

Jennifer Lea Kimball



La Fonda on the Plaza
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Connecting talent in the hospitality, business, law and non-profit sectors.

Jenny Kimball is a native of Dallas, Texas, and attended Southern Methodist University where she received both her undergraduate and law degrees. Jenny loved Santa Fe and had great family friends, Sam and Ethel Ballen, who lived in Santa Fe and owned La Fonda. Sam and Ethel suggested she move to Santa Fe permanently. She took their sage advice, and packed up her car and headed west. Santa Fe has been her home for the past 30 years. Jenny is an avid outdoors person, loves skiing, mountain biking, hiking, gardening and horseback riding. She has a darling quarter horse and riding is her stress reliever.

Jenny has had the opportunity to work in various fields. She is a business lawyer, has run a national non-profit educational foundation, involved in education issues throughout the US, and is presently the CEO of a hospitality company. This has given her the chance to interact with many people, from varied backgrounds with different areas of expertise. Because of this, her biggest asset is being a people connector. Always introducing friends and work peers to each other, she strives for good synergy and connections for all.

In 2014, Jenny, along with a few select investors, purchased the hotel located on the oldest hotel site in the country, La Fonda. Jenny has been chairman of the board since 2007, and is responsible for all strategic decisions for La Fonda. She has overseen multiple million dollar renovation projects for the hotel, earning it many accolades including *Best Hotel in New Mexico* and *Best Historic Hotel in the country*.

In addition to her responsibilities at La Fonda, Jenny is involved with many Santa Fe nonprofits and is a 2012 graduate of Leadership New Mexico. She currently is on the executive committee of the International Folk Art Alliance, and serves as a commissioner for the New Mexico Tourism Commission. She has most recently served on the boards of the Santa Fe Community Foundation, the Santa Fe Botanical Garden and the Southwestern Association of Indian Art. Jenny was recognized as a woman of influence by the *New Mexico Business Weekly* in 2011.

Jenny is married to Rob Kimball, a practicing attorney in Phoenix, Arizona and they live in both Santa Fe and Phoenix. Commuting weekly for over 17 years, spending only long weekends together, she jokes, "Some people think this arrangement is an ideal relationship."