

“TRTC awarded grant, nominated for another”

Staff report
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American National Bank and Sturm Family Foundation have joined the community in fundraising efforts for the Thunder River Theatre Co. in Carbondale.

The \$50,000 donation will top off the capital campaign allowing the theater to become debt free during its first year.

“American National Bank and the Sturm Family Foundation are pleased to give back to a community that has supported us over the past 10 years, not to mention a huge community project worth supporting,” said bank president John Stelzriede.

“Having ANB choose to contribute to TRTC models the very best of community spirit,” said Lon Winston, TRTC founding executive & artistic director. “It exemplifies how local businesspeople can see the big picture and generously support what nonprofit groups are trying so hard to accomplish for our community.”

In addition, TRTC was recently nominated for the 2006 El Pomar Foundation’s Award for Excellence in Arts & Humanities.

Each year, a winner and two finalists are selected in 11 categories that reflect specific areas of service in the nonprofit sector. Winners receive \$15,000, and finalists receive \$7,500. One overall winner is chosen for the Julie and Spence Penrose award of \$25,000.

Being selected as a finalist or winner raises awareness of the organization throughout Colorado. Finalists and winners are invited to an annual Awards Presentation Banquet in November that is attended by more than 1,000 people. A video highlighting each organization’s programs and services is shown, allowing award recipients to showcase their programs and staff.

The Selection Commission evaluates the nominated organizations according to their community impact, effective use of resources, commitment to their mission, degree of success with program implementation and overall excellence of the organization.