



sage

# Giving Forward

## Annual Report 2013

Dear friends,

When I started as Executive Director in May, I was already gripped by SAGE's powerful message—inspiring and engaging people over fifty to serve as advocates for younger and future generations. As a father, activist, and lawyer, I knew advocacy was in my DNA, and that every day on the job would be filled with enthusiasm for the mission of SAGE. What I did not fully anticipate is how SAGE's work, powered by many of you, would transform my own outlook on the future.

Today, while immersed in news of unprecedented challenges facing coming generations, I serve a growing alliance of older Americans giving forward with their time, talent, and passion for the benefit of tomorrow. Through the leadership and service of our community, I now recognize that our personal drive to give forward — to safeguard opportunities for younger and future generations — is both powerful and instinctual. SAGE is working to harness that drive by raising awareness about the challenges future generations face, training leaders to address those challenges, and connecting advocates with resources to give forward.

I hope you will enjoy reading about our accomplishments in 2013. With your advice and support, we launched three new programs (our Visiting SAGE, SAGE Socials, and SAGE Awards), and, next year, we will launch our SAGE Legacy Fellowship. Please read on to learn more about these initiatives and how to get involved with SAGE. Thank you for giving forward.

With warm regards,



Steve Higgs  
Executive Director

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## SAGE inspires people to give forward by:

1. Raising awareness about the challenges facing younger and future generations
2. Inspiring leadership and innovation to address those challenges
3. Connecting people with resources to give forward in their communities

## Raising awareness and engaging community

In May, SAGE hosted its inaugural public event with guest speaker and **Visiting SAGE**, Marc Freedman. Freedman is the CEO and founder of Encore.org, and the leader of a movement to make it easier for millions of people to pursue encore careers – "second acts for the greater good." With over 150 guests filling the house at the Oregon Historical Society, we enjoyed Marc's inspiring presentation on how seniors can live a legacy of public service. At the event, over forty percent of our guests expressed interest in engaging more with SAGE. SAGE is actively planning another Visiting SAGE event for 2014.

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*Thanks so much for the work you did for the most successful kick-off SAGE event. I am most grateful I was able to attend the event and look forward to getting actively involved with SAGE.*

Thomas Brinson, Guest at Visiting SAGE

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SAGE (Senior Advocates for Generational Equity) presents:  
**Marc Freedman**



**Don't Just  
Leave a Legacy -  
Live One**

**THURSDAY, MAY 23, 7pm** | OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
(Doors open at 6:30) | (1200 SW PARK AVENUE, PORTLAND)

Our Visiting SAGE, Marc Freedman, delivered an inspirational message on living a legacy of service.



SAGE's President, Ward Greene, invites guests at the Visiting SAGE event to recall their shared experiences when they were younger.

## Honoring service

With over 200 guests and supporters at the World Forestry Center, we gave our first **SAGE Award** to two remarkable volunteers, Jeanne and Dick Roy. SAGE recognized the Roys for their pioneering efforts over the past twenty years to create a sustainable future in the Pacific Northwest.

Speakers shared heartfelt and powerful stories about how the Roys trained, inspired, and supported hundreds of people to turn ideas for social good into real world projects. Celebrating the occasion, Governor Kitzhaber and First Lady Hayes wrote: "We can't think of two more deserving people to be honored for their commitment to sustainability, volunteerism, and making a difference in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest."



SAGE honored the Roys on their 20th Anniversary as full-time volunteers pioneering sustainability efforts.



*Dick and Jeanne, Thank you so very much for what you have done for our community and for the future of the planet. We are all indebted to you for your contributions, your example, and your leadership.*

Congressman Blumenauer's remarks on the presentation of the SAGE Award

## Inspiring leadership

This spring, SAGE will offer its **Legacy Fellowship** to inspire people over fifty to launch social benefit projects of their own design. The Fellowship will involve groups of twelve to fifteen people who each agree to dedicate fifteen volunteer hours per month for ten months to develop and implement a project that addresses challenges facing younger and future generations. Working with a coach and mentored by peers, each fellow will be trained to develop a project that meets a need, is doable in ten months, and will capitalize on a fellow's personal passions and strengths.



SAGE Legacy Fellows will develop and complete social benefit projects of their own design.

## Raising awareness, person to person

**SAGE Socials** are small group conversations in homes with eight or more guests to spark conversations about the role of older Americans in safeguarding opportunities for younger and future generations. Guests reflect on their own opportunities in life, share concerns for the future, and explore how older Americans can help coming generations.

This year, we led four Socials, and three luncheons with students and leaders in government and business. Taken together, we sparked conversations with over one hundred people about giving forward in the communities, and these discussions significantly influenced our goals and programs for 2014.

## Connecting people to leaders

Our **StoryTree** highlights the volunteer efforts of our Sages, exemplary volunteers who champion local causes and who are available to mentor peers interested in giving forward in their community. This year, we featured Jeanne Magmer for giving forward for local schools and students, and Walt Mintkeski for his efforts to restore water quality.



Jeanne Magmer and Walt Mintkeski highlighted in our StoryTree for giving forward.



**SAGE Socials and Brown Bags** spark conversations about the challenges facing younger and future generations and how to help.

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*I came to the Social thinking: okay, what do you want me to do? Then I realized that SAGE isn't here to tell me what to do. They want me to figure that out, so that I can improve opportunities for the next generation.*

Karen Paladino, SAGE Socials Guest

*I found the brownbag both interesting and empowering – an opportunity to help shape a movement that can offer insight and opportunities for meaningful contributions to our values and our legacies as we journey through our most productive retirement years.*

Mark Long, SAGE Brown Bag Guest

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# Acknowledgments

Thanks to our members and supporters, SAGE launched several successful programs in 2013, and is poised to offer new ones in 2014. We greatly appreciate gifts from all of our supporters:

## FOUNDERS

### *Gifts of \$2,500 or more*

Ward Greene and Diane Ponti  
Greene & Markley P.C.  
Jeffrey and Sharon Higgs  
Elizabeth Schellberg and Gary Watkins  
Dick and Jeanne Roy

## LEGACY CIRCLE

### *Gifts of \$1,000 to \$2,499*

Bob and Ceil Huntington  
Tom Lindley  
Connie and Doug McDowell  
Michell Mendes  
Randy Sell and Tamara Crocker

## SAGE CIRCLE

### *Gifts from \$500 to \$999*

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David and Nancy Foraker  
Bill and Elaine Hallmark  
Josh Kadish and Lisa Maas  
Jim and Rhonda Kennedy

## PATRONS

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Jeanne Magmer

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Anne Squier  
David Sweet  
Grace Weinstein

## MEMBERS

### *Gifts up to \$49*

Sharon Brainard  
Connie Lively  
Katherine and John McNulty  
Marty McCall  
Carol McCreary  
Christopher Kochiss  
Kate Schaeffer on behalf of Friends of Outdoor  
School and the Multnomah ESD Outdoor  
School Program  
Tuck Wilson

***We appreciate the generosity of the following sponsors and individuals who contributed to our SAGE Awards***

### *Legacy Sponsors*

Greene & Markley, P.C.  
Stoel Rives LLP

### *Table and Supporting Sponsors*

Center for Earth Leadership  
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Neil Kelly Company  
Oregon State Bar Sustainable Future Section  
Portfolio 21  
Roy Family  
Tonkon Torp LLP & Max and Lori Miller  
Book Club Friends of Jeanne and Dick  
The Cellar Door

### *Individuals who purchased tickets*

Rick and Betsy Asai  
John Ashworth and Joyce Bernheim  
Tricia Bergman  
John and Gloria Bennett  
Ruth Beyer  
Ralph Bloemers  
Jay Bloom  
Duke and Jan Castle  
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Doug and Connie McDowell  
Andy and Heather McStay  
Walt and Vicki Mintkeski  
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Leonora Perron  
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Dick and Jeanne Roy  
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John and Sandy Watkinson  
Dennis and Jean Wilde  
Chris Winter  
Jeff Wolfstone  
Pat and Chet Wolter  
Scott and Aloha Wyse  
Julie Young  
David Yudkin

## SPECIAL GIFTS IN MEMORIAM

James and Mary Coleman  
Joanne and Steven Dunbar  
Lunaria Gallery  
Donna & Gayle Gilmour  
The Town Dance Club  
Linda Jacobson

## Thank You Volunteers

This year, nearly forty volunteers contributed to our programs. Our very special thanks to the following organizations and individuals for their extraordinary contributions to SAGE:

- Law firm of Greene & Markley P.C. for donating office space and support
- In kind donations from Terry Coates (creative design), Great Harvest Bread Company (meals), Mary Markley (program materials), Perkins Coie LLP (legal counsel), and Elizabeth Schellberg (accounting)
- Co-sponsors for our Visiting SAGE: Coalition for a Livable Future, Elders in Action, Greene & Markley, P.C., and Onward Oregon
- Volunteers: Susan Gilson (Give Forward), Jeanne Magmer (StoryTree), Walt Mintkeski (StoryTree), and Cynthia Sturm (StoryTree)

## Staff and Board of Directors

Steve Higgs, *Executive Director*

Ward Greene, *President and Chair*

Elizabeth Schellberg, *Secretary*

Randy Sell, *Treasurer*

Bill Hallmark, *Board Member*

Diane Ponti, *Board Member*

Mary Markley, *Board Member*

Dick Roy, *Board Member*

Jeanne Roy, *Board Member*



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## How can *you* get involved?

- **Stay connected.** Sign up for our e-newsletter for resources and news.
- **Host a SAGE Social or a Business Brown Bag.** Spark conversations about giving forward in your community.
- **Apply for our Legacy Fellowship.** Get trained to launch an innovative project of your own design.
- **Nominate a Sage for our StoryTree.** Inspire others with examples of service and leadership.
- **Volunteer with us.** Call for a range of opportunities, short and more long-term.
- **Make a tax-deductible donation.** Help us inspire more people to give forward. Every contribution is valued. Find out if your employer will match.

**Contact us and get involved**

**info@wearesage.org • 971-717-6570**

**www.wearesage.org**