

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact

Cheryl Fox

Executive Director

435-649-0220

cheryl@wesaveland.org



PARK CITY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION TAKES HOME "CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR" AWARD

Summit Land Conservancy's 'Conservationist of the Year' Award recognizes those who are dedicated to local land conservation



Kristi Cumming and Katie Wright accept the award at the Round Valley Open Space protected by Summit Land Conservancy in 2005

(PARK CITY, Utah) April 22, 2021 – This Earth Day, the Summit Land Conservancy celebrated their last *Virtual* Conservation Breakfast fundraiser, among supporters and open space enthusiasts, online. Every year, as part of their event program, the Conservancy announces the "Conservationist of the Year" Award, recognizing those who have truly inspired local land conservation in the community. Past recipients include Bea Peck, Tenneson Klein, Park City Day School 8th Grade, Mike Phillips, and Peter Metcalf. This year, the renowned nonprofit, Park City Community Foundation, took home the award surrounded by the sagebrush, scenic views, and trails of Round Valley.

“The Park City Community Foundation, and its leadership, Katie Wright and Kristi Cumming, demonstrated a level of selfless leadership that shone like a beacon over the last year. As our entire community reeled in the wake of the pandemic shut downs one year ago, the Community Foundation stepped in, with everything they had,” stated Executive Director of the Summit Land Conservancy, Cheryl Fox. “This commitment to our community, to our neighbors, inspired us at the Summit Land Conservancy. By setting an example, the Park City Community Foundation showed us how to step up to help our neighbors and save land at the same time.”

The Park City Community Foundation has supported land conservation directly through community grants, and indirectly through their donor advised funds. Over the years, the nonprofit has demonstrated concerns about climate change with Save Our Snow in 2008, and more recently in 2019, helped catalyze MT2030 and the Climate Action Fund.

“We feel so privileged to live in this beautiful place, and this partnership that we have (with Summit Land Conservancy) means the world to us,” said Board Chair of the Community Foundation, Kristi Cumming.

Every November, the Park City Community Foundation brings together nonprofits and philanthropists for their 24-hour day of giving, Live PC Give PC. Since 2011, Live PC Give PC has raised over \$640,000 for local land conservation and introduced over 1,200 new donors to the Summit Land Conservancy alone. In addition, the Park City Community Foundation provides various resources including round table discussions and seminars to help the Conservancy and other nonprofits grow more effectively and professionally.

“We are so honored to receive the Conservationist of the Year Award. Our mission is to support the people, place and culture of Park City and this means a lot to us,” stated former Executive Director of the Park City Community Foundation, Katie Wright.

###

About Summit Land Conservancy

Founded in Park City in 1998 as a project of Leadership Park City, the Summit Land Conservancy works with communities of the Wasatch Back to protect and preserve land and water for the benefit of people and nature.

In 2011, the Conservancy became the first land trust in the state of Utah to be nationally accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. It currently holds 42 permanent conservation easements on over 6,800 acres of open space, much of it with public access in and around Park City. It protects swathes of Round Valley, Quarry Mountain, Empire Canyon, and the McPolin Farmlands, as well as farms and ranches along the Weber and Provo Rivers. It is currently working to preserve an additional 5,000+ acres across the Wasatch Back.

The Conservancy's goal when it started in 1998 was to raise money locally to save land locally, and that hasn't changed. But it has expanded its efforts throughout the years to tap additional funding resources. Since 2011, the Conservancy has brought in over \$31 million federal dollars for local land conservation.

As a regional land trust, the Conservancy understands that open space is the heart of our rural and recreational communities. Area residents' sense of place is clearly defined by the shared landscapes that anchor them here. The mountains, trails, farms, and rivers connect people to each other and to the natural world. The Summit Land Conservancy cares for these lands forever, nurturing a healthy community that is founded on its strong connection to the places it has protected together.

More information is available on the Conservancy's website (wesaveland.org) and on Facebook (facebook.com/WeSaveLand), Instagram (instagram.com/wesaveland) and Twitter @Summit_Land (twitter.com/summit_land).

About Park City Community Foundation

Park City Community Foundation plays a vital role in solving the most challenging problems in Park City. We care for and invest in our people, place, and culture by bringing together local nonprofits, donors, and community leaders to contribute financial resources and innovative ideas to benefit all the people of Park City—now and in the future. As the home of Live PC Give PC, Women's Giving Fund, Solomon Fund, and other important initiatives, the Community Foundation has brought millions of dollars to the greater Park City community and Summit County. Learn more about donating, volunteering, fundraising, and getting involved in the generosity of Park City at parkcitycf.org.