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### **Markley Family Supports the Arts and Sciences in Fort Collins**

The Pat and Gene Markley Fund, a Donor Advised fund of the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado, recently granted \$100,000 to the Lincoln Center renovation. With a lead gift from the Markley's fund, the Community Foundation was also able to put together a package of grants totaling \$150,000 for the new Fort Collins Museum of Discovery.

As a result of the grant to the Lincoln Center, the Markley Family will be recognized as the major donor of the facility's new rooftop deck. "Through our fund at the Community Foundation, we are able to share the success of the family business, Markley Motors, in ways that provide long-term community impact," said Ann Hanson, Gene Markley's daughter. The renewed and rejuvenated Lincoln Center will serve future generations of Northern Colorado residents through offerings of music, art and culture.

The grant to the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery is one of several Community Foundation grants that are helping the organization create meaningful opportunities for people of all ages to learn, reflect and have fun through hands-on and collections-based explorations in science and culture. The 2007 merger of the Discovery Science Center and the Fort Collins Museum formed a unique public/private partnership between a nonprofit organization and the City of Fort Collins. Planning and development for the new joint facility have been underway since mid-2007, with opening planned for mid-2012.

The grants to the Lincoln Center and the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery are the latest in a series of distributions from the Pat and Gene Markley Fund made in support of visionary community projects. Last month, Gene, a WWII veteran, along with his children, Doug and Ann, who serve as the advisors for the Pat and Gene Markley Fund, granted \$150,000 to support the completion of the Veterans Plaza of Northern Colorado.

Gene and his late wife, Patty, who passed away in 2006, established a philanthropic philosophy for their family: "Patty and I were born with the desire to help, and the best way to do it is to give to the community that's been so good to our family. We've enjoyed raising our kids here. It's a great community."

"The strategic grants made from the Pat and Gene Markley Family Fund align with the Community Foundation's vision of building a more engaged, visionary and philanthropic community. We are grateful for the Markley family's investment in the future of the arts and sciences in Northern Colorado," said Ray Caraway, president of the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado.

To learn about more opportunities for strategic giving in Northern Colorado, visit [www.CommunityFoundationNC.org](http://www.CommunityFoundationNC.org).