

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **El Pomar Foundation's Elevating Leadership Development program honors Alfred "Fred" Padeway as the 2025 Milton E. Proby Cultural Heritage Room Inductee**

**Colorado Springs, CO – August 28, 2025** –El Pomar Foundation's Elevating Leadership Development (ELD) program annually recognizes diverse individuals from Southern Colorado for their leadership and legacy through the Milton E. Proby Cultural Heritage Room Induction Ceremony. This year, El Pomar honored Alfred "Fred" Padeway (1963-2014), who served Southern Colorado as a dedicated civic leader, advocate, and mentor.

On Friday, August 15, El Pomar hosted 315 attendees for a ceremony to celebrate the civic contributions of Fred Padeway at Penrose House Conference Center in Colorado Springs. Attendees included Mayor Yemi Mobolade, El Pomar Trustees and staff, Elevating Leadership Development members, and family and friends of Fred and former inductees. The late Fred Padeway's family, including his siblings, nieces, and nephews, accepted the honor on his behalf.

The ceremony included remarks from Kyle H. Hybl, President and CEO of El Pomar Foundation; Stella Hodgkins, SVP & Elevating Leadership Development Program Officer; ELD Advisory Board members; and Fred's brother, Glenn. Attendees also enjoyed cultural salute performances by Las Filipinas and Hawak Kamay Dance Company. The event concluded with the unveiling of Fred Padeway's memorial plaque in the Milton E. Proby Cultural Heritage Room at Penrose House.

A tribute video shown at the ceremony, honoring Fred Padeway, can be found [here](#). Photos taken at the ceremony can be found [here](#).

After serving in the U.S. Army, Fred earned a BS in Business Administration from the University of Northern Colorado and an MPA from Seattle University. He was dedicated to community stewardship and in 1998 participated in the MOSAIC Steering Committee at the Urban League of the Pikes Peak Region. In this role, he helped to shape the group – promoting community engagement, building networks, and crafting a pipeline of qualified leaders for board service. Fred contributed to the creation of El Pomar Foundation's Multicultural Youth Leadership Initiative and served on the boards of Big Brothers Big Sisters and Southern Colorado AIDS Project, chairing them both for a time. Professionally, Fred worked as senior program manager at the Gay and Lesbian Fund for Colorado and public affairs specialist at Intel Corporation. His legacy of service, leadership, and a commitment to making a difference continue to inspire the lives he touched.

El Pomar established the Milton E. Proby Cultural Heritage Room in 2006 as an extension of the ELD program, which advances the skills, knowledge, and network of leaders of color in Southern Colorado. The room is dedicated to preserving and documenting the contributions of Black, Asian (inclusive of Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, and Middle Easterners), Hispanic/Latino, and Native American individuals from Southern

Colorado. Through the Milton E. Proby Cultural Heritage Room Induction Ceremony, ELD celebrates and honors the legacy left behind by those who embodied the ideals of civic involvement and leadership.

### **About Elevating Leadership Development**

*Launched in 2001, Elevating Leadership Development (ELD) promotes access to a variety of community leadership development opportunities for leaders of color from Colorado Springs to Pueblo, opening doors to professional development and community leadership roles. The program also hosts the Milton E. Proby Cultural Heritage Room Induction Ceremony, dedicated to preserving, documenting, and honoring the contributions of African American/Black, Asian, Hispanic/Latino, and Native American individuals from Southern Colorado. Each year a member of one of these communities is inducted into the Milton E. Proby group of honorees and is celebrated at the annual Milton E. Proby Induction Ceremony at Penrose House.*

### **About El Pomar Foundation**

*El Pomar Foundation is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in Colorado. El Pomar contributes approximately \$25 million annually through grants in the areas of arts and culture, civic and community initiatives, education, health, and human services, as well as community engagement and leadership development programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations. In addition, the Foundation owns and operates three historic properties: Penrose Heritage Museum, Penrose House Conference Center, and Will Rogers Shrine of the Sun. 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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