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OPEN MEDIA FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES INDEPENDENT VOICE AWARD WINNERS

Denver, CO, December 2, 2013 – Each year, the Open Media Foundation hosts an event celebrating independent voices in Denver. Of the hundreds of nonprofits and thousands of individuals served every year, OMF selects two individuals and two organizations to honor, recognizing their innovative use of new media to promote positive social change. The award winners will be recognized on-air during the 7th anniversary celebration of OMF’s Public Access TV Station, Denver Open Media, on December 6th at 700 Kalamath St. Denver, CO 80204.

The two nonprofit organizations to be honored are The Colorado Trust and The Bell Policy Center, both of which have worked with the Open Media Foundation throughout 2013.

“The Colorado Trust is doing an amazing job of getting the word out about health equity, working with OMF to stream their ‘Health Equity Learning Series’ live via YouTube,” said Tony Shawcross, ED of the Open Media Foundation. “The Colorado Trust believes all Coloradans should have fair and equal opportunities to lead healthy, productive lives regardless of race, ethnicity, income or where we live. By live streaming the Health Equity Learning Series events with Open Media Foundation, we are partnering with communities to increase awareness and understanding of health equity statewide” added Ned Calonge, MD, President and CEO, The Colorado Trust.

The Bell Policy Center was chosen for the Independent Voices Award 2013 in recognition of their Policy Tool Kit and their ongoing efforts to educate our community on issues that impact us the most. “At the Bell Policy Center, we work on ideas that open doors for people, that create opportunity. We start with research, but our goals are aimed at real people, whether it is ensuring that third-graders are good readers, or helping high school students get a start on college with concurrent enrollment, or reforming payday lending, or explaining health care reform. It’s important that we share our work and our ideas in ways that inspire and inform people. The award from the Open Media Foundation is very gratifying. It tells us that what we are

doing is working -- and to keep up the good work.” - Joe Watt, Communications Director, The Bell Policy Center

Three individuals will also be recognized, including

- **Dan Landes:** Author, Restaurateur, and Supporter of local arts as owner of Watercourse Foods, City O City, and the Deer Pile, among other businesses in Denver and abroad.
- **Steve Toth:** DOM’s most Prolific Producer for 2013 has submitted nearly 50 hours of content this year including, “[Living Consciously TV](#)”, “[The New Health Conversation](#)” and “[Conscious Evolution Media](#)”.
- **Bill Freud:** Producer of the Top-Rated DOM show of 2013, “[A Heartfelt Christmas](#)”. Viewers of DOM gave the show a 99% average rating, making it the highest-rated show among thousands of programs submitted to DOM.

About the Open Media Foundation:

The Open Media Foundation (OMF) works to put the power of media technologies in the hands of civic-minded individuals and groups. OMF produces high-end media content for nonprofits and public sector organizations. It also provides access to affordable media education and technical resources to anyone interested in expressing their own voice. In addition, OMF operates Denver Open Media, Denver’s revolutionary public access TV station, managed entirely by viewers, with a programming schedule generated through viewer voting/rating. To find out more about OMF, visit www.openmediafoundation.org.

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