

November 2016

# RAISING THE BAR

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER  
**PETER KIEWIT**  
FOUNDATION



## MISSION

*To create opportunities for people to live in and help build strong, vibrant communities, achieve economic success, and enjoy a high quality of life.*

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## World Class Cities, World Class Transit: Lessons from Salt Lake City



*Executive Director,  
Jeff Kutash*



Last month I joined 24 other members of the greater Omaha metro community on

a "field trip" to Salt Lake City organized by the Omaha-Council Bluffs Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA). Among other things, MAPA is responsible for developing a regional transportation strategy for our area, and they thought there was a lot we could learn about transportation, mass transit, and economic development from Salt Lake City.

So we, along with the Iowa West Foundation, sponsored a trip. Our group, pictured above, included area mayors and representatives from planning and public works departments, the development community, engineering/architecture firms, philanthropy, local chambers of commerce, and our transit agencies. And what I learned was absolutely incredible...

Click [here](#) to find out more.



Boys and Girls Clubs of the Midlands is one of the 28 organizations to be approved for a grant during our September board meeting. Pictured above, participants of Boys and Girls Clubs of the Midlands enjoy their annual "Day for Kids" event.

## Grants Awarded: Third Quarter 2016

Peter Kiewit Foundation approved 28 grants for a total of nearly \$5M at our September 2016 board meeting. For a complete list of the grants awarded and the projects we are supporting please follow the link below.

[Approved Grants](#)

## GRANTEE SPOTLIGHTS

### YOUTH PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS



## College Preparedness Program Sees Increase in ACT Participation and College Applications

*In May 2016, Peter Kiewit Foundation provided a \$200,000 grant to College Possible to assist with general operations.*

College Possible makes college graduation possible for capable, low-income students through an intensive curriculum of coaching and support. While College Possible operates nationally in six cities across the country, in Omaha College Possible currently serves in ten partner high schools in six districts in the Omaha metro area.

College Possible helps promising young people

The program is designed to find students who are good candidates for earning a college degree, but whom might not

from low-income families attend college. The vast majority stay in college and earn their degrees. Pictured here, Andrea Fresen and Sofia Riing, coach and participant of College Possible Omaha.

College Possible made recent headlines for their service to the Omaha community. Hundreds of teens from 10 area schools volunteered at the Open Door Mission in October to sort, bag, and learn about the importance of giving back. Click here for more.

achieve that goal without additional support. Through near-peercoaching by recent college graduates, they provide students with informationand support as they began their journey to a four year college degree. Theprogram closes the educational attainment gap by raising awareness of collegeopportunities, providing intensive college access support for low-income students during their junior and senior years of high school and continuingcollege success support for students throughout college until they earn theirdegree.

Click [here](#) to learn more.

## ECONOMIC GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY

# Reaching Communities Across the State with Online Training

*In October 2015, Peter Kiewit Foundation provided a \$25,000 grant to the Center for Rural Affairs to assist with general operations.*



The Rural Enterprise Assistance Program (REAP) - a project of the Center for Rural Affairs - incorporates a model of small business loans coupled with direct one-on-one training, mentoring, and technical assistance to entrepreneurs all across rural Nebraska. REAP has contributed to higher success rates for under-served populations to become self-employed, build assets, and achieve greater economic success.

The REAP Women's Business Center (WBC) continues to offer training courses on online market strategies for small businesses in communities across Nebraska. This opportunity discusses building online relationships, using websites, email marketing, and social media venues for small businesses. The next training for online marketing strategies will be in Hartington, Nebraska on December 1st. Click [here](#) for additional training sessions.

In just three quarters of the 2016 REAP Fiscal year, the REAP WBC provided training to 1,187 participants (of which 67% were women) for more than 425 hours of training. An additional 2,592 hours of business counseling was provided to both new and previous clients. 46% of businesses counseled were service businesses, 22% were retail, 18% were accommodation/food service, 7% were construction and 4% were manufacturing. 45% were female-owned, 42% male-owned and 13% were jointly owned.

Access to capital in loans provided by REAP was projected at \$500,000 for the year. Loans have totaled \$1,280,650 through three quarters. 82 jobs were created through 224 business startups assisted by REAP.

Click [here](#) for more information on REAP.

## STRONG AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

# Utilizing Music to Bring

# Urban and Rural Communities Together



A crowd in Grand Island revels in the 2015 Good Living Tour, produced by Hear Nebraska. Photo by Will Stott

In November 2016, Peter Kiewit Foundation provided a \$10,000 grant to Hear Nebraska for program support and development.

Just a few months prior [Hear Nebraska](#) produced 12 all-ages concerts in 12 greater Nebraska communities as a part of its [Good Living Tour](#), featuring more than 30 artists throughout three weekend. Along the way, the team journalists produced 20 written stories featuring music-related topics in each town. With 12 live acoustic performance videos with local artists and nine Experience Nebraska [videos](#) asking residents what makes their town and exciting place to live, work and play.

Hear Nebraska works to connect the state's urban and rural communities through original, Nebraska music. Through the Good Living Tour Hear Nebraska aims to:

- Celebrate Greater Nebraska's unique livelihood
- Spur and promote the state's contemporary music culture and industry; and
- Inspire and encourage a young audience to invest in their communities.



More than 300 Sidney residents gather at Hickory Street Square for the Good Living Tour. Photo by Andrew Dickinson

## GET TO KNOW OUR TEAM

Paul Ternes is a Program Officer at Peter Kiewit Foundation, working in our Strong and Vibrant Communities Impact Area and spearheading the Foundation's work around arts and culture, including the [ArtStock Initiative](#). When he's not traveling across the state to learn more about our grantees and the communities they serve, he enjoys cheering on the Huskers with his family. Be sure to follow the link below to learn more about Paul.



Program Officer,  
Paul Ternes

[Get to Know Paul](#)



## UPCOMING GRANT DEADLINES:

If you are interested in applying for a grant and would like more about our application process please click [here](#).

January  
15<sup>TH</sup>

Deadline for  
Grant Applications

March  
31<sup>ST</sup>

Notification to  
Grant Applicants

ARTSTOCK DATES TO

December

1<sup>ST</sup>

ArtStock Application  
Available

January

15<sup>TH</sup>

Deadline for ArtStock  
Applications

## REMEMBER:

The ArtStock Initiative Provides capacity building grants to arts and culture nonprofits in the Omaha area to build organizational capacity, strengthen financial sustainability and improve operations. Please contact [Paul Ternes](#) for additional information.

## JOIN OUR TEAM

We are currently searching for the newest members of our Peter Kiewit Foundation team. Openings for [Office Administrator](#) and [Grants Manager](#) are now available. If you are interested and qualified, please follow the links on the title of each position or call the Peter Kiewit Foundation office at 402-344-7890.

The logo for the Peter Kiewit Foundation, featuring a horizontal line above the text "PETER KIEWIT" in a dark teal serif font, with "FOUNDATION" in a smaller, gold sans-serif font below it.

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