



March 2021

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SUSIE HARVEY
Chairwoman

LEON BENNETT
Vice Chair

JASON SCHNEIDER
Treasurer

GALE HACKSHAW
Secretary

CHARLES ALFARO

SCOTT L. BAILEY
Ex-Officio Advisor

PATRICIA CLINTON

KATHLEEN FELCI

SANDRA LYON, Ed.D.
Ex-Officio Advisor

DAVID MCFARLAND

DR. JOSIE PAREDES
Ex-Officio Advisor

RAY RODRIGUEZ

JOHN SHIMER
Honorary Advisor

VICTOR TOCCO

SUSAN WELLMAN
Honorary Advisor

AURORA WILSON

SUSAN FRANCIS
Ex-Officio
President / CEO

 **WILLIAM POWERS**
Foundation Founder

As you already know our staff has been working hard to ensure the stability of the Ophelia Project through this year of COVID. This has required that our staff increase their ingenuity and their creativity which they have done beautifully.

Last summer we launched a new concept – a monthly entertainment production delivered in the zoom format called “Evenings with Ophelia”. Some of these events have been free to attend while others had a charge of up to a \$20 donation to Ophelia. Each month the entertainment has been different but always featuring excellent talent. The monthly production requires a ‘production team’, technical skill, marketing and of course the talent of the professional ‘headliner’ of that month. All of our professional talent has provided their performance for free to benefit the Ophelia Project and invited their fans and followers to attend, expanding awareness of Ophelia Project to a broader audience.

The concept of zoom entertainment has been a risky venture for all concerned. The ability of technology is required of our staff but also of the people who sign on to attend and they must have a certain level of skill to join the zoom format. It’s also been challenging for each entertainer since performers are not used to setting up a full sound production studio in their home and perform to a tiny camera lens on their computer without the encouragement and feedback of applause, laughter, or even smiling faces in theatre seats. Risky indeed! But so far, every entertainment event has been a success with enthusiastic comments and even rave reviews!

We will soon be announcing another concept “Luncheons with Ophelia”. As the CDC guidelines allow, we will partner with a few restaurants with outdoor seating for limited lunch reservations that will benefit Ophelia Project. Watch for the announcement of this new endeavour ‘going live’. You may wish to have lunch with a few of your close family members or friends in a safe setting while benefiting Ophelia Project. Full information coming soon.

We are certainly finding new ways to be creative, progressive and innovative while adapting to the new world. This is encouraging and exciting.

Stay safe and healthy everyone and thank you for your commitment to Ophelia Project!

Susan Francis
President and Chief Executive Officer
John F. Kennedy Memorial Foundation
Home of Ophelia Project