



*The* **MOLINE**  
**FOUNDATION**

**Excited to visit our partners  
Inspired by their generosity**



Greetings,

With the arrival of Spring, there are numerous positive indications 2022 will offer the opportunity to reconnect with family and friends.

As a Community Foundation, we are not only prepared and excited to visit with our partners but truly inspired by their generosity in 2021.

Last year, 750 individuals made financial gifts totaling \$1.4 million to support the causes they care about. Their generosity was part of the more than \$3 Million in community support from The Moline Foundation in 2021. I invite you to visit our [\*\*Community Impact Report\*\*](#) to learn more.

After reviewing the report, please read the articles below to be further inspired by the wonderful work of our community partners.

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. I look forward to visiting with you in-person during the upcoming year!

Best regards,

Paul Plagenz

## Mercado on Fifth expands to year-round programming



Mercado on Fifth is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization which hosts vibrant outdoor markets every Friday during the summer on 5th Avenue in Moline. The family-friendly community event features food trucks, retail vendors, children's activities, and live entertainment. Their

organization also works with both English and Spanish-speaking entrepreneurs to help start and grow their businesses. Mercado on Fifth fosters social interaction by drawing a diverse crowd, nurtures a sense of community, cultural pride, and creates a connection between the Floreciente Neighborhood and Moline's downtown.

With a vision to provide year-round programming and events, this year Mercado on Fifth will open a new 6,300 square foot indoor community space and a 5,000 square foot outdoor patio. The project is currently well under way thanks to numerous local partnerships including \$40,000 in grant support from The Moline Foundation.

Anamaria Rocha, Executive Director of Mercado on Fifth, hopes this expansion and the Mexican cultural influences will *"bring more life...with a unique meaning."*

The Grand Opening of the new building will be Friday, May 27<sup>th</sup> the day after a celebration of life event for Mercado co-founder, Bob Ontiveros. Bob's vision for Mercado on Fifth was to create an inclusive gathering space for the Floreciente neighborhood—where he grew up—and to facilitate business growth within the Quad Cities Hispanic community. Anamaria stated *"once we open the doors the building will take on a life of its own and evolve to allow for the continuation of Bob's vision for the organization and community."*

[Learn more about Mercado on Fifth](#)

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## Truth First Film Alliance becomes formal not for profit



There is a new non-profit in the QC – Truth First Film Alliance. Led by award-winning Executive Directors Kelly and Tammy Rundle, the organization's mission is to promote, support, and encourage the production and exhibition of documentary and narrative films.

This includes relaying true stories through public presentations and educational programs in the Quad Cities region. Kelly Rundle stated *"teachers can ask us to appear in-person or online with a class and talk about documentary filmmaking as a career."*

As for what they offer the public, Rundle said *"We lived in Los Angeles for 20 years and one of the things we enjoyed was there were always several events like these that you could go to. That's what we're trying to recreate."*

In the beginning, The Moline Foundation partnered with the Rundle's as their fiscal agent, offering support and guidance to the organization until they were ready to formally incorporate as a not-for-profit.

In the future, Kelly and Tammy hope they can offer grants to filmmakers who are working on documentaries, or perhaps offer small scholarships to students who are pursuing media studies. *"Those are things we look forward to down the road and to provide something of value to the community."*

Until then, keep your eye out for new productions by the Truth First Film Alliance.

[Learn more about Truth First Film Alliance](#)



### **Becoming a Non-profit Partner**

Your organization has a long-term vision for the future which includes financial stability. Your key supporters understand the important services and programs your non-profit provides the community and believes in your mission.

Creating a Nonprofit Partner Fund allows your supporters the opportunity to make a planned giving commitment to your organization.

If you are involved or lead a local non-profit follow the link below to learn more.

[Learn more about how to become a non-profit partner](#)

### **Important Dates**

- **April 28** - [Taste of East Moline](#)
- **May 19** - Bass Street Concert series sponsored by The Moline Foundation
- **July 1** - Deadline to donate through [Birdies for Charity](#)



## Leaders in Philanthropy - Together

When someone asks me what a community foundation is and what it does, I think of one of my favorite quotes is by Margaret Mead - "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world, indeed, it's all that ever has."

-Paul Plagenz, CEO of the Moline Foundation

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