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Peggy Fleming Honored with Permanent Sculpture at Evergreen Lake

EVERGREEN, CO (September 18, 2020) -

Sculpture Evergreen (SE) held a reception yesterday at the Evergreen Lake House to celebrate the donation of a new sculpture to the community. The 7-foot-high bronze figure is a tribute to skating and to Peggy Fleming, the 1968 Olympic skating gold medalist and three-time world champion. The sculpture was commissioned by SE to commemorate its 25th anniversary and provide an enduring gift to Evergreen Lake, known for its wonderful outdoor skating, and to the Evergreen Park & Recreation District (EPRD). The sculpture also commemorates the 50th anniversary of Fleming's gold medal and the 50th anniversary of EPRD.

The sculpture was created by Harold Linke, formerly of Evergreen. It is a larger-than-life interpretation of the figure that fits atop the "Peggy Fleming Trophy," which Fleming commissioned Linke to design in 2018 to celebrate the annual skating competition in Peggy's honor that promotes artistry in skating. The new sculpture was cast in Loveland by Art Castings of Colorado, and will be placed on a granite-clad pedestal in front of the Evergreen Lake House.

The tribute was originally planned for May but had to be postponed due to the current health crisis. However, with careful planning and a reduced guest list, the celebration was able to take place outdoors on September 17, 2020 by the Evergreen Lake House.

Peggy was at the reception and posed with donors and guests in front of the sculpture. She has been an inspiration to many ice skaters through the years and was inducted into the US Olympic Hall of Fame in 1983. Peggy commented, "I am so honored to have this new sculpture as part of the permanent collection. I hope it inspires and promotes skating for all who visit. Evergreen Lake is nature at its finest."

"This sculpture was the result of organizations working together for the benefit of all visitors to Evergreen Lake," stated Ellen O'Connor, Executive Director of EPRD. EPRD manages the recreational activities at Evergreen Lake and owns Evergreen Lake House. Evergreen Metropolitan District owns the water rights, the City and County of Denver owns the land which is situated within Dedisse Park and Sculpture Evergreen raised the funds for the project. The collaboration has produced a win-win for everyone, especially the public!

This new sculpture is now part of SE's permanent collection of nearly 40 outdoor sculptures. In addition to the permanent collection, SE has an annual Sculpture Walk of 10-12 temporary sculptures. This juried competition that brings a lively diversity of high-quality sculpture to the mountain area. Artwork is selected from many submissions, and then loaned to SE for the year. Several temporary structures placed on the walk have become permanent sculptures in the mountain community thanks to many generous donors and countless hours by volunteers to raise funds. Tricia Rosenthal, President of Sculpture Evergreen, notes "We are honored to have this beautiful sculpture, epitomizing skating artistry, as the latest addition to Evergreen's impressive outdoor art collection."



From left to right: Ellen O'Connor, Executive Director of Evergreen Park & Recreation District, Peggy Fleming, Happy Haynes, Executive Director of the Denver Department of Parks and Recreation and Deputy Mayor of Denver, and Tricia Rosenthal, President of Sculpture Evergreen. Photo by Amy Johnson Photography.

About Sculpture Evergreen and Evergreen Park & Recreation District (EPRD)

Sculpture Evergreen (SE) was formed in 1994 to cultivate a program of sculpture acquisition, exhibition, education, and other public activities to beautify our communities and encourage the expression and appreciation of sculpture. SE serves the greater Evergreen area, including the communities of Evergreen, Bergen Park, Kittredge, Marshdale, and Indian Hills.

Evergreen Park & Recreation District (EPRD) was formed in 1969 and created to serve the park and recreation needs of the communities of Evergreen, Bergen Park, Indian Hills, Kittredge and Marshdale. The citizens of the EPRD area place high value in their parks, recreation facilities and programs as an enhancement to the community's quality of life. This commitment is embodied in the District's strong parks and recreation system, with its high-quality facilities such as Buchanan Park Recreation Center, Wulf Recreation Center and Evergreen Lake House.

EPRD serves approximately 23,000 people residing within its boundaries, and offers affordable recreational options to district and non-district residents. Learn more at evergreenrecreation.com.

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