Jan. 5 is National Bird Day, a great day to remember David Anderson, a Times-Standard veteran reporter and community activist who passed away in January of 2002 at the early age of 61. David's newspaper career stretched over three decades. During that time he acquired a reputation as an eloquent commentator on Humboldt County news issues. He also had true passion for the theater and bird watching, and he helped pioneer the Pacific Arts Center Theater. David's family from the East Coast established this fund to purchase a bench at the Arcata Marsh in his memory and to award an annual scholarship to a student studying creative writing.

The life and legacy of Victor Thomas Jacoby was celebrated in style on December 13, as friends and fans donned silly hats and gathered at the Morris Graves Museum of Art. Three artists were awarded grants this year, including milliner Amy Fowler (left, receiving award from Patrick Cleary, sculptor Jimmie Nord (right) and carved glass artist Susan Bloch (work pictured at bottom). The event is held annually on or near Jacoby's birthday. Jacoby, a woven tapestry artist, established the fund before his death in 1997. More information is available on our website, www.hafoundation.org

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Humboldt Health Foundation recently elected a new member to its Board of Directors! Please join us in welcoming Calla Peltier-Olson, who brings their experience as Lead Youth Organizer and Social Worker with the Humboldt County Transition Age Youth Collaboration. Calla is a nationally recognized expert in the field of peer support LGBTQ+ youth mental health and youth voice.

WHAT HAPPENED IN DECEMBER?

- The Native Culture Fund, with the oversight of a committee composed of California Indian cultural leaders, distributed $80,708 in grants to support many different projects, including ceremony, the recording of traditional songs, Native youth culture camps and mentorship, a documentary film about the importance of elk restoration to the Karuk people and traditional Indigenous herbal medicine.

- equity arcata’s Home Away from Home working group, with support from the North Coast Equity Alliance, helped support HSU students by providing meals and scantron test sheets during finals.

- The Merv George Memorial Fund granted $3,000 to the Klamath-Trinity School District to create a music studio.

- The Social Justice Donor Circle, with support from Humboldt Area Foundation, granted money to support Towards Citizenship, a nonprofit that helps local residents apply for and pass their U.S. citizenship class; the circle also helped Alternative Homeless Housing Alternatives with a grant to hire community liaisons and $40,000 to support Peninsula Union School.

- YEP (Youth Engaged in Philanthropy) granted $6,000 to South Fortuna Elementary School for trauma informed parent teacher classes.

WELCOME, CALLA!

Fruitful Collaboration

Culinary students from Fortuna’s East High visited the Leavey Ranch recently to pick persimmons and apples. The Leavey Ranch, in Blue Lake, is managed by HAF in collaboration with Humboldt State University and a local rancher.