

Dear Fellow Regents,

It is my honor to nominate Ms. Carol Franc Buck for the 2022 Distinguished Nevadan award. Carol is a long-time philanthropist and avid supporter of the arts, especially music, and education in the arts. Carol has long held the belief that Art education is an effective way to engage young people in learning across all subjects; helping them develop creativity, a shared cultural understanding, and a sense of community. She is someone who truly recognizes the intrinsic value of the arts—the way it can illuminate our inner lives and enrich our emotional experience.

Carol has had a life-long engagement with the arts and was raised in a family where philanthropy and civic engagement played prominent roles. Her parents, Frank H. Buck, Jr. and Eva Buck, established the Frank H. and Eva B. Buck Foundation which supported higher education scholarships in the surrounding community near the Buck family home in Vacaville, California.

For more than four decades, Carol and the Carol Franc Buck Foundation have supported numerous programs on the University of Nevada, Reno campus, including a lead gift to the University Arts Building—a building which has greatly enhanced the creative well-being of our city and region through artistic and musical performances and exhibitions. As former University President Marc Johnson explained, “The University Arts Building provides an unparalleled opportunity for our whole community to connect directly with the arts. As our campus and our city has continued to grow, so has the vibrant local arts scene.”

Carol has generously supported KUNR-FM public radio, the Nightingale Concert Hall, the Pride of the Sierra Marching Band, and the Carol Franc Buck Foundation Sculpture Garden at the Mathewson-IGT Knowledge Center. Reflecting the broad range of her interest in visual and performing art, she has lent major support to the book arts projects of Foundation Professor Peter Goin, who has focused on the changing landscapes of the Nevada desert and Lake Tahoe, a subject dear to her heart as a long-time Incline Village resident.

Beyond the University campus, Carol is passionate about supporting and preserving the visual and performing arts throughout our region, and has made philanthropic gifts to major cultural institutions including the Nevada Museum of Art, the Thunderbird Lodge Preservation Society, the San Francisco Opera, and the Metropolitan Opera.

An Emeritus Trustee of University of Nevada, Reno Foundation, Carol also has given her time to serve on the boards of the San Francisco Symphony, the San Francisco Opera Association, the Arizona Opera Company, and the Western Opera Theater.

A true champion of the arts, Carol was the 2006 recipient of the Nevada Governor’s Art Award in recognition of her outstanding and enduring contributions to Nevada through artistic achievement, commitment and service to the arts. In 2007, she was named Philanthropist of the Year by the Northern Nevada Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

Carol, and the Carol Franc Buck Foundation have inspired others to participate, experience, and invest in the arts. Thank you for your consideration of Carol Franc Buck as a 2022 Distinguished Nevadan.

Sincerely,

Chair Carol Del Carlo
Board of Regents
Nevada System of Higher Education