



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Monday, July 12, 2010

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Lindy Eichenbaum Lent, Executive Director  
303-861-4633

**CIVIC CENTER CONSERVANCY ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

**Denver, CO** – Fresh from the success of its inaugural Civic Center SOUNDS Independence Eve Celebration, the Civic Center Conservancy - a nonprofit organization committed to helping the City and County of Denver restore, enhance and activate its historic Civic Center park – announces the addition of seven new board members: **John Ackerman, Joan M. Fritsche, Bruce Heitler, June Johnson, Matt Neren, Vicki Sterling and Marvin Wilkinson.**

The Conservancy's efforts focus around the following four areas: events and programming to activate Civic Center park; public awareness and engagement; advocacy for park needs and design/infrastructure enhancements; and fundraising for capital improvements, activities and initiatives that support the park.

The seven new board members will join existing board members: **Chris Frampton, East-West Partners** (chair), **Elaine Asarch, Asarch Center DermaSpa** (past chair); **Dennis Humphries, Humphries Poli Architects** (vice-chair); **Susan Kirk** (vice-chair); **Ferd Belz, ReGen LLC** (treasurer); **Marcus Pachner, The Pachner Company** (secretary); and **Howard Boigon, Hogan Lovells LLP; Sunny Brownstein; Ruth Falkenberg, 620 Corp., Inc.; Cynthia Treadwell, Treadwell Law; Rich von Lührte, RNL Design;** and ex officio board members **Councilwoman Jeanne Robb** and **Denver Parks and Recreation Manager Kevin Patterson.**

**John Ackerman: Managing Director of Asset Development, Denver International Airport**

As managing director of Denver International Airport's Asset Development division, John Ackerman is responsible for creating the overall development strategy for North America's largest airport. With a BA in Economics from Duke University, Ackerman began his career as a Marine Corps officer and aviator and eventually became a pilot with United Airlines. Ackerman later held management positions with United Airlines and served as senior director of product management at Standard and Poor's. He currently serves as president of the Lowry Community Master Association.

**Joan M. Fritsche: Partner, Foster Graham Milstein & Calisher, LLP**

Joan Fritsche is a partner at Denver-based law firm Foster Graham Milstein & Calisher, LLP where she practices in the areas of special district law, election law, land use development and local government law. A graduate of Marquette University and the University of Denver College of Law, she is a member of the Denver and Colorado Bar Associations and also licensed

to practice law in Arizona. Prior to attending law school, Fritsche's first career was in hotel management – both in Chicago and Aspen. She is currently a coordinator with Colorado Heritage Camps, Inc., involved with Stapleton United Neighbors and a volunteer at the Odyssey School.

**Bruce Heitler: President, Heitler Development, Inc. and Mosaic Property Management**

A full member of the Urban Land Institute, Bruce Heitler specializes in the development and management of commercial properties in Denver as president of both Heitler Development, Inc. and Mosaic Property Management. With undergraduate and law degrees from Yale University and a Master of City Planning degree from the University of California at Berkeley, he previously worked as an attorney at the Denver-based law firm Holme Roberts and Owen. Active in the community, Heitler served as a past chairman of the Lowry Redevelopment Authority and trustee/corporate treasurer for the Eleanor Roosevelt Institute for Cancer Research. He currently serves on the Colorado Yale Association Board and the board of University of Denver's Social Sciences Foundation. He was a founder of Congregation Kohelet, where he continues to teach classes.

**June Johnson: Office/Business Manager, Western OB/GYN Associates**

June Johnson has been active in the Metro Denver community since 1979, when she and her husband moved to Colorado to begin his medical career. In addition to serving as Western OB/GYN Associate's office/business manager for over 30 years, she has worked for United Airlines, taught elementary school in St. Louis and worked as an actress on Room 222. A graduate of Harris Stowe College, Johnson was crowned the first Miss Black Teenage America in 1971. She is a past president of Denver's Jack and Jill of America Chapter and was the founder of the Denver Chapter's Jack & Jill Beautillion and a member of the Links, Inc, Denver Chapter. A deaconess at New Hope Baptist Church, Johnson is also a life member of the Urban League, a past member of the Junior League of Denver, and a former docent in the Denver Art Museum's African Art Collection.

**Matt Neren: Principal, Cultivator Advertising & Design, Inc.**

Matt Neren is one of the founders of Cultivator Advertising & Design, a nationally recognized creative agency based in Denver. The firm's clients include Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, Keystone Resort, RockResorts, United Airlines, Kettle Brand Potato Chips, New Belgium Brewing Company, Breckenridge Brewery, ink! Coffee, East West Partners, The Professional Ski Instructors of America and others. Prior to Cultivator, Neren worked at Barnhart | CMI Advertising as an account manager and American Management Systems as a business analyst. He has a B.S. from Cornell University.

**Vicki Sterling: Assistant Director, Denver Art Museum**

From 1995 through 2009, Vicki Sterling played a significant role in Denver Art Museum management, community outreach, and the planning and implementation of the Museum's recent expansion. Her current focus at the Denver Art Museum involves government relations and public affairs. Sterling was the first executive director of Colorado Business Committee for the Arts from 1985 through 1994, receiving a 1994 Mayor's Award for Excellence in the Arts for her work. A fixture in the Denver cultural community for over 30 years, she has served on numerous boards including the Cherry Creek Arts Festival, the support group for the Denver

School of the Arts, the Denver County Cultural Committee, and Visit Denver – and presently serves on the boards of the Anti-Defamation League and RedLine. Sterling has a B.A. from Harvard University.

**Marvin Wilkinson: Co-owner, John Brooks Incorporated**

Marvin Wilkinson co-owns John Brooks Incorporated, a nationally known showroom exclusive to the trade of designers and architects and an acclaimed source for interiors and design representing leading artisans of furniture, fabric and lighting. The company was established in Denver in 1993 and expanded into the Scottsdale/Phoenix market in 1999. Their two showrooms are located in Denver and Scottsdale. A graduate of Wayne State University, Wilkinson is a neighbor of Civic Center Park.

###

*About the Civic Center Conservancy*

*Formed in 2004, the Civic Center Conservancy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping the City and County of Denver restore, revitalize and enhance downtown Denver's historic Civic Center Park. The Conservancy's efforts focus around the following four areas: events and programming to activate Civic Center Park such as the 2010 inaugural Civic Center SOUNDS Independence Eve Celebration and annual Civic Center EATS Outdoor Café; public awareness and engagement; advocacy for park needs and design/infrastructure enhancements; and fundraising for capital improvements, activities and initiatives that support the park.*