

NEWS RELEASE

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DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES

ADDITION OF FIVE NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS

Denver, CO (September 12, 2013) – [The Denver Public Schools \(DPS\) Foundation](#) is pleased to announce the election of five new leading community leaders to the [Board of Directors](#): **Christine Benero**, President & Chief Executive Officer, **Mile High United Way**; **Christine DeRose**, Senior Vice President – Financial Advisor, Senior Consulting Group, **RBC Wealth Management**; **Mike Ferrufino**, Vice President and General Manager, **Latino Communications**; **Taggart Hansen**, Chief Counsel for Labor & Employment, **CH2M HILL**; and **Emanuel (Manny) P.N. Hilario**, Chief Operations Officer, **Einstein Noah Restaurant Group**.

“The new members add to the deep and wide-ranging experience of the DPS Foundation board. Each member accepted this opportunity because they believe in the fundamental values of DPS and DPS Foundation. The Board encompasses a unique mix of business, nonprofit and community leaders and is anchored by current chair and long-standing board member Brooke Brown, Executive Director of the Carson Foundation”, says Kristin Colon, President and CEO of the DPS Foundation.

Christine Benero, President & Chief Executive Officer, **Mile High United Way**. Mile High United Way works to advance the common good of the community by investing and focusing on the issues of School Readiness, Youth Success and Adult Self-Sufficiency. Benero was appointed by Denver Mayor Michael Hancock to the Denver Education Compact Board and currently serves on the National Professional Council for United Way Worldwide. In 2012, Benero was honored nationally by Girl Scouts of America as one of “One Hundred Distinguished Alumni” in honor of Girl Scouts’ 100th birthday. In 2013, she was named one of the 25 Most Powerful Women in Denver by the Colorado Women’s Chamber of Commerce and presented with the Urban League’s “McKinley Harris Distinguished Warrior” award. Benero’s appointment to the DPS Foundation opens a new chapter in the long-standing collaboration between Mile High United Way and the DPS Foundation, which has included close partnership on initiatives including the [Lights On After School](#), [School Partners Program](#), and [Power Lunch](#).

Christine DeRose, Senior Vice President - Financial Advisor, with **RBC Wealth Management** and a member of the firm’s Senior Consulting Group. Some of her accomplishments include RBC Wealth Management’s® President’s Council since 2005, RBC Wealth Management’s® Regional Director’s Council 1999 and 2000, Principal Financial Securities Rookie Millionaire 1994, American Funds All-American Team since 1997, Fidelity’s Advisor Council 1999 and 2000. DeRose is the President of the Board of Mile High Squash, a youth enrichment program that focuses on the educational success of young students from underprivileged backgrounds in the Denver area. She has also been reading grants for the Denver Public School Foundation’s [A to Z](#) Teacher and Classroom Grants program since 2008.

Mike Ferrufino, Vice President & General Manager, **Latino Communications**. Latino Communications is a local, minority-owned, Denver-based media company which owns and operates four Spanish language radio stations in Colorado. Together the Radio stations reach over 275,000 Hispanics weekly. Ferrufino is responsible for leading the company’s growth strategy, elevating the client experience and overseeing day-to-day operations. Ferrufino is the current Chairman of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro Denver. Other honors include: Primo Award of Excellence - Business Person of the Year, 2013 Pink Tie Guy - Susan G. Komen Foundation and Power Book Finalist - *Denver Business Journal*. Ferrufino has also served on several nonprofit boards of directors including the Colorado Children’s Campaign, Robby’s Friends, Mi Casa and the Hispanic Education Foundation.

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Emanuel (Manny) P.N. Hilario, Chief Operations Officer, **Einstein Noah Restaurant Group**, a Colorado-based, leading company in the quick casual restaurant industry that operates locations primarily under the Einstein Bros.® Bagels and Noah's New York Bagels® brands. In July, Hilario was promoted to the Chief Operations Officer position from the Chief Financial Officer. Hilario was recognized by the *Portland Business Journal* in 2006 as a finalist for CFO of the Year. He was elected in 2009 to Knight of the Vines by Oregon's Wine Brotherhood for his contributions in developing Oregon's wine business. He also was a recipient in 2010 of the Einstein Noah Restaurant President award.

Taggart Hansen, Chief Counsel for Labor & Employment, **CH2M HILL**, a Fortune 500 company and a global leader in consulting, design, design-build, operations and program management. Hansen's accomplishments include being a co-founder of the Colorado chapter of the Do the Write Thing Challenge Program, a middle school youth violence prevention writing program that is part of the National Campaign to Stop Violence. Hansen previously served on the Board of the Rocky Mountain Children's Law Center, an organization dedicated to changing the lives of abused and neglected children through compassionate legal advocacy, education and public policy reform. Hansen has a long history with public education, Colorado and the City of Denver. A product of the Denver Public Schools, he attended from first grade through his graduation from East High School in 1989. Upon attaining his double major in Political Science and Black World Studies from Miami University of Ohio, Hansen taught sixth grade at an elementary school in California as part of Teach for America. Hansen thereafter obtained his J.D. from the Yale Law School, returning to Colorado to start and raise his family.

About the Denver Public Schools Foundation

The Denver Public Schools Foundation raises and manages funds in support of various programs that drive student achievement for Denver's more than 84,000 students. Through strategic program investments and community leadership, we support Denver Public Schools in creating a district where outstanding educational achievements are the norm and all children have an opportunity of a great future. For more information including the complete Denver Public Schools Foundation Board of Directors, visit www.dpsfoundation.org.

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