

Susan Grace to Receive Spirit of the Springs Award

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Susan Grace, senior lecturer, associate chair, and artist-in-residence with the CC Music Department, will receive the Spirit of the Springs Award at 10 a.m., Monday, June 23 in Packard Hall. The award, which is given to persons whose accomplishments have enhanced the city and community, will be presented by Colorado Springs Mayor Steve Bach.

Grace, who was nominated for a Grammy in the Best Small Ensemble Performance category in 2005, also is the music director of the Colorado College Summer Music Festival, currently celebrating its 30th anniversary. The festival, an intensive three-week program for 49 advanced student musicians, draws young musicians – as well as faculty members – from across the country. All students participate in a concert series including formal and informal chamber music concerts, five orchestra performances, including a free children's concert, and several off-campus outreach concerts throughout the region.

Grace has performed solo and chamber recitals, and has appeared as soloist with orchestras in the United States, Europe, the former Soviet Union, Korea, India, and China. She also has performed in the Aspekte Festival in Salzburg, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra's new-music series Engine 408, Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C., the Grand Teton Festival, the Cape Cod Music Festival, Festival Mozaic, Music at Oxford, and the Helmsley Festival in England. She is a member of Quattro Mani, an internationally acclaimed two-piano ensemble with pianist Steven Beck. Recent appearances have included the Austin and Alabama Symphonies, Colorado College and Subculture in New York City. Quattro Mani is scheduled to record two of Mozart's concertos with the Odense Symphony and Scott Yoo conducting in Denmark next season.

She has recorded for Bridge Records, the Belgium National Radio, WFMT in Chicago, the Society of Composers, Wilson Audio, Klavier International, and Klavier Music Productions.

Grace received a Pikes Peak Arts Council “Force for the Arts” award in 2009, which celebrates Colorado Springs community members who contribute to the arts in education. In September 2009 the ninth annual Pikes Peak Arts Council Awards honored her work as music director of the Summer Music Festival with the “Vision, Courage and Achievement Award.” She also was a recipient of the 2005 Business and Community Alliance Partner award, which recognized her significant contributions to the non-college community.