

OPUS PRIZE[®]

REGIS UNIVERSITY 2017



Jury Members



ABDUR-RAHIM ALI

Imam

Northeast Denver Islamic Center/
Masjid Taqwa
DENVER, CO

Imam Ali is the resident imam of the Northeast Denver Islamic Center/Masjid Taqwa. Prior to moving to Denver, he was resident imam of the Evanston Islamic Center in Evanston, Illinois. He is co-chair and a founding member of the Greater Denver Interfaith Alliance, a faith-based organization whose mission is to promote and implement coalitions among faith communities of Abrahamic traditions and address the social needs of Denver's at-risk populations. Under his leadership, the Northeast Denver Islamic Center/Masjid Taqwa and the Greater Denver Interfaith Alliance has hosted delegations from several Islamic countries under the backing of the State Department, showing them how we work with others in the multi-faith community. Imam Ali is also the project director of the Northeast Denver Islamic Center's Responsible Fatherhood Program and a trainer/facilitator for prison re-entrants returning to Denver. Imam Ali was recently asked to serve on the World Denver Honorary Board along with Denver Mayor Michael Hancock. World Denver has direct links to the State Department and White House. He was a speaker at the Interfaith Service at the Democratic Convention and the historic breakfast honoring the 45th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have A Dream" speech.



DINA COATES-KOEBLER

Director of Development
Community Food Share
GREATER DENVER, CO

Dina Coates Koebler serves as the Director of Development for Community Food Share, an organization that partners with more than 40

non-profit organizations to distribute groceries and meals in the community through both on-site and mobile pantries, emergency food assistance and elder share programs. Prior to joining Community Food Share, Coates-Koebler served as the development manager for the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. An innovative pioneer in non-profit program development and implementation, she consults nonprofit organizations on donor stewardship, event and fundraising development and the retention and satisfaction of both paid and unpaid staff.



KATE CUMBO

Director of Programs
PeaceJam Foundation
DENVER, CO

Kate Cumbo is the director of programs for the PeaceJam Foundation, an international education organization that connects young people and educators with Nobel Peace laureates. Its mission is to create young leaders committed to positive change in the world, their communities and themselves. Cumbo researches, writes and designs PeaceJam's award-winning curricula for youth ages 5-25, including its innovative new bullying prevention program, "Compassion in Action." She manages PeaceJam's professional development programs including the certification of trainers and development of online courses. She works directly with 13 Nobel Peace laureates to host youth leadership conferences for youth around the world and manages a nationwide and international network of PeaceJam Chapters. She has a Ph.D. in educational psychology from the University of Colorado-Boulder and was director of service-learning for the Colorado Department of Education from 1999-2004. Cumbo is an expert speaker, facilitator and trainer. She has experience as a national consultant for organizations such as the Corporation for National and Community Service, and internationally in regions such as the Southern Caucuses and post-colonial countries in Southeast Asia.



DAWN ENGLE

Co-Founder/Executive Director
PeaceJam Foundation
National Headquarters
DENVER, CO

Dawn Engle is the co-founder and executive director of the nonprofit organization, PeaceJam Foundation. The PeaceJam program was launched in February 1996 to help Nobel Peace Prize laureates teach youth the art of peace. To date, 13 Nobel Peace laureates serve as members of the PeaceJam Foundation and more than 1 million young people from 40 countries around the world have participated in the year-long, award-winning PeaceJam program. Engle and her husband/PeaceJam co-founder, Ivan SuvanjiEFF have been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize 16 times, and they were leading contenders for the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize. Engle began her career as an economist, working for Congress in Washington, D.C. for 12 years. In 1991, she co-founded the Colorado Friends of Tibet, and in 1994, she and SuvanjiEFF began working together to create the PeaceJam program. In November 2005, President Mikhail Gorbachev presented her and SuvanjiEFF with the "Man of Peace Award" for achievement in the field of peace education.

four college acceptance and graduation rates. Kerr has more than 20 years of experience in strategy, marketing, communications, relationship management, fundraising, community relations and corporate citizenship. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Hampton University in Virginia and a Master of Public Administration degree from Baruch College in New York. She is the founder of several organizations and currently serves on the board of directors for Goodwill Industries, the Public Education and Business Coalition, and the Urban Leadership Foundation. She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (a public service sorority) and Jack and Jill of America, Inc. Kerr is a highly experienced public speaker credited with over 300 speaking engagements with audience sizes ranging from 20 to 2,000. This includes serving as a keynote speaker, expert panelist and facilitator for various local and national organizations including the Clinton Global Initiative and Boston College's Center for Corporate Citizenship. In her spare time, she likes to volunteer, serve in her local church, watch movies and enjoy with her husband and 15-year-old son the many activities that Colorado has to offer.



CLARE FELLETER

Graduate Student Representative
Masters in Counseling Program
Regis University
DENVER, CO

Clare Felleter first came to Regis as a first-year student in the fall of 2010. She graduated in 2014 with a bachelor's in Peace and Justice Studies and Philosophy, and is currently a first-year graduate student in the Master of Arts in Counseling program. She hopes to eventually use her degree as a crisis and trauma counselor, and spends much of her free time volunteering as a crisis hotline and hospital advocate for sexual assault survivors. Felleter also serves as the service learning coordinator for the Rueckert-Hartman College for Health Professions where she connects over 2,000 students a year with community partner agencies and nonprofits for academic credit. She is passionate about community engagement, social activism, yoga and themed costume parties.



M.D. KINOTI

Associate Professor and Faculty Chair
Master of Nonprofit Management Program
College of Business & Economics
Regis University
DENVER, CO

M.D. Kinoti has more than 25 years' experience in international nongovernmental organizations (INGOs) and university-level teaching and leadership. He currently teaches nonprofit/nongovernmental organizations' (NP/GOs') management within the Master of Nonprofit Management (MNM) degree program at Regis University. His research interests include the role of NP/NGOs in facilitating sustainable/transformational community development. He also has interests in peacebuilding, social entrepreneurship and innovation as part of sustainable development.



VANECIA KERR

Regional Executive Director
College Track Colorado
DENVER, CO

Vanecia Kerr is the regional executive director of College Track Colorado. College Track leads a 10-year program for students from underserved communities, working intentionally and continuously with them starting the summer before ninth grade through college graduation. College Track's comprehensive academic support, leadership training, college advising and financial assistance model results in demonstrated success in



JOHN L. KNOTT JR.

Founder and Board Director
CityCraft Foundation
CHARLESTON, SC

John L. Knott Jr. is an internationally recognized leader in the regeneration of urban real estate, infrastructure, energy and environmental systems. He is the creator of the CityCraft process, a development and city planning process that restores the economic, environmental and social health of cities. Knott is a recognized thought leader and keynote speaker on sustainable development, the green economy and restoration of cities. A third-generation developer, he has over 45 years of experience in urban redevelopment. The CityCraft Foundation is a national foundation with three pathways that heal the social, economic and environmental fabric of our communities long term. Knott is currently in professional collaboration with the Regis University College of Business and Economics' centers of distinction whose focus is on innovation, sustainability and workforce development.



SUSAN KRAMER

Director of External Relations
Jewish Women's Renaissance Project
GLENDALE, CO

Susan Kramer joined the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project (JWRP) as director of external relations after volunteering with the organization for more than seven years. In this role, Kramer is creating an infrastructure that will enable the JWRP to expand with respect to participants, partner organizations and funders. Prior to joining the JWRP team, she held a number of senior philanthropic and Jewish communal positions. For two and half years, she was president/CEO of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas and successfully led the organization into its second century. Returning to her familiar roots, family and home in Colorado, Kramer followed her "calling" at JEWISHcolorado (formerly known as Allied Jewish Federation of Colorado), resuming an expanded and redefined role as the chief development officer in the organization in which she built her career. Kramer was specifically tapped to bring her unique vision, passion, experience and energy to the role to help navigate the professional and lay leadership teams into the next era of fundraising and community building for Denver/Boulder. She serves as an adjunct faculty at Regis University in Denver, teaching fundraising in the Master's of Nonprofit Management department. A sought-after speaker for community events, celebrations and dedications, Kramer is also a mentor and coach for fundraising professionals across the country.



REV. WILLIAM T. OULVEY, S.J.

Rector, Jesuit Community
Regis University
DENVER, CO

Father William T. Oulvey, S.J., arrived at Regis University in September 2016 as rector of the Jesuit community, whose members serve at Arrupe Jesuit High School and Regis University. A native of St. Louis, Missouri, he entered the Jesuits in 1974 after earning a bachelor's degree in chemistry at Rockhurst College in Kansas City, Missouri. His theology studies were at Regis College in Toronto and he was ordained a priest in 1985 in St. Louis, Missouri. For 10 years he taught chemistry at the high school and junior college levels, mostly at the Jesuit school, St. John's College, in Belize Central America. For a total of 11 years, Father Oulvey lived and ministered in Belize, the last five of those he was superior of the Jesuit community. In between his two assignments to Belize, he served as vocation director for the Missouri Province assisting young men discerning a vocation to the Jesuits. In 2006, he was called to serve in the Jesuit World Headquarters in Rome near Vatican City. There he was assigned as the secretary to the U.S. Assistant to the Jesuit Superior General. In 2010, Father Oulvey S.J., returned to his alma mater and for six years was the rector of the Jesuit community, a member of the university's board of trustees and assistant in the Mission and Ministry Office of the university.



MIKAELA MEYER

Undergraduate Student Representative
Honors Program
English and Communications
Regis University
DENVER, CO

Mikaela Meyer is a senior honors student at Regis University with majors in English and communication and a minor in psychology. During her time at Regis, she has been highly involved in the University and currently serves as Student Body Chief Justice. Meyer has taken advantage of the opportunities Regis has offered her, and during her junior year, she spent a semester interning at the Office of the Attorney General in Washington, D.C. While there, she participated in a program called Building the Tomodachi Generation, where she was able to put her Jesuit values into practice and developed a restorative initiative to aid tsunami relief in the Tohoku region of Japan. Her group project won first place in the competition, with the winners sent to Japan this past summer to implement the project. Meyer owes all of her successes to the opportunities Regis offered her. She is excited to be a part of the Opus Prize Jury so that she can play one small role in giving a social justice organization the opportunity to be men and women for and with others on a greater scale.



LONNIE PORTER

Executive Director
Porter-Billups Leadership Academy
Regis University
DENVER, CO

Former Regis men's head basketball coach Lonnie Porter is the executive director of the Porter-Billups Leadership Academy. Porter's award list is vast and varied and includes the National Association of Basketball Coaches Merit Award in 1990 and the Colorado Athletic Conference Coach of the Year awards in 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96. In 1995, Porter was named "Man of the Year" by the Regis student body and was inducted into the Colorado Sports Hall of Fame in 2001. Porter is widely recognized in the Denver area for leadership in community service and had a vision of creating a leadership academy to further serve the youth of the community beyond the school year. The Porter-Billups Leadership Academy is designed to promote language arts and academic mastery, develop STEM skills and encourage teamwork through various activities. The intent is that by attending the Academy, they will be better prepared for the school year ahead. Through this experience, students develop leadership principles, which will help them become effective leaders in their schools and communities. In May 2015, Regis University President Father John P. Fitzgibbons, S.J., awarded an honorary doctorate to Porter, citing his commitment of giving hope and opportunity for a college education to a new generation of young people.

Watch for more information to be shared with the Regis community at regis.edu/opus throughout the 2016-17 academic year as Regis prepares for **Opus October 2017**.

To learn more about the Opus Prize Foundation, visit www.opusprize.org.

If you have questions or would like to be involved in any part of the planning or implementation of this amazing opportunity for Regis, contact **Connie Bennett, Opus Prize Coordinator in University Advancement**, at opus@regis.edu or **303.458.4972**.