



KIRKPATRICK FOUNDATION
2015 ANNUAL REPORT





JOHN JERNIGAN

60

CELEBRATING
60 YEARS OF
PHILANTHROPY

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

“We are very worried about this trend and are concerned that so many of our elected officials are silent on this issue.”



SHARLEE ROTHER PHOTOGRAPHY

Christian Keesee checks in on the animals at the Spencer homestead, now known as the Kirkpatrick Family Farm in Yukon, Oklahoma. Originally purchased in 1894 by Mollie Spencer, great-great grandmother to Keesee, today the farm hosts numerous events and educational opportunities for the benefit of the community.

Dear Philanthropic Partners,

For Kirkpatrick Foundation, the year 2015 was a historic one. Specifically, our grants program gave one of its largest gifts ever—to support the construction of the new Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center building, whose groundbreaking will occur in the fall 2016. Oklahoma Contemporary is an arts center whose primary focus is arts education. Certainly, with the long-term reductions in arts funding for public schools, Oklahoma Contemporary has stepped in at the right time. With this new building, they will double down on their efforts to give people of all ages the opportunity to discover their own abilities and talent.

The foundation has been involved in issues of animal welfare for more than fifty years, including our involvement with the Oklahoma City Zoo, the veterinary college at Oklahoma State University, and a myriad of worthy organizations concerned with domesticated animals. As you may recall, in 2012 we increased our investment in animal welfare with the debut of a twenty-year initiative, Safe & Humane. Our goal is that Oklahoma becomes the safest and most humane place to be an animal by the year 2032. We've seen signs of success already: In 2015, the Animal Legal Defense Fund increased the state's ranking from thirty-three to seventeen.

Alarm bells are ringing though. From 2013 to 2015, we conducted extensive research into the current status of animals in our state to answer a simple but wildly complex question: What is the condition of animals in Oklahoma? (See page 15.) They all face a staggering number of problems, but the greatest suffering is surely meted out on the farm animals—not Old MacDonald's farm but the industrial farms of multinationals.

Prior to 1992, CAFOs—concentrated animal feeding operations (mainly for pigs and chickens)—were not allowed to operate in our state. Now there are 266 CAFOs in our state. Animals born in these facilities are called “units,” and they live what can only be described as a nightmare. Kirkpatrick Foundation is concerned about these animals.

We are also concerned about farmers and the threat they are enduring from large (usually foreign-owned) agricultural businesses. Seaboard, for instance, which operates those huge barns you see up near Guymon, Oklahoma, slaughters more than five million hogs a year, and their biggest clientele is across the Pacific Ocean. We feel these trends are disturbing and need our close study, as does the Chinese and Brazilian ownership of America's largest meat producers Smithfield and JBS and that presence in Oklahoma.

The transformation of the livestock industry to industrial, globally integrated production has generated

practices harmful to animal, human, and environmental well-being. Our research shows that it has also been harmful to jobs and the survival of local markets. **In Oklahoma, more than 77 percent of agricultural jobs disappeared between 1990 and 2014. Meanwhile, the number of family hog farms in Oklahoma has reduced by 43 percent since 1990.**

We are worried about this trend and are concerned that so many of our elected officials are silent on the issue. We believe many are fearful for speaking out on the issue because of the strength and power of large agribusiness. Their dollars are real, and they are big. This issue deserves everyone's attention and calls for concerned citizens to come together for close non-partisan review. Is this leading our state in a direction we believe in?

On a more positive note, I would like to thank our friends at the Oklahoma City Zoo for their work. I am so pleased with the Joan Kirkpatrick Animal Hospital and know my mother would be proud having her name above the door. While saddened by the death of Malee (aka MayLee Keesee), the beautiful Asian elephant, the zoo is doing its work to preserve the genetics of this noble breed. Sadly, her DNA was not strong enough to resist a terrible virus, but in the end, the program that the zoo is involved with is strong and enduring with worldwide impact.

Christian Keesee

FROM THE DIRECTOR



JOHN JERNIGAN

The official protocol for a sixtieth anniversary calls for white linen and diamonds. Queen Victoria's celebration at sixty years—an unparalleled reign that built a global empire and brought relative peace to the globe—was styled by her as the Diamond Jubilee. Diamond originates from the Greek word *adamas*, which means unconquerable and enduring.

We stand at the threshold of our own diamond jubilee, and I think the Kirkpatrick Foundation well exhibits these characteristics. Celebrating my own fifth anniversary with this remarkable organization, I reflect on what traits are mission critical to be a “diamond” in this sense.

People often refer to the “fire” in a diamond, the luring bright gleam from its heart that captures and reflects light. Fire is a primal power in nature, both creative and destructive. Fire is often equated with or used to describe passion. Passion for art, for animal well-being, for the natural environment, for education—passion is what drives the work and the team at the foundation to do more, be more, impact more.

But, passion, like fire, can be destructive if it is not also embedded with integrity. Integrity directs fire to create diamonds instead of rock. It is uncompromising with the truth, seeks the highest standards in all ways, and does not yield to fear.

Passion and integrity are the elements of enduring. What of unconquerable? The diamond has also come to symbolize love and imperishable relationships, a purpose beyond ourselves. Our Safe & Humane project, our commitment to arts education, and our concern for the environment are founded in caring and empathy, giving rise to a purpose-driven stewardship of these things for the benefit of generations unborn. It is a position often ridi-

culed or persecuted, abandoned or unclaimed. But it is a position that is so fundamentally honest and true that it cannot be conquered.

To work with our staff, board members, and others who are filled with passion, integrity, and love for all creation is an enormous privilege. We rocket on from day to day, assessing grantees and their affinity with our passion, integrity, and purpose; celebrating successes and noting challenges in our publications; researching and searching for what is true, what is meaningful, and what is enduring. It has brought us to horizons we never saw before, to knowledge both uplifting and painful, and to experiences and fellowships of great worth.

Our passage through our sixtieth year has given us pause to celebrate where we've been and what we've accomplished, but more importantly it has revealed our *adamas*. We embark now on our next sixty years. We hope you enjoy our annual report and celebrate with us on what we've achieved. More importantly, we hope to see you beside us on our journey through the next sixty years.

— LOUISA MCCUNE



SHEA SMITH



TIM FLACH



JOHN JERNIGAN



OUR TRUSTEES

“Our strength in the future lies in our board of trustees. It is composed of leading citizens who bring their wisdom and integrity. Their independent opinions and experiences meld together to make our collective decisions. The trustees and officers provide our assurance that we will meet our potential and face the challenge of the future as well as our current needs.”

—JOHN KIRKPATRICK



Christian Keesee
CHAIRMAN



Robert Clements
PRESIDENT



Rebecca McCubbin
VICE PRESIDENT



Max Weitzenhoffer
TREASURER



Louisa McCune
SECRETARY (EX-OFFICIO)



Mark Robertson
PAST PRESIDENT



George Back



Mischa Gorkuscha



Joe Howell



Anne Morgan



George Records



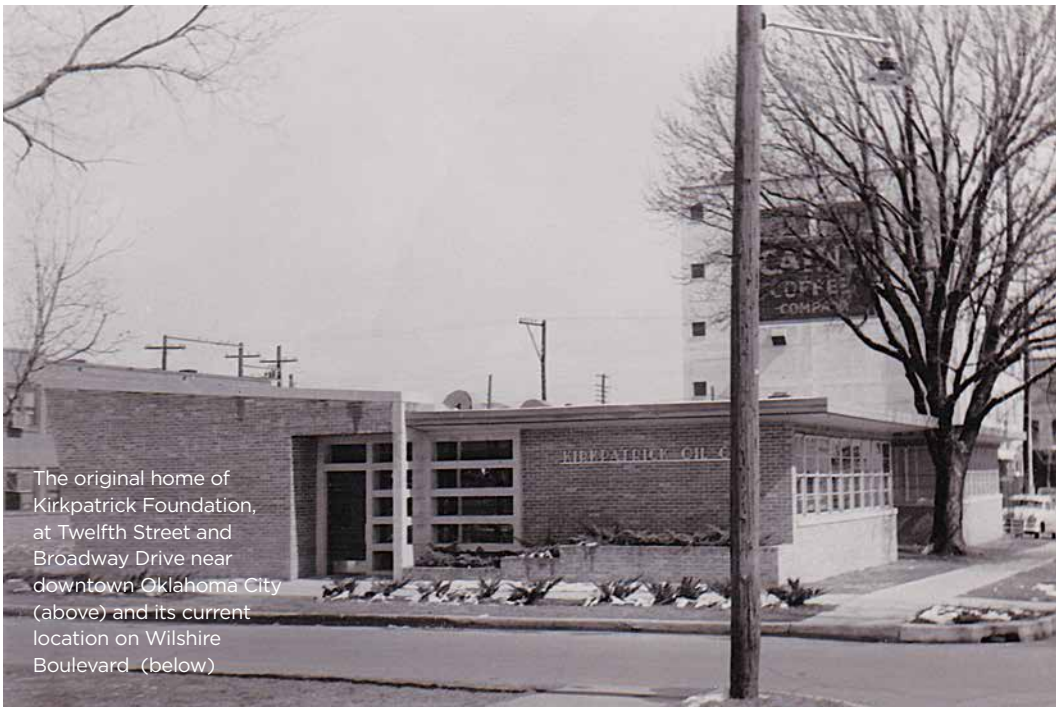
Meg Salyer



Jeanne Hoffman Smith



Elizabeth Eickman
ADVISOR



The original home of Kirkpatrick Foundation, at Twelfth Street and Broadway Drive near downtown Oklahoma City (above) and its current location on Wilshire Boulevard (below)



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YEARS OF GIVING

1955 ~ 2015

LEGACY of SUPPORT STRENGTHENS COMMUNITY and IMPACTS LIVES

In 2015, the Kirkpatrick Foundation board of trustees and staff celebrated the philanthropy's sixtieth year as a dedicated community partner and major investor in Oklahoma City's most esteemed cultural, artistic, and educational institutions.

Beginning in 1955 with an initial contribution of \$10,000 and the desire to give back to their community, John and Eleanor Kirkpatrick officially established the Kirkpatrick Foundation. Defined today by its historical values, the Kirkpatrick Foundation distributes approximately \$3 million

annually in grants and charitable activities and has given more than \$67 million to approximately 900 organizations to date.

With the evolution of family leadership—from Joan Kirkpatrick to current chairman Christian Keese—the foundation's board of trustees, executive director, and the staff of eight (four full-time and four part-time) remain dedicated to fulfilling a vision established by its founders six decades ago. Its rich legacy of charitable stewardship will live on by funding organizations dedicated to impacting the community in the areas of arts, culture, education, animal wellbeing, environmental conservation, and historic preservation.

JOHN JERNIGAN



60TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER: Foundation trustees Jeanne Hoffman Smith and Mark Roberston; Nancy Anthony, president of Oklahoma City Community Foundation, and husband Bob; former trustee David Rainbolt with wife, Kim, and Burns Hargis, president of Oklahoma State University

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YEARS OF GIVING

1955 ~ 2015

“**THE KIRKPATRICK FOUNDATION** made a grant in 1957 to establish our organization on the state fairgrounds as a museum, then known as the Oklahoma Art Center. Over the years, the foundation has steadfastly supported our operations with generous grants. Today, the foundation remains a leadership donor of Oklahoma Contemporary and is instrumental in helping us achieve our dream of building a new arts education center and cultural destination for Oklahoma.”

— **DONNA RINEHART-KEEVER**, *Executive Director, Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center*



Board president Robert Clements, Oklahoma Contemporary executive director Donna Rinehart-Keever, and board chairman Christian Keese

On November 17, the Kirkpatrick Foundation celebrated its sixtieth birthday with an intimate dinner at Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center in the Eleanor Kirkpatrick Gallery. Forty-four past and present members of its board of trustees and special guests were present for two special announcements made to commemorate the occasion. A \$1 million gift to Oklahoma Contemporary will go towards the organization’s capital campaign to construct a new building at 11th and Broadway in downtown Oklahoma City. Additionally, to honor each of the community leaders who volunteered their time and expertise on the board of trustees, a \$500 contribution was made to a charitable organization of his or her choice.

JOHN JERNIGAN



The new Oklahoma Contemporary Arts Center will break ground in October 2016.



THE ANIMAL CONFERENCE

The foundation's first conference was attended by 334 people from sixteen states and the District of Columbia.

IN MARCH 2015, the Kirkpatrick Foundation hosted its inaugural ANIMAL Conference at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in Oklahoma City. The first-of-its-kind forum focused on ideas, impact, and inspiration by bringing together the brightest minds in science, journalism, research, and sustainability to discuss current and future trends affecting animals. A central goal of the two-and-a-half-day conference was to encourage active compassion and advocacy.

Dynamic conversations were held on the value of increasing animal wellbeing for companion, wildlife, farm, equine, and exotic animals. Leaders in the fields of animal and public health, the human-animal bond, and disaster relief and rescue discussed strategies for improved animal treatment in industry, neighborhoods, and communities. New programs for children and youth to increase empathy, compassion, and character were presented to attendees, as well as presentations on animals in service, therapy, and rehabilitation. A legislative breakfast panel featured NPR affiliate KOSU

station director Kelly Burley as moderator.

In 2012, the Kirkpatrick Foundation started the Safe & Humane initiative with the goal of making Oklahoma the safest and most humane place to be an animal by 2032. Executive director Louisa McCune says the ANIMAL Conference is an essential element to the strategy.

"It is this type of gathering that will result in measurable, worthwhile progress for animals and the communities in which we live," says McCune. "We're already planning for 2018."

The conference included presentations at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art and Myriad Gardens and featured fifty-six speakers, including Joel Sartore, a *National Geographic* photographer; Vint Virga, author of *The Soul of All Living Creatures*; Charles Siebert, a *New York Times Magazine* writer; ethologist Jonathan Balcombe; David Kirby, author of *Death at Seaworld*; American Humane Association CEO Robin Ganzert; Andrew Gunther, sustainable food and agriculture advocate; Drew Edmondson, former four-term Oklahoma attorney general; Tim Hetzner, president of Lutheran Church Charities, and public safety officer Tim Harrison, who was featured in the documentary, *The Elephant in the Living Room*.

JOHN JERNIGAN



In 2015, after three years, Kirkpatrick Foundation concludes research and design on The Oklahoma Animal Study.

IN SURVEYING THE landscape of animals throughout the United States and abroad, no other geographic area has taken this kind of thorough examination of the conditions of its animals,” says Louisa McCune, executive director of the Kirkpatrick Foundation. “Animal welfare is an important indicator of community health. We believe that treating animals well is an important function of society, and we hope governments, businesses, organizations, and individuals will see the merits of this report as we all continue the discussion about improved quality of life.”

The Kirkpatrick Foundation concluded two years of research and one year of editing in 2015, wrapping up a three-year project on the state of animal wellbeing in Oklahoma. The result, *The Oklahoma Animal Study*, is released in 2016. The study, co-authored by Kristy Wicker and Manda Overturf Shank, details findings on the current status, laws, regulation, care and general wellbeing of companion animals, livestock, horses, wildlife, exotic animals, and laboratory animals in the state. The report also provides recommendations based on the findings toward improvement in current conditions of each animal category.

TIM FLACH/GETTY IMAGES

Kristy Wicker, principal investigator, conducted 114 interviews with Oklahoma and national animal-welfare community stakeholders to serve as foundational information sources for the study. Those interviewed included scientists, veterinarians, food-industry specialists, experts in the fields of animal behavior, and individuals from animal-protection organizations.

Data was also gathered from shelter surveys, scientific articles, and literature reviews. Manda Shank, program associate for the Kirkpatrick Foundation, analyzed, edited, and fact-checked the document for patterns as well as problems and strengths in the status of Oklahoma animals. The final compilation was reviewed by experts from various animal groups across the U.S.

“What is the condition of animals in Oklahoma? The answer to the question does not come quickly or easily,” says Mrs. Shank. “We must consider several factors, including the economy, the political environment, the use of and view toward private and public landownership, and, in general, how Oklahomans in rural and urban settings interact with, view, and respect animals. The short answer is that, in a number of ways, Oklahoma animals are doing both better and not as well as animals in other parts of the nation.”

The study is available online and for free by requesting a copy at office@kirkpatrickfoundation.com.



A RANGE OF MUSIC EDUCATION EDUCATION

Norman Music Festival

The Octopus Project, Paper Bird, and RaRa Riot were a few of the bands featured at the Norman Music Festival, sponsored by the Norman Music Alliance. In its seventh year, attendance at the festival has increased steadily, with more than 60,000 people from central Oklahoma and neighboring states attending in 2015. The annual festival, held in historic downtown Norman, is designed for all ages and musical tastes.

The 2015 event presented more than 340 performers, artists, and musicians, representing thirty-four genres and selected through open-call auditions. While many performers came from ten states, most were from Oklahoma, giving

local musicians an opportunity to raise their visibility.

Norman Music Festival—free and open to the public—spans three days and includes twenty-one stages and venues and children’s programming. In 2015, the Film and Music Panel was attended by a record number of festivalgoers and musicians. Six panelists discussed a range of issues related to the music industry in Oklahoma.

“The success of the collaborative effort between an all-volunteer organization, city officials, area businesses, and retailers, demonstrates how working together can make the arts accessible to everyone in the community, regardless of their ability to purchase a ticket,” says board

member Karen Paul. “The surge of visitors contributed to the local economy, and the festival is now an established destination event.”

Guitar Foundation of America

Dozens of classical guitar players traveled to Oklahoma City when the Guitar Foundation of America came to Oklahoma for the 2015 International Convention and Competition. Nearly 500 people participated in a week of concerts, lectures, workshops, master classes, and three divisions of guitar competitions, featuring competitors from around the world. The convention, held at Oklahoma City University, offered public concerts with top



artists and also featured interactive workshops and the world’s largest collection of classical guitars, music and accessories. A highlight of the week was the world premiere of a new guitar concerto written by Sergio Assad, performed by Pablo Sainz Villegas, with an orchestra of musicians from the greater Oklahoma City area. The competition finals were live streamed, allowing people from all over the world to watch from home.



IN PERSON WITH ARTDESK MAGAZINE

From Texas craftsmen and animal-behavior experts to “social sculptors” and modern dancers, ArtDesk magazine (published by Kirkpatrick Foundation) provides a platform for leading voices to educate audiences about the art and ideas of our time. In July and October 2015—at Green Box Arts Festival in Green Mountain Falls, Colorado and Marfa Contemporary in Marfa, Texas—ArtDesk co-founders Christian Keesee, Louisa McCune, and Larry Keigwin debuted the ArtDesk Conversations series. By gathering contemporary art experts and thought leaders from around the country to engage in productive discussion, the five ArtDesk Conversations in 2015 sparked inspiration and dialogue through a wide array of voices. In 2016, our talks will continue with artists, designers, thinkers, and scientists who provide an educational flair to contemporary discussion.



Above, ArtDesk managing editor Alana Salisbury hosted a conversation in Marfa; below, Christine Layng of Christie’s in Green Mountain Falls

ALEXMARKS



THE CONSERVATION CONVERSATION

In November 2015, Kirkpatrick Foundation and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) trustees visited the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve near Pawhuska to tour the area and discuss conservation issues affecting Oklahoma. TNC's Oklahoma chapter is currently building its endowment with a matching gift from our sister philanthropy, Kirkpatrick Family Fund. From left: Louisa McCune, George Records, John T. Nickel, Harvey Payne, Mike Fuhr, Christian Keese, and Frederick Drummond.

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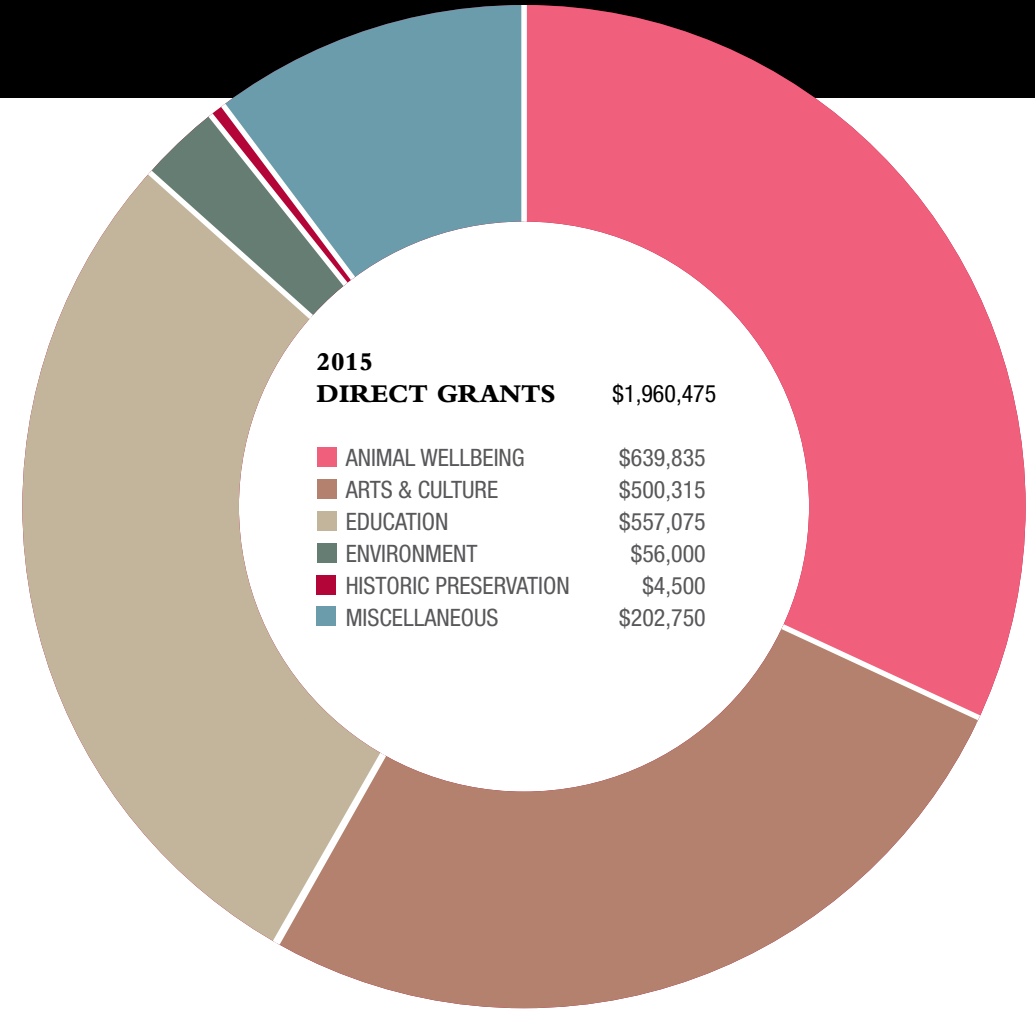
YEARS OF GIVING

1955~2015

\$67,983,449
granted since inception

900
approximate number of nonprofits funded

In 1957, in the amount of \$250,000, Kirkpatrick Foundation made its first significant grant to the Oklahoma Art Center to build a museum on the state fairgrounds. Since that time, all of the major non-profit organizations in Central Oklahoma have been recipients of our grant dollars.





OUR STAFF

TOP ROW

MANDA OVERTURF SHANK

PROGRAM ASSOCIATE

BRIAN TED JONES

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

ALANA SALISBURY

MANAGING EDITOR, ARTDESK

TIFFANY KENDRICK

FINANCIAL MANAGER

SEATED FROM LEFT

KELLY ROGERS

ASSISTANT EDITOR, ARTDESK

LOUISA McCUNE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

PAULETTE BLACK

SENIOR PROGRAM OFFICER

KATHY MCCORD

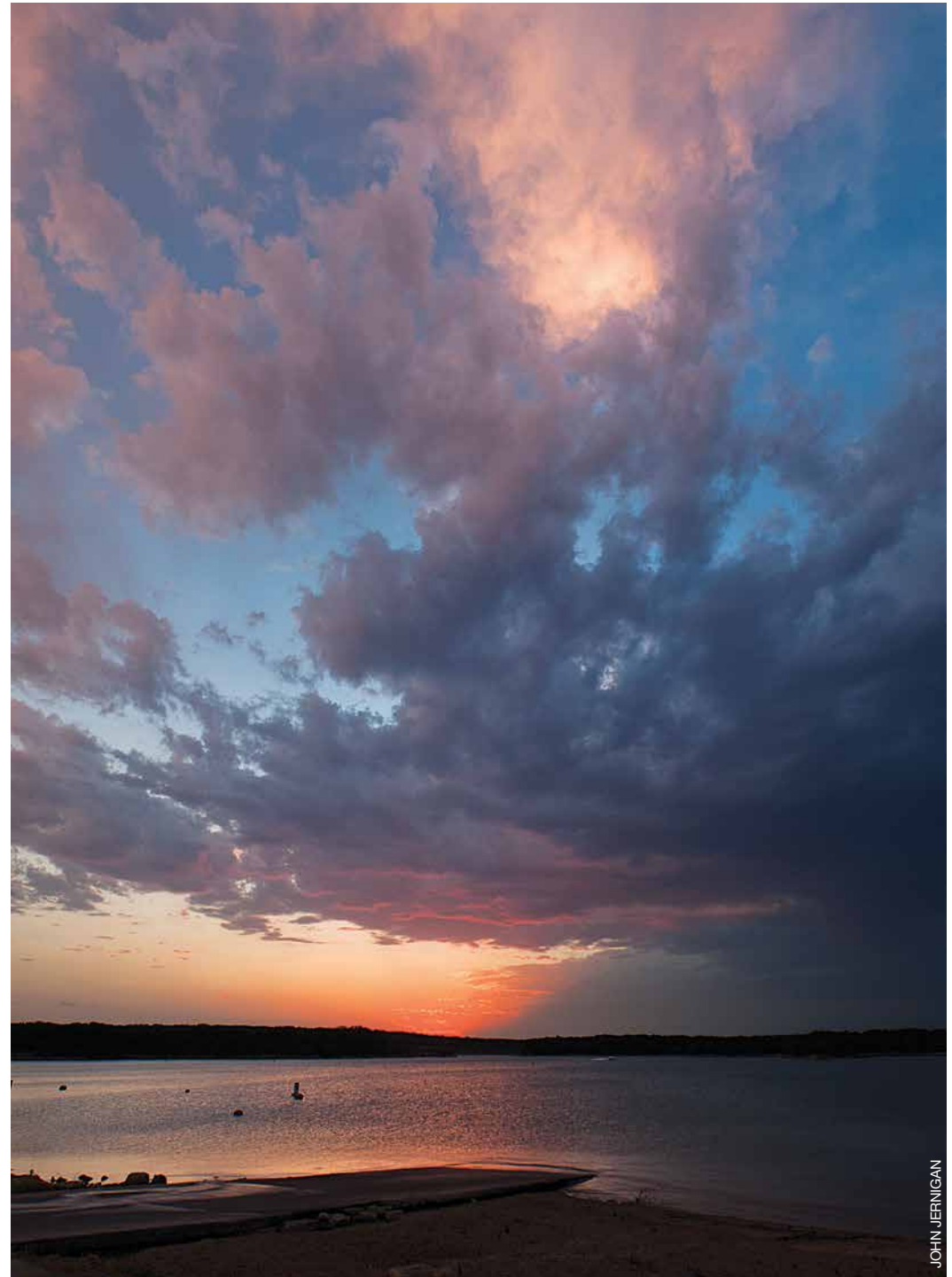
OFFICE MANAGER

SHARLEE ROTHER PHOTOGRAPHY



Founders John & Eleanor Kirkpatrick

MISSION STATEMENT WE SUPPORT ARTS, CULTURE, EDUCATION,
ANIMAL WELLBEING, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND
HISTORIC PRESERVATION, PRIMARILY IN CENTRAL OKLAHOMA.



JOHN JERNIGAN



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