation for Philanthropy—Canada.

The two foundations honored the new Omega Circle members at a memorable induction dinner held in conjunction with the AFP Leadership Academy and meetings of the AFP and Leadership Foundation boards. The evening celebrated the magnificent investments in the future of the profession made by the 2008 Omega Circle Class and afforded an opportunity for the members to share what inspired their personal commitment.

In heartfelt words describing what inspired and motivated him to make a planned gift to the AFP Foundation, Sean D. Carter, CFRE said, “Hurricane Ike was an eye-opener for me, and it prompted me to ensure that I was leaving a contribution to those groups I felt had made a difference in my life. AFP has played such an integral role in my professional growth, opened doors for me and given me the opportunity to make connections with colleagues worldwide. Becoming a member of The Omega Circle means that I have made a commitment to the future success of this organization.”

Inducted into the Omega Circle Class of 2008 were (L to R) Milton Key, CFRE, Robert E. Wahlers, CFRE, Marline Hill, CFRE, Kevin J. Foyle, CFRE, Alice L. Ferris, CFRE, and Sean D. Carter, CFRE. Not pictured are Marjorie and Stephen M. Levy, CFRE.

E

ach year, AFP Foundation for Philanthropy recognizes outstanding chapter performance in the annual fund. The awards are given to chapters that reach the highest level within each group of like-size chapters. The 2008 awards include the Every Member Campaign Award of Excellence, Highest Percent Member Participation and the Highest Chapter Treasury Gift. Each award comes with a $150 gift for use in chapter activities.

The foundation formally recognizes the award winners at AFP’s International Conference on Fundraising during the Chapter Presidents’ Council Meeting.

“These annual fund awards recognize and reward the valuable contributions and hard work of our colleagues,” said Curtis C. Deane, CFRE, CAE, president of the foundation. “Congratulations to the fifteen chapters who have set a great example of effective fundraising.”

Hannah Paulin, 2008 president of the AFP OH, North Central Chapter receives the 2007 Highest Percent Member Participation Award from AFP Foundation for Philanthropy president. Curtis C. Deane, CFRE, CAE. The AFP OH, North Central Chapter has won this award again in 2008.

Full list of 2008 Annual Fund Award winners on page 4.

OMEGA CIRCLE WELCOMES SEVEN NEW MEMBERS

FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2008 ANNUAL FUND AWARD WINNERS

AFP Foundation for Philanthropy strives to enhance philanthropy and volunteerism through programs of education, research and service that benefit those that lead, serve and support nonprofit institutions. The purpose of this foundation is to generate the resources necessary to fund initiatives that advance ethical and effective fundraising.

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GREAT MINDS GATHER TO STRENGTHEN PHILANTHROPY

Thirty-seven scholars and fundraisers from a variety of organizations in the United States and Canada came together in Orlando, Fla., in October 2008 for AFP’s research think tank “Leadership, Governance and Giving.” The two-day think tank was made possible in large part through a grant from the Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation of Winter Park, Fla., to the AFP Foundation for Philanthropy. Organized by AFP’s Research Council and co-sponsored by the Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership Center at Rollins College, the purpose and focus of this think tank was to highlight and respond to key issues presented by fundraisers’ ultimate leadership challenge: guiding those to whom they report—board members and senior executive staff—to help them, in turn, provide the organizational leadership at the highest levels required for successful fundraising. Four plenary speakers kicked off the first day’s program. Dr. Elizabeth Boris, director of the Center on Nonprofits & Philanthropy, The Urban Institute opened the proceedings with an overview of the nonprofit sector. Dr. Rita Bornstein, president emerita and George D. and Harriet W. Cornell professor of philanthropy & leadership development at Rollins College, challenged participants to think about succession planning in their organizations. Dr. David Renz, professor at the Midwest Center for Nonprofit Leadership, Cookingham Institute, University of Missouri-Kansas City, spoke about the challenge of engaging the board. Dr. Adrian Sargeant, Robert F. Hartsook professor of fundraising for the School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University, cited Brookings Institute data on the low level of public trust in the nonprofit sector and provided examples from the Great Britain of efforts to build public confidence in the nonprofit sector, including a CharityFacts website that provides information on fundraising and philanthropy for members of the media, researchers and the general public.

Facilitators Janice Gow Petey, CFRE, principal J.G. Petey & Associates; Thom Jeavons, executive director of ARNOVA; and Karla Williams, ACFRE, principal of The Williams Group, led participants in breakout discussions of the issues raised and a final discussion of what the participants think is good about leadership, governance and giving in the nonprofit sector, what needs to be changed and the priorities for change. AFP will publish a study kit on “Leadership, Governance and Giving” for use in local chapters and by local nonprofits.

For more information, contact the AFP Professional Advancement Division at profadv@afpnet.org.
FOUNDATION DONORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A FP Foundation for Philanthropy would like to thank the more than $3,500 donors to the foundation's success in 2008. Each donor makes a difference in securing a bright future for the fundraising profession.

Foundation Donors of $250 and more during 2008

BENEFACER ($200.00 – $499.99)
Marya D. Grable, CFRE

DISTINGUISHED PATRON ($500.00 – $999.99)
Monica N. Ambrose, CFRE

PATRON ($1,000 – $2,499)
Mary F. Eberle, CFRE

HONOR PATRON ($2,500 – $4,999)
Mary J. Risling, CFRE

GOLD MEDALIST ($500 – $999)
John M. Larson, CFRE

HONORABLE MENTION ($500)
John E. Rivas, CFRE

MEDITERRIUS FOUNDATIONS’ CLUB
($5,000 – $9,999)
John J. Anderson, CFRE

BAG OF TREASURE ($7,500 – $14,999)
John A. Seiden, CFRE

MAGUS ($15,000 – $19,999)
John C. Olberding, CFRE

SALVATION ($20,000 – $24,999)
John J. O’Donnell, CFRE

BERO ($25,000 – $29,999)
John E. Campbell, CFRE

PLATINUM ($30,000 – $34,999)
John M. Jelley, CFRE

THE STEWARD ($35,000 – $39,999)
John E. McFadden, CFRE

THE BOUNTY ($40,000 – $49,999)
John J. Varwig, CFRE

THE ALFORD GROUP
($50,000 – $99,999)
John F. Achterkamp, CFRE

THE PEACOCK ($100,000 – $199,999)
John K. Kramer, CFRE

THE HAMMER ($200,000 – $499,999)
John M. Reynolds, CFRE

THE AXE ($500,000 – $999,999)
John H. White, CFRE

THE BULL ($1,000,000 – $1,999,999)
John F. O’Malley, CFRE

THE TRIDENT ($2,000,000 – $4,999,999)
John J. Higginbotham, CFRE

THE NEMERTES ($5,000,000 – $9,999,999)
John J. Beardsley, CFRE

THE PHOENIX ($10,000,000 – $19,999,999)
John J. Beardsley, CFRE

THE PELICAN ($20,000,000 – $49,999,999)
John J. Beardsley, CFRE

THE CRAB ($50,000,000+)
John J. Beardsley, CFRE

Foundation Announces 2008 Annual Fund Award Winners

Continued from page 2.

2008 Annual Fund Awards
2008 Every Member Campaign Award of Excellence
1-50 Members Chapter: AFP CA, Greater San Francisco Valley Chapter—$3,166.15
51-100 Members Chapter: AFP WI, Upper Mississippi Valley Chapter—$11,632.44
101-250 Members Chapter: AFP NC, Greensboro Valley Chapter—$40,083.50
251-400 Members Chapter: AFP PA, Pennsylvania Chapter—$12,496
401+ Members Chapter: AFP DC, Washington DC Metro Area Chapter—$88,610.30
2008 Highest Percent Member Participation
1-50 Members Chapter: AFP CA, Greater San Francisco Valley Chapter—75.96%
51-100 Members Chapter: AFP WI, Upper Mississippi Valley Chapter—55.19%
101-250 Members Chapter: AFP AZ, Phoenix Valley Chapter—41.65%
251-400 Members Chapter: AFP PA, Pennsylvania Chapter—40.34%
401+ Members Chapter: AFP NY, Greater New York Chapter—25.56%
2008 Highest Chapter Treasure Gift
1-50 Members Chapter: AFP CA, Greater San Francisco Valley Chapter—$5,000
51-100 Members Chapter: AFP WI, Upper Mississippi Valley Chapter—$11,500
101-250 Members Chapter: AFP MA, Connecticut Chapter—$10,000
251-400 Members Chapter: AFP PA, Pennsylvania Chapter—$75,000
401+ Members Chapter: AFP TX, Greater Houston Chapter—$100,000

In-Kind Gift

Multi-Year Commitment