



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:  
Kelly Plummer  
651-206-9852  
[kelly@superstarpr.com](mailto:kelly@superstarpr.com)

## **Ann Bancroft Foundation Hires Program Director**

MINNEAPOLIS (November 8, 2018) — The Ann Bancroft Foundation (ABF) is proud to announce the hiring of Katie Lauer as Program Director. Katie closely identifies with the mission of ABF having grown up in Minnesota where she benefited from a strong support system that encouraged her to pursue her dreams.

Since 1997, ABF has awarded \$1,653,160 to 4,405 Minnesota girls in grades K-12. The organization also connects girls to mentors who provide guidance, encouragement and friendship at a critical time in their lives. The grants are investments (up to \$500) that have immediate and lasting impact. Each ABF grant opens the window to a world of possibly, providing a young Minnesota girl an opportunity she may never thought existed.

Katie comes to ABF from Carleton College where she served as the Interim Director of Summer Academic Programs. Katie facilitated pre-college programs for high school students, professional development for high school teachers, and conferences and events for community organizations. She focused on giving access and opportunity to all students through grant funding for need-based financial aid.

Katie also served as an assistant coach for the Carleton College Women's Basketball Team from 2016-2018. As a graduate of St. Olaf College, Katie holds a degree in studio art and media studies and is a freelance photographer and designer in her spare time.

For interview opportunities, please contact Kelly Plummer at 651-206-9852.

**The Ann Bancroft Foundation** ([www.annbancroftfoundation.org](http://www.annbancroftfoundation.org)) supports girls to realize their highest dreams and potential. ABF exemplifies the spirit of explorer and educator, Ann Bancroft, whose leadership and personal and historic achievements have inspired all people to take on new challenges. Bancroft organized and led the first-known all-woman expedition to Antarctica, becoming the first woman to reach both Poles across the ice. In 2001 Bancroft and Norwegian Liv Arnesen became the first women in history to cross Antarctica's landmass.

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