



The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Receives \$1 Million Grant From Newman's Own Foundation in Honor of A. E. Hotchner

Grant to endow the Center's "Any Given Child" program which creates long-range arts education plans for students grades K-8

(WASHINGTON, D.C.)—The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, today announced a \$1 million gift from Newman's Own Foundation in honor of A. E. Hotchner and his many contributions to the success of Newman's Own. The grant will establish an endowment to help underserved communities participate in the Center's Ensuring the Arts for Any Given Child program. The program works with cities and school systems to create continuous, equitable, and long-range arts education plans for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. It is currently working in 14 metropolitan areas with more to be announced this year. Mr. Hotchner will be honored by Newman's Own Foundation at a lunch in Southport, Connecticut on February 4.

"We are very grateful to Newman's Own Foundation for this generous gift," stated Kennedy Center President Michael M. Kaiser. "This endowment grant will provide support in perpetuity to help ensure a strong core of arts education for students across the country."

"We are pleased to support the Kennedy Center as a lasting tribute to A. E. Hotchner," stated Robert Forrester, president and CEO of Newman's Own Foundation. "Hotch has been a strong supporter for the arts and we are happy this gift will help sustain arts education for years to come."

The Ensuring the Arts for Any Given Child program works to incorporate existing resources of a school system with those of local arts organizations and the Kennedy Center to create an arts education plan. By working with local arts organizations and using existing resources, the program aims to minimize administrative overhead, thus remaining affordable. The first phase of the program is a comprehensive audit of existing arts education resources and needs assessment by the community with guidance from Kennedy Center staff and consultants. A review of the community and the school system will reveal what

arts education resources currently exist, and where gaps exist in providing arts education for students. Based on this information, a long-range plan is created to bring equitable access to arts education for all K-8 students.

During phase two of the program, a committee of representatives from the schools, community, and local arts groups implement the long range plan, focusing on ensuring that all students K-8 have arts opportunities. In addition, educators and artists can take advantage of a wealth of resources available from the Kennedy Center, such as supplemental lessons with online interactive learning modules and videos available at www.artsedge.org, and professional development for teachers and teaching artists. The goal of this second phase is to provide a tapestry of arts education, strategically weaving together existing arts resources within the schools with those available from community providers and the Kennedy Center in order to reach every child.

The Kennedy Center announced Sacramento, California as the first formal Any Given Child city in 2009 with Mayor Kevin Johnson. Thirteen additional metropolitan areas have joined the program: Austin, Texas; Baltimore, Maryland; Fresno, California; Iowa City, Iowa; Jacksonville, Florida; Juneau, Alaska; Madison, Wisconsin; Missoula, Montana; Portland, Oregon; Sarasota, Florida; Southern Nevada, including Las Vegas; Springfield, Missouri; and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Since the program's inception, Any Given Child sites have reported numerous successes: some school districts have hired additional teachers or added staff positions; new sources of funding for arts education have been established; communities have expanded arts offerings for students; and sites have provided professional learning for classroom teachers, arts specialists, and other staff to build their quality of work. Every community developed a new long-range plan for arts education that was tailor-made to its school district.

The Kennedy Center will host an annual Any Given Child exchange on February 11-12 in Arlington, Virginia. At this summit, participants and organizers from the program's 14 cities will discuss ideas about how to build capacity in local arts agencies to deliver programs, increase the quality of arts programs for students and teachers, and how to build infrastructure for plan implementation and sustainability. Participants will also share accomplishments in the hope they may be adapted in other cities.

Newman's Own Foundation was founded in 2005 by Paul Newman to sustain the legacy of his philanthropic work. Funded entirely through the profits and royalties from the sale of Newman's Own

products, the Foundation has donated more than \$400 million to thousands of nonprofit organizations helping people in need around the world.

ABOUT A.E. HOTCHNER

Novelist, playwright, and biographer A. E. Hotchner was born in St. Louis, Missouri and has led a long and successful writing career. As a freelance writer in New York City, he wrote more than 300 articles and short stories for such publications as *Esquire*, *Saturday Evening Post*, *The New York Times*, and *Reader's Digest*. He wrote many distinguished teleplays in the 1950s and '60s, including prize-winning adaptations of Ernest Hemingway's *The Snows of Kilimanjaro*, *The Killers*, and *The Fifth Column*. *Papa Hemingway*, his novel about his long friendship with the novelist became a highly acclaimed bestseller that was published in 34 countries and 28 different languages. Other writing credits of note include bestselling biographies of Doris Day (1975) and Sophia Loren (1979), a historical novel, *Louisiana Purchase* (1996), *After the Storm* (2001), *The Day I Fired Alan Ladd* (2002), and *Blown Away: The Rolling Stones and the Death of the Sixties* (1990). Two of Hotchner's novels, *The Man Who Lived at the Ritz* and *Looking for Miracles*, appeared on television. His memoir of his St. Louis boyhood, *King of the Hill* (1993), was made into a film directed by Steven Soderbergh. His play, *The White House*, starred Helen Hayes on Broadway and in 1996 was performed at the White House for President and Mrs. Clinton. In 1993, *Welcome to the Club*, a musical comedy written with composer Cy Coleman, also made its way to Broadway. Other theatrical works include *A Short Happy Life*, *The Hemingway Hero*, *Sweet Prince*, *Exactly Like You* (written with Coleman), and *The World of Nick Adams*. In addition to a long, successful writing career, Hotchner is well-known for helping his long-time friend Paul Newman start the food company, Newman's Own. Mr. Hotchner is also co-founder of The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp in Ashford, CT, which offers children with serious illnesses an opportunity to simply be kids.

**For more information about Any Given Child,
please visit www.kennedy-center.org/education/anygivenchild**

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