The small-but-mighty staff of the SCFD serve a critical role in ensuring that the voter-designed district provides funding for more than 300 arts and culture organizations across the seven-county metro area. In 2021, that meant providing more than $75 million in general operating support to a broad array of organizations, all of them struggling to recover from pandemic shutdowns and other challenges created by the global health emergency. Their sole focus and
dedication is supporting the wonder you need and the organizations you love. Here’s a quick peek at who they are.

DEBORAH JORDY, executive director  
Hometown: Denver  
Favorite creative outlet: Designing and making jewelry, especially when I’m creating something as a gift for family, friends or colleagues  
Cultural org you can’t live without: Denver Art Museum  
Favorite Book: One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel Marquez  
Talent you covet: I would love to be a fabulous singer and move between jazz, opera, pop and blues  
The best music genre: All jazz-mainstream, Latin and Avant-garde

JESSICA KATO, deputy director  
Hometown: Steamboat Springs  
Favorite creative outlet: Singing or writing poetry  
Cultural org you can’t live without: Any of our wonderful Theatre Companies (Performance Now, Su Teatro, Vintage Theater, Miners Alley Playhouse, DCPA, Townhall Arts Center, etc.)  
Favorite Book: Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury  
Talent you covet: Baking (I can cook. I am horrible at baking.)  
The best music genre: Original Broadway Cast Recordings

DANA MANYOTHANE, program officer  
Hometown: Denver  
Favorite creative outlet: I like to paint pots with my daughter, whose talent has surpassed mine  
Cultural org you can’t live without: Any outdoor festival or fair where there are the three Ts: Tents, T-shirts, and Turkey legs  
Favorite Book: Born a Crime by Trevor Noah or Soul City by Touré  
Talent you covet: Singing like Mariah Carey  
The best music genre: R&B

KENDAL ZIMMERMANN, program officer  
Hometown: Racine, Wisconsin  
Favorite creative outlet: Figure drawing  
Cultural org you can’t live without: Any science organization, but to be honest, probably all of them as they feed a different part of my soul  
Favorite Book: Any of the Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling or The Soul of an Octopus by Sy Montgomery  
Talent you covet: Singing or playing the accordion, mandolin, or any other instrument  
The best music genre: This is difficult to choose. I play music based on my mood or activity, so everything from the Rat Pack to Indie Rock to Bluegrass to Latin.

TIM MURPHY, program officer  
Hometown: Gordonsville, Virginia  
Favorite creative outlet: Cooking  
Cultural org you can’t live without: Denver Center for the Performing Arts  
Favorite Book: I’m not a big reader. I’d rather see the movie!  
Talent you covet: Singing  
The best music genre: All of them? I like pop, dance, Broadway, Latin pop, Motown, folk, jazz, singers & standards, classical, country, etc.

ARLENE HICKS, administrative assistant  
Hometown: West Bloomfield, Michigan  
Favorite creative outlet: Journaling. My life is documented in 30 books… so far.  
Cultural org you can’t live without: I’d say all the ethnic and heritage-based groups because they keep people like me connected to our roots.  
Favorite Book: Pillars of the Earth by Ken Follett  
Talent you covet: I wish I could play the piano.  
The best music genre: Christmas! I’m
the reason KOSI 101 changes their format in early November.

We fund culture.

During the pandemic, SCFD was more than a funder – it was literally a life saver for our cultural ecosystem.

$75 million in general operating support 2021

During 2020, organizations from across the sector lost about a decade’s worth of financial growth. That’s why funding you make possible through the SCFD is so critical. In 2021, you provided $75 million in stabilizing funding to ensure that our arts and cultural organizations endure. You can see a full economic impact report recently released by the Colorado Business Committee for the Arts.

Engage with Us

A shout out from the SCFD community to metro area cultural champions

A longstanding tradition at SCFD is to recognize top cultural contributors with the Rex Morgan Awards. Named for Rex Morgan, without whom the SCFD would not exist, the awards are presented to cultural leaders who have made a significant contribution to the arts and cultural organizations in the Denver metro area.
exist, these awards seek to honor his memory by recognizing major contributors to the cultural landscape in lifetime leadership, civic engagement and innovative partnerships. Here are the 2022 winners.

- **Lifetime Achievement:** Jim Harrington’s service over many decades as treasurer and chairman of the SCFD Board of Directors, as well as his instrumental work in securing reauthorization of the district across multiple elections demonstrates his deep commitment to culture in our metro area. His tireless service has ensured the continued vibrancy of our cultural landscape for generations to come.

- **Civic Engagement:** Darrell Anderson is an internationally known painter and visual artist with work displayed around the globe. But it is his deep commitment to mentoring, teaching and transforming the Denver metro area for the better that sees him honored with this year’s award for civic engagement. While you can see his magnificent art around Denver, you might not see the hundreds of lives he has transformed through his championing of artists and arts organizations as well as the power of art to create a better world.

- **Innovative Partnership:** The Bonfils-Stanton Foundation and the Denver Foundation came together at a critical juncture to create a unique partnership that was a literal lifeline to arts and culture organizations devastated by the necessary pandemic shutdowns. In the end, the two venerable Denver foundations delivered $2 million to 72 organizations across the Denver metro area.

**New organizations join the SCFD each year**

Every year, organizations who are not currently part of the SCFD can apply to be eligible to receive funding. This process is the first step organizations take to become part of the SCFD funding family. Since voters conceived of the SCFD 30 years ago, the number of organizations supported by the district has grown to more than 300. You can learn more about the process.

**SCFD Board of Directors news**

The SCFD is governed by a board of directors with representation from district member counties Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas, and Jefferson. The board oversees district funding and ensures the district is running the way voters intended. The board meets eight times a year and all meetings are open to the public.

- The next meeting of the SCFD Board of Directors will be held virtually at 1 p.m. on May 26 at the Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver Botanic Gardens,
1007 N. York St., Denver. Get more information for joining meetings and see the full calendar of 2022 board meetings.