

MEDIA RELEASE

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Bill & Dave still building Palo Alto?

Palo Alto Museum passes \$1 million mark towards City goal with two large grants from local family foundations

Palo Alto, CA – The Palo Alto Museum announced today that the William & Flora Hewlett Foundation and the David & Lucile Packard Foundation have each committed \$250,000 to the project, moving the Museum past the \$1 million mark toward the goal set by City Council just about a year ago.

“With hundreds of recent individual donations, the Museum’s fundraising total is now over \$12 million,” states executive director Laura Bajuk. This is the first gift from the Hewlett Foundation, and third such gift from the Packard Foundation. “We owe this to our volunteer leaders,” added Bajuk. “Board member and past Chamber of Commerce president John King was instrumental in connecting us.”

“Palo Altans are excited to see the Roth Building become a world-class museum, accessible from downtown and drawing visitors from around the world to share what makes this community special,” adds Museum president Rich Green, whose passion for tech history drew him to the Museum four years ago. “They want to find out about our ‘special sauce.’”

The foundations both want their contribution to encourage more individual gifts, and it’s working. Over 650 Palo Alto households, foundations and business have donated so far—with a 20% increase in the past 18 months. “We’re thrilled to share this momentum with our community. When we met with the Packard Foundation, it felt as if Bill Hewlett and David Packard were still working together to enhance this community,” adds Bajuk. “And if this keeps up, we’re on track to meet the City challenge.”

The Museum group is scheduled to report back at the December 10, 2018 City Council meeting. If the \$1.75 million goal is met, additional funds (that can only be used to renovate a historic building) will be released for the project. (Learn more at paloaltomuseum.org)

Palo Alto History Museum receives Major Boost from Local Foundations, page 2

The Palo Alto Museum is a private nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization which is developing the first history museum for the Palo Alto and Stanford Community. The historic Roth Building in downtown Palo Alto is nearing its long-awaited renovation thanks to a private-public partnership with the Museum and City of Palo Alto to create a showcase for Palo Alto's dramatic local history. Support for the Museum's mission continues to expand as fundraising continues toward its \$20 million capital campaign goal.

Among its many benefits, the Museum will provide community gathering rooms, classrooms, interactive exhibits and a media center. This participatory Museum will be a new cultural destination in Palo Alto for anyone interested in learning about this creative community and its legacy of innovation, inspiring future invention with insights from the past. The Museum will also serve as the new home of the century-old Palo Alto Historical Association, steward of the City of Palo Alto archives. For more information please contact us at info@paloaltomuseum.org.

A community-driven effort, the Museum is supported by over 650 individuals, corporations, foundations—and the City of Palo Alto.

Founding Supporters:

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University South Neighborhood Association
Palo Alto-Stanford Heritage
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