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ABOUT US

OUR MISSION

To encourage the study of French and Francophone cultures and language, and foster cultural, intellectual, artistic, and friendly exchanges between the French-speaking world and our local community.

OUR VISION

To be the center for all things French in the Rockies.

OUR STORY

The Alliance Française is a worldwide non-profit, cultural and educational center founded in Paris in 1883. It is the world’s largest cultural network with over 800 chapters in 132 countries, serving over 500,000 students worldwide.

The Alliance Française organization has 107 locations in the United States alone, which makes it the largest network of Alliances Françaises in the world, and is serving 24,000 students (more than 48,000 enrolled) annually.

Founded in 1897, the Alliance Française de Denver (AFD) is one of the oldest non-profit organizations in the Denver-Metro area. It’s objective is to be a cultural destination for people eager to explore the diversity of Francophone cultures.

Since the mid 1980s, the Fondation AF, in conjunction with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, recruits an Executive Director whose salary is paid directly by the French tax payers. The AFD is also sponsored by Colorado tax payers as an SCFD supported organization.

DIVERSITY QUALITY COMMITMENT SOLIDARITY
**OUR TEAM**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Christophe POULET  
*President*

Fritz Bart  
*Secretary*

Reynald Bodeux  
*Treasurer*

Linette Hayat  
Danielle Badler  
Susan Fedel  
Catherine Bedard  
Christian Roche  
Liz Ward  
Michelle Bennewitz  
Joe Crystal  
Greg Mandel  
Jeffrey Richards (*ex-officio*)

**STAFF**

Martin Lafitte  
*Executive Director*

Sonja Balstad  
*Office Manager*

Nico Groenke  
*Marketing & Development*

Emmanuelle Pourroy  
*Education & Certifications*

**TEACHERS**

Francoise Bres-Gude  
Anne Timmerman  
Antoine Alawoe  
Zoe Hommerzheim  
Jean-Claude Hounou  
Blandine McLean  
Celine Levesque  
Christian Dallet  
Claudia Lewis  
Stephaine Turner  
Bethany Kazakevicius  
Helene North  
Isabelle Marques  
Sabine Lerus-Watson  
Edwige Wagner  
Lise Roussin  
Velina Dinkova  
Caterine Watt  
Julie Whitney  
Colleen Dunne  
Anna Chignaguet  
Jean-Francois Duclos

**INTERNS**

Aude Hertzler  
Lea Pawlak  
Julia Gorham  
Eleonor Chavignon  
Dilkush Kahn  
Aubrey Houdeshell

**VOLUNTEERS & FRIENDS**

Gary Fedel  
Fran Klein  
John Smith  
James Mair  
Greta Arendsen  
Jacqueline Barry  
Barbara Wasko  
Sam Poirier  
Evan & Michelle Orman  
David Keil  
Yumi Okazaki  
Melissa & Kathy Young  
Catherine Potter  
Sabine Whitney  
Keisia Theodor  
Dana Aubin  
Chisato Arai  
Claudia Miller  
Patricia Villegas  
Candace Kintzele  
Bruce Hook  
Helene Wieting  
Beatrice Dolan  
Maria De Sola  
Claire Grant  
Beth Schneider  
Ariadma Segura  
Diego Zarate  
Donat Pierre Luigi  
Sandrine Ricotte  
Megan Schwabarer  
Elisabeth Willner  
Juliet Mann  
Jennifer Des Rosiers  
Fanny Aucome  
Omar & Melanie Soubra  
Thomas Dance Project  
Fred Pichon  
Anne Redureau  
Terrence Timmerman  
Jody Neely  
Rich L’Or  
The Sister Cities committee  
The whole l’Alliance & Co team  
The whole Young Pros team

**VOLUNTEERS AND FRIENDS**

Frieda Sanidas-Leason  
Bob McCarrol  
Witold K  
Nan Campbell  
Iana Doncheva  
Emma Glass  
Jerry Combs & Izzy Aragon

Special thanks to:  
Bethany Dickinson, Katia Gorgone & Alexandra Malan
Chère Communauté de l’Alliance Française,

I would like to thank you, our community, in its entirety, for a solid year of progress at the Alliance Française. This wonderful community includes our students, teachers, our hard-working staff and volunteers, our members, our donors, our partners and our board members. Thank you to everyone keeping our Alliance Française the primary French cultural and linguistic center in the Rocky Mountain Region.

My first year as President of the Board has been quite successful, yet eventful, for the Alliance Française. Two weeks ago, we were able to kick start our new fiscal year with a sold out fundraising gala in a great location at the University of Denver. Our whole team has done an exceptional job at developing both the school and cultural programs and running the day to day operations of our organization. Today the Alliance Française is well-positioned to continue to provide its francophone cultural resources to the Denver-Metro Area and beyond.

Our 121 year old organization, so dear to our hearts, is in a good place at the moment due to the hard work of its community, but also to the support of the French Ministère des Affaires Étrangères, and the Fondation Alliance Française (Paris), which provided the AFD with three highly qualified directors in 12 years. Our current director, Martin Lafitte, has combined many of the great qualities of the two previous directors in that he has been adept at finding new markets for French classes in the Denver Metro area and at the same time expanding our cultural event offerings in the areas of music, science, business, literature, film, and many other subject areas that intersect with francophone culture around the world.

I believe that the combination of a dedicated community and the support of the French government has allowed the AFD to grow and develop into the institution of which you are a member today. Your organization has been the center of francophone culture in Denver for over 120 years and I am certain that it will be so 120 years from now.

However, as of 2019, we will be entering an exceptional period in our long history. As a result of budgetary and diplomatic issues, the Fondation Alliance Française and the French government will no longer be funding our executive directorship position past September of 2019. After this point, the Alliance Française de Denver will be responsible for funding its own executive director position.

While this is an unfortunate development, our AFD Board of Directors is planning to maintain all current contacts with the Fondation Alliance Française in Paris, as cultural and linguistic resources will remain available to all the Alliances in North America on a competitive basis.

Our Board is currently developing a strategic plan with these new developments in mind. We have a variety of options for continuing the important cultural and francophone presence provided by the Executive Director of the Alliance Française de Denver. Additional initiatives will be taken by the Board of Directors, which include an enhanced approach to fundraising, guided by the strategic plan. We also plan to develop a dedicated core of volunteers and a volunteer committee to assist with our cultural and fundraising events.

This a challenging time for our organization, but let’s take up this challenge together! Thank you for being a part of the Alliance Française de Denver Community. Your support makes everything possible.
Chers amis,

L’année dernière, à l’occasion de notre AGM 2017, je vous promettais une année riche, placée sous le signe du développement des cours et de la pérennisation de nos ambitieux projets culturels.

Commençons par notre école de français. Cette année encore, nous poursuivons notre développement avec +2% d’inscriptions par rapport à l’année dernière et +6.3% d’heures vendues sur l’année fiscale. Pour la première fois de notre histoire, nous avons enregistré plus de 1500 inscriptions en cours de français.

Nos cours de français général ont plus que jamais le vent en poupe et nous observons une progression totale de +11.2% du chiffre d’affaire de notre centre de langue (après avoir déjà observé une hausse de 7.5% l’année dernière).

Les cours de conversation et ateliers, ainsi que les cours pour enfants progressent toujours (+14.8% et +15.5%), tandis que les cours individuels subissent une légère baisse comparé à l’année dernière (-7%), cela du à une plus faible disponibilité de nos professeurs vis-à-vis de la demande grandissante.

Nous sommes très fiers de ces résultats dont le mérite revient à la qualité du travail de toute l’équipe. Je tiens ici à remercier tout particulièrement Madame Francoise Bres-Gude qui a travaillé plus de 20 ans dans notre établissement et qui a dû prendre sa retraite cette année. Elle manquera beaucoup à nos élèves !

Cette croissance générale ne se fait pas au détriment de la qualité, bien au contraire. Par exemple, la moyenne d’élèves par classe adulte est stable (6) et les enquêtes de satisfaction que nous menons auprès de nos étudiants sont toujours extrêmement positives.

L’un des facteurs de croissance a été le développement de nos cours et activités pour enfants, ainsi que la clarification de toutes nos offres via la création d’un portfolio de l’apprenant.

La diversification de nos offres et la création de nouvelles antennes à Centennial et Parker (dans le campus de Global Village Academy) peuvent également expliquer ce succès. En outre, la création d’une nouvelle offre « Business French » nous donne beaucoup d’espoir de développement pour l’avenir, avec notamment la signature d’un premier contrat cet été avec la compagnie basée à Broomfield, Zimmer Biomet.

Cette année encore, nous avons amélioré nos outils de travail : le toit de notre bâtiment a été remis à neuf cet été et la salle de bains des dames a été entièrement rénovée.

Notre site Internet a également été rénové avec l’aide d’une équipe de webdesigners locaux, tout comme nos outils de communication. Nous avons par ailleurs entamé la mise en place du nouveau logiciel de gestion des cours et du marketing (Synergy 8) qui permettra à notre organisation une meilleure maîtrise des données liées à son activité et une amélioration globale de nos opérations.

Grâce au travail de notre “département” marketing et communication, nous sommes désormais très visibles sur les réseaux sociaux (plus 3500 likes sur Facebook et 1700 sur Twitter et près de 900 sur Instagram), dans les médias (Fox et CBS) et au sein de la communauté grâce à nos nombreux partenariats (Paper Fashion Show, Denver International Film Festival, Evergreen Music Festival).

Au niveau de la saison culturelle, notre seconde mission, plus de 7.000 Coloradiens ont assisté à l’un des 215 événements, projections ou présentations organisés par l’Alliance Française de Denver seule ou en partenariat avec d’autres organismes dans le cadre de notre saison culturelle.

En septembre 2017, nous avons célébré le 120ème anniversaire de l’AFD en grandes pompes au Denver Art Museum en présence du Consul Général de France à Los Angeles et d’autres personnalités importantes de notre réseau culturel.
Novembre 2017 a donné l’occasion d’assister à la toute nouvelle mise en scène du « Petit Prince », adapté en français et en anglais par l’Alliance & Co en partenariat avec le King Center et UCD, pour 14 représentations exceptionnelles.

Pour la première fois, Franco Fête a été l’occasion pour notre communauté de célébrer les fêtes de fin d’année avec la communauté africaine francophone de Denver.

Comme chaque année, notre Fête de la Musique a été un beau succès au Mercury Café et notre groupe de « Young Pros » a été extrêmement actif toute l’année avec de nombreuses activités organisées (Murder Mistery, painting night, wine tasting, trivia night, karaoke et film nights).

Enfin, une magnifique collaboration avec le Trio Carol a pu être réalisée dans le cadre des 70 ans du jumelage Denver-Brest. 2 concerts ont pu être organisés à l’AF et à Dazzle, tous deux complets.

Poursuivant notre plan stratégique et notre volonté d’étendre notre influence dans le paysage culturel de Denver, nous avons par ailleurs poursuivi nos collaborations régulières avec les grands opérateurs culturels de la région (Denver Film Society, Colorado Ballet, Children’s Museum, Denver Fashion Week, Denver Art Museum). Partout où nous intervenons, nous ajoutons notre signature, à savoir de l’originalité, de la diversité et de l’innovation.

Nous souhaitons développer la francophonie dans le Colorado et ces partenariats sont essentiels à notre action culturelle.

Parmi les événements dont nous sommes le plus fiers, citons bien-sûr Festinema Junior. Au printemps 2018, ce festival du film jeunesse piloté par notre Alliance a vu un développement exceptionnel avec pas moins de 46 écoles participantes (2.500 étudiants) dans le Colorado. Nous avons pu travailler avec des établissements de Boulder et Colorado Springs afin de permettre à un plus large public de bénéficier de ce programme entièrement gratuit.

A l’échelle nationale, 23 AF à travers les USA ont également pris part à Festinema et plus de 10.000 jeunes américains de 4 à 18 ans ont pu voir l’un des films du programme. Ce festival annuel nous permet de renforcer notre image d’opérateur culturel francophone de première importance auprès des écoles locales, des enseignants de français du Colorado, mais aussi de nos partenaires institutionnels à Denver, à New York et en France.

La prochaine année sera ma dernière à la tête de l’Alliance Française de Denver et je veux continuer à donner toute mon énergie à notre association. L’école de français poursuivra son développement et offrira encore plus de services aux familles, aux enfants et aux parents.

Cependant, l’AFD fait également face à un défi nouveau pour elle : au printemps 2018, nous avons été informés par les canaux officiels que le poste de directeur détaché, sponsorisé par le Ministère Français des Affaires Etrangères depuis le milieu des années 80, allait être supprimé à partir de septembre 2019... il s’agit d’un défi de taille car, sans un tel soutien, l’AFD devra désormais recruter son prochain directeur localement et également prendre en charge son salaire. Notre conseil d’administration travaille en ce moment même à des solutions qui seront présentées dans notre prochain plan stratégique cet automne.

Même si cette nouvelle est un choc pour tout le monde, l’AFD est en mesure de le surmonter. Mais cela ne pourra se faire sans l’aide et le soutien de toute notre communauté de francophones et francophiles, amoureuses de la langue française et des cultures francophones.

C’est grâce à cette formidable communauté que nous pousserons nos ambitions et notre développement, toujours dans un esprit d’ouverture vers les autres cultures et de collaboration avec les autres organismes du Colorado et nos partenaires du réseau culturel français aux USA.

Je tiens à remercier ce soir toute l’équipe de l’Alliance Française, staff, professeurs et volontaires. Je remercie également le conseil d’administration de l’Alliance Française de Denver et en particulier son président Christophe Poulet pour son soutien et ses conseils. Et bien sur tous nos étudiants et membres qui nous font chaque jour le plaisir et l’honneur de venir vers notre langue et nos cultures.
OUR SCHOOL

- With dynamic courses, enthusiastic teachers and an increased presence of technology in the classrooms, the AF language center remains Colorado’s hub for students of French of all levels and ages.
- The diverse offering of our center attracted 786 unique students this fiscal year. Reasonably priced and taught by qualified native and fluent French-speaking instructors, programs continued to expand for adults and children alike.
- The constant search for quality and modernization of our teaching methods and programs is the heart of our educational team’s mission.
- Created in Winter 2018, the position of Learning Programs Coordinator has implemented new learning portfolios for both students and teachers.
- A training plan has been created and sessions focusing on usage of technology, have been organized throughout the year in collaboration with the ATTF and Culutural Services.
- We are a certified center for DELF/DALF (adults and children) and TCF exams, as well as for DAEFLE exams. 25 candidates obtained their certifications in 2017-2018.
last year’s

SCHOOL RESULTS

- This year has been incredible for the AFD in terms of registrations and hours sold.
- The kids programs continued to grow while our foundation classes skyrocketed.
- Our education program saw an increase in hours sold for the fourth consecutive year.
- This shows more than 16.5% of an increase in four years.

+12% revenue from school

6.0 student per class

2017-2018

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Created the Learning Programs Coordinator position in charge of educational development, training, technology, and outreach.
- Increased communication between students, teachers and staff.
- Development and expansion of teacher resource database.
- DELF Prim’ Certification of students in Global Village Academy in Parker.
- Diversification of classes and workshops.
- Launched Business French program in Westminster with our first clients.
- Second Kids Summer Workshop and first whole day sessions this Summer.
- Addition of a new teaching location in Parker.
- Pioneer beta testers of Mon Alliance platform, a Learning Management System, to enhance our teaching.
- Purchase of new computers and creation of a training plan for teachers to use new technologies and software.
CLASSES DEMOGRAPHICS

- **Private:** 16%
- **Kids:** 15%
- **Adults:** 69%

HOURS SOLD EACH TERM

- **Summer 2018:** 20%
- **Fall 2017:** 26%
- **Winter 2018:** 30%
- **Spring 2018:** 25%

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**Synergy 8**

- Synergy 8 is an all-in-one digital platform that the AFD will begin using on January 2019.
- We will unify our information, website, and digital tools
- Better personalize our newsletter for your points of interests
- Strengthen our business by improving the online purchase experience
- Increase productivity by simplifying the day-to-day tasks for the team

**Mon Alliance**

- Mon Alliance is a Learning Management System (LMS) created by the Fondation Alliance Française. With the implementation at the AFD, it will:
  - Connect students with their classmates
  - Enhance communication between teachers and their students
  - Provide an online study space with tools made by publishing companies
  - Modernize the way students learn

**Culturethèque USA**

- We are proud to offer our free Culturethèque USA online digital library to members of the Alliance Française de Denver.
- Conveniently accessed from any personal computer, tablet or smartphone, members can read French magazines as they hit newsstands, view concerts and shows, listen to lectures, read eBooks and comics, enhance their language skills with materials tailored to their needs.

**Pluma**

- Pluma is a printed 24-page monthly magazine as well as a digital platform, created by an AFD teacher, Zoe Hess, and designed for people who are learning, or have learned French, and want to practice at their own pace by reading articles with various interesting topics, in French.
- AFD Members receive 15% off subscription fees as part of our benefits!
**2017-2018 Overview**

### 2017-2018 Financial Results

- Total Revenue of $604K, up 1.3% from 2016-17, including School revenue of $438K, up 12%
- Total Expenses of $570K, up 9% from 2016-17
- Operating Profit of $33K, down 55% from 2016-17

### Main Drivers & Highlights

- Creation of a 2nd Teaching Coordinator position
- Investment in new technology (marketing software & web platform)
- Several one-off expense items including annual financial review requirements and Director visa fees
- Major improvements to the Maison Francaise (remodeling of kitchen and bathrooms, etc.)

### 2018-19 Budget Highlights

- New service offerings expected to generate strong revenue growth
- More strategic focus on fundraising initiatives
- Renewed focus on controlling expenses

### Revenue Growth

- In 2017, we received a total of $41,071.62 from SCFD.
- The operating profit in 2017-2018 was $33,771.07.
- Revenues from fundraising, memberships and cultural programs all together are down by 30% compared to previous fiscal year.

### Total Assets

$1,338,064

### Total Liabilities

$43,536

### Cash & Cash Equivalents

YEAR-END

$690,840
2017-2018 REVENUE  $604,378

- Cultural events: $37,633.17
- Membership: $36,406.80
- SCFD grants: $41,071.62
- School: $438,469.54
- Fundraising: $41,922.50
- Other revenue: $8,874.82

2017-2018 EXPENSES  $570,607

- School: $44,919.73
- Programs/Events: $66,693.62
- Fundraising/Memb: $27,630.36
- Operations: $75,194.63
- Building: $10,029.84
- Payroll: $346,139.20
2018-2019 BUDGET

**REVENUE**
$628,033
- Cultural events $75,399
- Membership $38,077
- SCFD grants $44,067
- School $451,974
- Fundraising $53,702
- Other revenue $8,874

**EXPENSES**
$533,219
- Operations $255,334
- School $201,625
- Membership $2,696
- Programs/Events $33,565
- Building $10,029.84
- Advertising $13,465
- Fundraising $16,509
OUR MEMBERSHIP

- The Alliance Française de Denver is currently offering a wide variety of membership levels—from Individual and Family Memberships to Student and Senior Memberships.
- Starting in 2017, AFD added a Young Pros membership to cater to the growing group of Denver Francophiles. This group was responsible for the organization of 12 events during the year for a total of 220 attendees!
- This past year we also launched our Corporate and Non-Profit Memberships to complement our new French for Business courses.
- Maximize your support of AFD with our Silver and Gold Memberships which include exclusive member benefits and invites to special events.
Our Events & Programs

- In 2017-2018, the Alliance Française continued to base its cultural programming on three principles: diversity, collaboration, and education.
- Diversity brought events related to art, music, dance, cinema, literature, history, fashion, science, current events, philosophy and art de vivre.
- Subject matter is not reserved solely to France but to the whole French-speaking world and often addresses cross-cultural issues.
- Thanks to strong collaborations with other organizations, the AFD was once again this year able to maintain high visibility and to offer artists, key speakers and other participants a larger and more diverse audience.
- Interculturality is also systematically brought to the classroom.
As an SCFD supported non-profit, our organization is encouraged to create new partnerships and collaborations with local organizations. In 2017-2018, numerous projects were created thanks to those collaborations:

- **Created in December ’17, FrancoFête was an opportunity to partner with African organizations and celebrate the end of the year with craft activities, music, dance, a French-speaking kids’ choir and a toy drive. A total of 75 guests came to taste African specialties and appreciated special performances by the kids and band Simba.**

- **For the celebrations of the Francophonie, AFD partnered with DFS and the Canadian consulate to invite Mr Bruno Moynie for a special screening of his documentary, “A Sense of Place”, depicting the difficulties of Black French-speaking Africans within the American society.**

- **Other collaborations with DFS on our monthly J’Adore Cine-Club and annual Denver International Film Festival are continuing to be successful.**

2017-18 COLLABORATIONS

- A large part of the AFD’s success relies on the recurring nature of many events. Our traditional programs continued to attract members and non-members to the AFD. Our Fête de la Musique ’18 attracted 150 people and Bastille Day 2018 was well appreciated as well.

- **Our Fête de la Musique ’18 attracted 150 people and Bastille Day 2018 was well appreciated as well.**

- **AF&Co - the French-speaking theater troupe created in 1976 - was reactivated and they participated in various events since Spring 2017 (Fête de la Musique, Bastille Day, Molly Brown anniversary and Gala 2017). A bilingual production of “Le Petit Prince” was presented 14 times at Auraria Campus in November in collaboration with UCD.**

- **Each year, the Alliance Française de Denver raises awareness of and support for its cultural programs through its Annual Fundraising Gala. In 2017, the AFD celebrated its 120th Anniversary at the Denver Art Museum. This event attracted 180 guests on September 9th, 2017. This is the largest fundraiser of the year.**

- **L’Alliance & Co - the French-speaking theater troupe created in 1976 - was reactivated and they participated in various events since Spring 2017 (Fête de la Musique, Bastille Day, Molly Brown anniversary and Gala 2017). A bilingual production of “Le Petit Prince” was presented 14 times at Auraria Campus in November in collaboration with UCD.**
Festinema Junior: an exponential growth for the film education program spearheaded by the US network of Alliances françaises: 153 screenings, 23 participating Alliances françaises and more than 10,000 attendees.

To celebrate this year’s Francophonie festivities, twenty-three Alliances Françaises from the US network have participated in the fifth edition of FESTINEMA JUNIOR, a French youth Film Festival designed for those 4-18 years old.

Created in 2014 by the Alliances Françaises of Puerto Rico and New Orleans, the goal of this festival is to promote the French language and francophone cultures through the screenings of four movies and the creation of free lesson plans in French, English and Spanish. Indeed, this festival aims at introducing the young audience to subtitled foreign movies and independent films as well as teaching young people to think critically in their film analysis.

For this year’s edition of the Festival, four movies were selected for four different audiences, kindergarten, elementary, middle and high school. High school students and teachers really enjoyed “Swagger” by Olivier Babinet and middle schoolers were moved by Angelin Preljocaj’s “Polina”. As for our younger audience, FESTINEMA JUNIOR screened “Le Roi et l’Oiseau” a classic by Paul Grimault and Jacques Prévert for kids aged 7 to 12 and “Les 4 Saisons de Léon” by Antoine Lanciaux, Pierre-Luc Crangan and Pascal Le Notre for the little ones (4-6). For each of these movies, a trilingual version of the lesson plans was provided to the teachers for free in order to implement activities around the movie in the classroom.

This year again, the Alliance Française de Denver spearheaded the coordination of this project on a national scale. We are absolutely delighted to see how fast it is growing year after year: in 2016, 7 Alliances and 4,000 students participated. In 2018, 23 Alliances and more than 10,000 students attended!

In the Mile High area only, 45 schools took part in the Festival and 2,645 students attended the screenings that were organized at the SIE Filmcenter, but also in Boulder (Farview HS) and Colorado Springs (Cheyenne Mountain HS) for the first time! We need to thank again Ms Laurette Nassif and M Bertrand Olong for their incredible support!

Given the festival’s success, we have been able to reach a new phase by collaborating with the French Embassy’s Cultural Services in New York, the FACE Foundation and Kids Trail. As part of the Education to Image National Program, CineSchool now allows all schools and Alliances Françaises in the USA to have a direct online access to all lesson plans created and movies screened since 2014 on the platform Frenchculture.org.

The Alliance Française de Denver and the network of Alliance Française in the USA would like to particularly thank all the sponsors who supported Festinema Junior in 2018: the Institut Français, the FACE Foundation and Kids Trail, TV5 Monde, Oscilloscope Laboratories, the Délégation Générale of the AF in USA, the Federation of the AF is USA and the French Embassy in the USA.
Thanks to the support of its community, the AFD has been able to fund original and diverse cultural projects from its members since 1979. During the last fiscal year, the AFD contributed to the creation of several projects including Thomas Dance Project’s HOME, presented at Colorado Ballet Academy in June 2018. Also in collaboration with Thomas Dance Project was the creation of a choreography to pay homage to the victims of the "Holocaust by Bullets" at Yahad En Unum’s fundraiser last October, in collaboration with the Jewish community.

YEAR 2017-2018

The AFD has been a proud sponsor of the annual Denver Paper Fashion Show since 2016, and we were so proud and happy to be the recipients of the "Star Student Award" for the amazing work that Isabella Aragon did creating a 100% paper made, French inspired dress - "Belle de Jour". We are so proud!

As part of our collaboration with the Denver Film Society for Festinema Juniors 2018, the AFD received extra funding from the NGFD to support the creation of a French-speaking short film by students who participated in Festinema. 5 students from 3 different High Schools were selected and participated in the Young Filmmakers Workshop this Summer 2018. The short film will be screened during the Festival in 2019.

The AFD has been a proud sponsor of the annual Denver Paper Fashion Show since 2016, and we were so proud and happy to be the recipients of the "Star Student Award" for the amazing work that Isabella Aragon did creating a 100% paper made, French inspired dress - "Belle de Jour". We are so proud!

For the 70th anniversary of the twinning between Brest and Denver, a series of events were organized in collaboration with the Sister Cities International, including two concerts of the "Trio Carol", part of the Nautilus Ensemble from Brest, at the AFD and at Dazzle, which were both sold out! We hope to collaborate with them again in 2019!

The AFD is supportive of the Rocky Mountain French American Chamber of Commerce’s activities and both our memberships share the same benefits. In April 2018, together with the German Chamber of Commerce and Norwegian Air, the AF community could enjoy the kick-off party of the new direct flight between Denver and Paris. More than 150 people attended this event.

PFS AWARD

SISTER CITIES

CULTURAL PROJECTS SCHOLARSHIPS

DFS

FACC
During the 2017-2018 fiscal year the Alliance Française de Denver completed a number of major renovations and improvements as well as few minor repairs in order to improve the functionality and hospitality of the Maison Française. These include:

**OUR BUILDING PROJECTS**

- **Rehabilitation of the Men’s Bathroom** – A complete renovation of the first floor men’s bathroom was undertaken as a result of water leaks and floor subsidence. The work was completed in October 2017 with a total cost of $7,643. The rehabilitated restroom is ADA compliant.

- **Repair of the Basement Stairway** – The rickety stairs to the Alliance basement were repaired during May of 2018 at a cost of $450. The stairs were worn and presented a safety hazard.

- **Sprinkler System Repair** – Minor repairs were made to the building’s landscape sprinkler system in May as a result of damaged that occurred during the winter. Total cost for the repair was $150.

- **Patio Gates** – The custom made entry gates to the Alliance patio was completed and installed during the summer 2018. The uniquely designed cast iron gates provide the finishing touches to the patio and petanque court. Total cost of $2500.

- **Library Move** – Also during the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the library was moved from the second floor to the first, in the former classroom number one. The new library space was repainted and was fitted with new shelving, tables and chairs and is bright and airy thereby creating a more useful and harmonious space for reading, meetings and working. Total cost approximately $4,000.

**RESTROOM**

A complete rehabilitation of the first floor women’s restroom was completed in May of 2018 for a cost of $12,000. The old restroom was dark and dingy, poorly lit, lacking in adequate heating and ventilation. The completed renovation is more functional and welcoming. A portion of the total construction costs were covered by member donations. We are still open to any suggestions regarding decorations!

**ROOF**

After many years of complaining to our insurance company regarding hail damage, an adequate assessment was completed and the roof was found to be damaged beyond repair. As such the insurance company provided funding for almost the entire roof replacement. The total cost for this work was approximately $32,000. The new roof is fully compliant with Denver building codes and includes impact resistant shingles.

**DS ART**

One day, Bastille Day Fairies brought a sad broken down 1964 Citroen DS to the AFD...

We were surprised but then, more French Fairies from the community came to us and transformed it into a fantastic and iconic French landmark in the heart of Denver. Thanks again to the help of the Denver Citroen Club, Fred Pichon, Dan & Zoey Griner and Anne Redureau for their creativity! It has drawn an extraordinary amount of attention to our center!

**MAFGA**

Since 2018, the AFD is getting all its electricity from a solar farm based in Colorado! In addition, our former Marketing manager, Bethany Dickinson, created a composting station based on the South-East side of the property. Let’s all Make the Alliance Française Green Again!
merci to all
OUR DONORS & SPONSORS

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