New partnership looks to boost regional capacity for public and private investment, seeks executive

The Humboldt Area Foundation and Wild Rivers Community Foundation and the Arcata Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) are partnering to launch the Public Investing and Innovation Project (PIIP) to grow our region’s capacity for public investment. Amplifying this new effort, The California Endowment (TCE) also committed generous start-up funding for the PIIP. The PIIP is a partnership with HAF+WRCF, AEDC, and TCE to develop ways to build capacity within partner organizations to leverage stacked public and philanthropic funding opportunities, including unprecedented federal funding for pandemic recovery and increased California State resources. Future partnerships are envisioned to include organizations such as Tribal and municipal governments, educational institutions, healthcare institutions, and other mission-driven investors. The partnership aims to seek and blend these public resources with philanthropic and private funding for the greatest impact.

To guide the implementation of the project, AEDC is accepting applications for a Public Investing and Innovation Initiative Director. Learn more at https://aedc1.org/piip-director-job-opening.

National honor for Del Norte’s Nick and Lisa Rail

The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) recently awarded Nick and Lisa Rail with its “Believe in Music” award. The Rails established their music fund at WRCF in 2018 and have since used it to provide hundreds of thousands of dollars’ worth of quality musical instruments (more than 300) and upgrade music facilities in Del Norte County public schools. Funds were also used to establish a full repair shop at the high school used by students interested in pursuing musical instrument repair careers.

The couple recently created a nonprofit for the purpose of building a $42 million dollar performing arts center at Del Norte High School. Nick Rail worked nearly 50 years in the Southern California music industry, where he owned and operated multiple music stores. He and Lisa recently relocated to Del Norte County. Read more about the couple’s efforts at https://www.namm.org/playback/advancing-music-making.
Aawok Georgiana Trull Scholarships

We are honored to announce and congratulate the three recipients of the 2021 Aawok Georgiana Trull Memorial Scholarship!

**Shobe Britton** (Wailaki/Yuki/Nomlaki/Concow/Pomo) is currently studying Native American Studies at Cal Poly Humboldt and works to gain an education so that she can help her people. She has been a part of reawakening the Wailaki language from dormancy.

**Ruby Tuttle** (Yurok/Karuk/Yuki/Concow/Maidu) is our newest team member as a Native Cultures Fund to Co-Senior Program Officer. Rico will support the many program mini grants up to $500 that the Native Cultures Fund to Co-Senior Program Officers will be able to fund. With the addition of Monique, Sarah Kruger will step into her role as executive assistant for Finance and Administration.

**Tayshu Bommelyn** has moved from Interim Program Director for the Native Cultures Fund to Co-Senior Program Officer for the Native Cultures Fund. Tayshu has been actively guiding the NCF scholarship program while continuing to build relationships and partnerships within Regional Native Communities.

**Keri Mosey** and **Rachel Montgomery** are now Program Officers for the Strategy, Program & Community Solutions team. Keri and Rachel will focus on relational building throughout the community to assess the needs and gaps in relation to HAF/WRCF strategic focus areas and/or COVID-19/Disaster Response & Resilience.

New staff and shifting responsibilities

The first quarter of 2022 has been busy as HAF+WRCF continues to onboard new staff and shift staff into new roles. Please join us in welcoming:

**Vanessa (Ness) Tenorio** and **Angel Martinez-Reyes** joined the Strategy, Program & Community Solutions (SPCS) Team as coordinators. Ness and Angel will support the many programmatic needs and coordination of HAF/WRCF’s strategic goal areas within the SPCS team focus areas.

**Mia Gonzalez** joined the Executive, Culture & Public Policy Team as the Human Resources & Organizational Culture Coordinator Mia will work closely with Haley Clark, Director of HR, to assist in guiding HR and organizational culture initiatives.

**Monique Molina** is our new Finance & Administration coordinator, working closely with various departments, including donor engagement and grants, to ensure the accuracy and completeness of payments and gifts.

**Rico Miranda** is our newest team member as a Native Cultures Fund Co-Senior Program Officer. Rico will advance HAF+WRCF’s goals around racial equity, thriving youth and families, and environmental justice, by specifically guiding NCF programs in collaboration with Native cultural leaders.

We are happy to announce the following staff shifts:

With the addition of Monique, **Sarah Kruger** will step into her role as executive assistant for Finance and Administration.

**Tayshu Bommelyn** has moved from Interim Program Director for the Native Cultures Fund to Co-Senior Program Officer for the Native Cultures Fund. Tayshu has been actively guiding the NCF scholarship program while continuing to build relationships and partnerships within Regional Native Communities.

**Keri Mosey** and **Rachel Montgomery** are now Program Officers for the Strategy, Program & Community Solutions team. Keri and Rachel will focus on relational building throughout the community to assess the needs and gaps in relation to HAF/WRCF strategic focus areas and/or COVID-19/Disaster Response & Resilience.