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**For Immediate Release**

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### **Historic Homestake Opera House Fund assures a bright future for Lead**

Generous donors have come together to establish a new endowment that will assure future generations of Lead residents and visitors that “the gem of the Black Hills,” the Historic Homestake Opera House, will continue to offer a variety of entertainment and cultural enrichment in the years ahead.

The Historic Homestake Opera House endowment fund has been established at Black Hills Area Community Foundation (BHACF), a 501(c)(3) public charity. The fund was started by Lead resident, Jacquelyn Fuller who stated, “I want to make sure that many years from now the resources will be there to care for this beautiful structure and to bring the people of our community together for educational and cultural opportunities, special events and the myriad activities that make this our home.”

More than \$3 million has been invested in the restoration of the Opera House. According to Fuller, the figure would be significantly higher if a dollar value could be placed on the enormous contributions of time and talent from volunteers, community members, graduates of Lead-Deadwood High School and the members of the Society. “For many of these devoted people, this project has been a labor of love. Now it is time to assure its future,” said Fuller.

BHACF serves as steward of endowment funds for a number of Black Hills area charities. In an endowment fund the principal stays intact and only a portion of the earnings is allocated each year for the charitable purpose. The Historic Homestake Opera House fund is considered an “acorn” or start-up fund and earnings will be available after contributions reach a minimum of \$10,000. Fuller is encouraging others to contribute to this acorn fund to help it grow quickly. Those interested in participating can contact Regina Jahr, BHACF at 605.718.0112 or Jacquelyn Fuller at 605.722.3399.

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