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**El Pomar Foundation Honors Pikes Peak Library District
at Annual Tree-Lighting Ceremony**

Colorado Springs, Colo.—December 7, 2022— On December 6, 2022, El Pomar Foundation recognized the Pikes Peak Library District (PPLD) with a \$25,000 grant at its annual Trustee Memorial Tree Lighting Ceremony. The ceremony is designed to recognize and reward an outstanding nonprofit organization in the Pikes Peak region in honor of one of the Foundation’s former Trustees.

This year, the Trustees paid tribute to the legacy of Robert J. Hilbert, former Trustee and Chief Financial Officer of El Pomar Foundation. Rob’s dedication to his community spanned beyond his work at El Pomar, including his role as a board member of the Pikes Peak Library District. Like El Pomar’s founders Spencer and Julie Penrose, Rob cared deeply about the Pikes Peak Library District’s role of providing resources and opportunities to the community. PPLD is a nationally recognized system of public libraries serving nearly 700,000 people in El Paso County for the past 60 years. Pikes Peak Library District strives to reach all members of the community, from Palmer Lake to Fountain, and Falcon to Cascade, and respond to their unique needs by providing access to resources at no-cost through its sixteen facilities, mobile library service and online resources and services.

One of the resources Pikes Peak Library District offers is the Robert Hilbert Nonprofit Resource Center -- named for Rob because of his commitment to Pikes Peak Library District and nonprofit sustainability -- which provides access to workshops, an extensive nonprofit book collection and databases containing informational tutorials and helpful resources for those in the nonprofit sector.

“Pikes Peak Library District thanks El Pomar Foundation for selecting the Library as this year’s Trustee Memorial Grant recipient in honor of Robert Hilbert,” said Teona Shainidze-Krebs, Interim Chief Librarian and CEO. “The Library is here to serve all and provide access to resources and opportunities. We are grateful to El Pomar for their continued support and honored to partner with them in serving the Pikes Peak region and members of our community.”

“El Pomar Foundation is proud to recognize Pikes Peak Library District this year in Rob Hilbert’s honor,” shared El Pomar President and CEO Kyle Hybl. “With our mission is to enhance, encourage and promote the current and future well-being of the people of Colorado, we recognize Pikes Peak Library District’s unique and important role in supporting the well-being of our community here in the Pikes Peak region.”

Following the reception and grant check presentation, guests all gathered in front of Penrose House for the annual holiday tree lighting to top off the celebration.

El Pomar Foundation is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in Colorado, contributing approximately \$25 million annually through grants in the areas of health, human services, education, arts and humanities and civic and community initiatives, as well as community stewardship and leadership development programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations. Spencer and Julie Penrose founded El Pomar in 1937 with the mission to enhance, encourage and promote the current and future well-being of the people of Colorado.

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