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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alice Hennessey to Be Inducted into Idaho Philanthropy Hall of Fame

A founding visionary of The Idaho Community Foundation, transformational CEO, and statewide champion for giving will be honored Nov. 20 in Boise

BOISE –The Idaho Community Foundation (ICF) will induct **Alice Hennessey** into the inaugural Idaho Philanthropy Hall of Fame at the Gem Ball on Thursday, Nov. 20, at Boise Centre East. Hennessey, whose leadership helped launch ICF in 1988 and later guide it as President & CEO, has spent decades expanding a culture of generosity across all 44 counties.

Hennessey served as ICF's CEO from 1996–2004 and again as interim in 2008–2009, after a distinguished career as Senior Vice President at Boise Cascade. During her tenure, she crisscrossed the state to introduce Idahoans to the power of community philanthropy and structured ICF to be truly statewide, so no one region could dominate giving or governance.

One emblematic moment of trust and leadership: she once “carried the transformative Langroise estate check down the street in her purse,” ensuring the gift safely reached the Foundation – an anecdote now part of ICF lore.

“Alice didn’t just build a foundation, she helped build Idaho’s philanthropic identity,” said **Steve Burns**, President & CEO of The Idaho Community Foundation. “Her vision that anyone can be a giver, and that small grants can make outsized differences in rural communities, still shapes how we serve today.”

Hennessey calls her work “planting the seeds of trees under whose shade I may never sit,” and she has long argued that small, timely grants can keep libraries lit,



senior centers serving meals, and youth arts programs performing, especially in Idaho's smallest towns.

She also popularized a simple elevator message about community foundations, "we gather, grow, and grant" and later added "guide," reflecting ICF's role in helping people become more effective givers.

Beyond executive leadership, Hennessey is a founding donor whose name graces an ICF "Forever Idaho" fund that supports statewide initiatives. She remains active in civic life and has been recognized by multiple organizations for lifetime service.

The Idaho Philanthropy Hall of Fame honors people and organizations whose influence, leadership, and service have left a lasting mark on Idaho's philanthropic landscape, celebrating strategic leadership, sector-wide impact, and the ability to inspire others to give.

Hennessey's induction will be celebrated alongside fellow inductees **Greg Carr** and the **Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation**, as well as Idaho's **Nonprofit Leader of the Year, Tricia Swartling**, and **Cecil D. Andrus Center Volunteer of the Year, Carrie Getty Scheid**.

Event Details:

Gem Ball featuring the Idaho Philanthropy Hall of Fame

Thursday, November 20, 2025 | 5:30 p.m. | Boise Centre East

Tickets and sponsorships available at

<https://www.idahocf.org/philanthropy.php>.

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About The Idaho Community Foundation

For nearly 40 years, The Idaho Community Foundation has been a trusted partner in philanthropy, helping generous Idahoans invest in the people, places, and causes they care about most. Now united with the Idaho Nonprofit Center, we're strengthening communities through philanthropy, elevating nonprofit impact, and connecting Idahoans to the heart of their communities. Our vision is simple: Idaho is



a place of possibility where everyone contributes to thriving communities. Join the movement to build a culture of giving at www.idahocf.org or email us at info@idahocf.org.