



## **National Philanthropy Day®**

### **OUTSTANDING AWARD HONOREES FOR 2017**

#### **Silicon Valley Community Foundation Outstanding Philanthropists**

**Maria and Wim Roelandts** – nominated by **San Jose State University**

**Maria and Wim Roelandts** bring creativity and generosity to a wide range of local, regional and national causes, from education and healthcare to American competitiveness. They share their wealth, connections and insights in a manner that demonstrates a Silicon Valley spirit that balances innovation with compassion. In 1999, Wim, as Chairman and CEO of **Xilinx**, provided a \$300,000 leadership gift to launch a \$2.6 million Electrical Engineering Faculty Development Fund at **San Jose State University**. He also led the fundraising for over \$1 million for the *Engineering Pathways to Success* program that provides engineering curriculum training to high school and middle school teachers throughout California. Both Maria and Wim have been actively engaged in the **El Camino Hospital (ECH) Foundation**, helping to improve **ECH's** Emergency Room response time (“From door to doctor in 15 minutes”) and with the **Health Trust**, starting the first **Children's Dental Center** in San Jose. They actively support community organizations such as: the **Children's Fund**, **Santa Clara University**, **Teen Success**, the **American Heart Association**, the **St. Francis Center** and the **Parkinson's Institute** (Sunnyvale).

#### **Intero Real Estate Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser**

**William (Bill) B. Baron** – nominated by **Brandenburg Family Foundation**

As a fourth generation San Josean, **Bill Baron** began his community-minded ways a long time ago. His leadership and creative thinking propelled the **American Heart Association's** annual *Monopoly Night* to great success in the 1990s, raising nearly \$900,000 during the five years of his chairmanship. Bill later joined the board of the **Stroke Awareness Foundation (SAF)** and created a signature event. Their *Texas-Hold'em Poker Tournament* pulled in \$700,000 over four years. The *Sinatra Sings Sinatra Night*, a black-tie event honoring Frank Sinatra, Jr., raised \$323,000 in 2010, and the *Sinatra Centennial* in 2015 raised \$373,000. In 2012, he rallied the board of SAF for its inaugural *Fight Stroke Walk* raising nearly \$500,000 through 2016. And, in under nine weeks in late 2016, he created *Quinn's Brigade* to support



**Youth on Course** which helps youth get into the game. In 2017, at the *AT&T Pebble Beach Pro Am*, they raised \$265,000 in honor of Patrick Quinn, his lifelong friend and president of the Northern California Golf Association. In virtually every instance of fundraising, Bill exceeds his initial optimistic goals as he often finds himself saying, “It’s time to move to our stretch goal!” As an active trustee of the **Brandenburg Family Foundation**, Bill identifies worthy causes and provides guidance in vetting and alignment to meet the Foundation’s goals. Bill epitomizes the Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser with motivating engagement, creative vision and incredible integrity.

### **Outstanding Professional Fundraiser**

**Tami Cárdenas** – nominated by **Kathy Kwan, Erin O’Toole and Chelsey Souza, CFRE**

As a professional fundraiser, **Tami Cardenas**’s passion for the mission of **Second Harvest Food Bank** translated into the resources needed to dream big — to envision a hunger-free community. During her eleven year tenure, Tami led a development team that increased donations from \$19 million annually to \$35 million. That’s an 88% growth increase and \$159 million raised in seven years. Tami leveraged her leadership position to make big things happen. She was the architect of a new strategy that helped smaller non-profit partners increase their fundraising capacity. Tami established a team culture of excellence. She led by example and actively invested in each team member by providing mentoring and training. Tami is a data-driven decision-maker who focuses on high-yield strategies and invests in partnerships with the potential to transform. Her ability to connect donors to **Second Harvest**’s mission and match them to the organization’s needs led to many happy donors whose charitable giving was deeply rewarding. From a donor’s perspective, Tami was a terrific partner — responsive, transparent, innovative and knowledgeable.

### **Outstanding Corporate Grant Maker with More Than 300 Employees**

**Blue Shield of California** – nominated by **Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence**

**Blue Shield of California Foundation** is a champion for survivors of domestic violence and the organizations that support them. They focus on improving the lives of those who struggle most by funding innovative programs and uplifting the leaders on the frontlines of health care and domestic violence prevention. In 2016, the Foundation awarded \$29.6 million in grants, including 87 to Bay Area organizations. For more than a decade, the Foundation has invested in **Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence (NDS)**. With this support, **NDS** was able to establish a partnership with **MayView Community Health Center** and developed a toolkit for other agencies interested in cross-sector partnerships with the health care system. The Foundation commissioned the first-ever examination of the role of philanthropy



to address domestic violence. The report highlighted opportunities for foundations to get involved by revealing significant funding gaps and connections to other issues and sectors. The Foundation works to insure that services are responsive to the needs of different cultures and communities and remains a pioneer in the ongoing effort to end domestic violence.

**Outstanding Corporate Grant Maker with Fewer Than 300 Employees**

**Intero Foundation** – nominated by **Silicon Valley Community Foundation**

**Intero Real Estate Services** and its **Foundation** prioritize giving to grassroots nonprofits in need of a financial boost, thus making a greater positive impact on children and the elderly living in Bay Area communities. The **Grateful Garment Project**, **Pacific Autism Center for Education**, **JW House** and **Cancer CAREpoint** are some great examples. A board of directors led by **Intero Real Estate Service's** top executives provides strategic guidance, but it is Intero's agent and employee volunteers that have raised and donated over \$4 million to more than 200 local nonprofits since 2002. Grants support the well-being of children by enhancing their education, personal development and living conditions. Intero encourages each office to develop strong bonds with every nonprofit by providing support beyond just a cash grant. Agents and employees volunteer to create and promote fundraising events, volunteer at local charitable organizations and solicit gifts of cash, clothing and supplies during office meetings to further the Foundation's mission. Intero Foundation is deeply community-minded and, therefore, deserving of this honor.

**Outstanding Foundation Grant Maker**

**Silicon Valley Leadership Group Foundation** – nominated by **The Health Trust**

Health. Hope. Homes. The **Silicon Valley Leadership Group Foundation (SVLGF)** understands the impact these unmet needs have on families in our community. Since 2004, thousands of runners come out every year for **Silicon Valley's Turkey Trot**. It's more than just a race—organized by **SVLGF** Executive Director Carl Guardino and his team—it's an event designed to open the eyes and hearts of corporate leaders and the broader community to the needs of Silicon Valley. Last year's event raised over \$930,000 for local charities that provide health, hope and housing to families in need. **The Health Trust**, one of the beneficiaries of the race, is able to offer chronic disease self-management workshops to over 600 participants annually, at no cost to low-income individuals. **SVLGF** creates a win-win-win. Through mass marketing and outreach promoting the **Turkey Trot**, corporations **win** by becoming more connected to the needs of the communities where they do business; nonprofits **win** by strengthening connections with the



business community and receiving race proceeds; and needy families **win** through access to health, hope and homes.

### **Outstanding Philanthropic Organization**

#### **Lantern League – nominated by Girl Scouts of Northern California**

Education is an opportunity. For young women education can be a lifeline, giving them a voice and empowering them to take charge of their future. As a women’s giving circle, **Lantern League** is a community of dedicated women who pool their donations and award grants. Founded in 2006, by two women at **Presentation High School (PHS)**, the circle has created educational opportunities for thousands of women and girls who have experienced poverty, domestic violence, human trafficking and lack of basic language skills. In 2017, **Lantern League** awarded \$98,600: \$48,050 in community grants and \$50,550 to **PHS** for academic scholarships and student involvement fees. One of their beneficiaries, the **Daughters of Farm Workers**, empowers 160 young Latinas a year in marginalized farm, nursery and agricultural worker communities in San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties. Funding gives girls opportunities to experience art, science and recreation, and to meet professional women who can serve as inspiring role models. Over 11 years, **Lantern League** has awarded over \$1.2 million for women and girls in Santa Clara and San Mateo Counties and for **PHS**.

### **Outstanding Philanthropic Youth Organization**

#### **Presentation High School – nominated by Sacred Heart Community Service**

Since 1992, students at **Presentation High School (PHS)** have provided **Sacred Heart Community Service (SHCS)** with philanthropic support totaling more than \$770,000. The money is raised through many successful events including a **Penny Drive** that raises \$16,000. But, it’s not pennies alone that add to the richness of **Presentation**’s support. **SHCS** has partnered for many years to develop and incorporate meaningful educational opportunities that help **PHS** students understand the complexities of poverty and homelessness in Silicon Valley. They learn first-hand—from statistics, real-life stories, simulations and immersions—what life in poverty looks like. As a result, students are invested in making an impact. Last year students collected 16,885 cans of food; 832 coats; 20,000 diapers; 154 bicycles; and 1,000 turkeys. Throughout November and December, **PHS** students pitch in countless hours to sort, package and give food and toys to families in need. This remarkable philanthropic partnership is cultivating the next generation of givers committed to a more just and equitable community for everyone.



### Glenn George Heart of Philanthropy Award

**Mike Blach** – nominated by **Association of Fundraising Professionals Silicon Valley Chapter** Board of Directors

**Mike Blach** epitomizes the "Heart of Philanthropy" that Glenn George exemplified. Mike's fundraising leadership, personal generosity, active engagement and long-term involvement across our valley with many community organizations demonstrates his commitment to philanthropy. Mike grew up in San Jose and learned about helping those less fortunate from his parents. His education at **Bellarmino College Preparatory** and **Santa Clara University** reinforced the value of being a "person for others." He is committed to "doing good" the right way. No matter how busy he is, Mike makes time to serve a number of nonprofits, often in leadership positions. Mike served as **Rotary San Jose**'s President in 2012-2013, agreeing to co-chair the *Centennial Campaign* (with Bert George, no less!). He quickly brought structure to the fundraising efforts by organizing regular meetings for the fundraising team, pledging a lead gift and personally contacting other potential major donors. Through a great team effort, the **Rotary** met the unprecedented \$6 million goal that was needed to build a playground that serves special needs children and their families.

