## **Sue Heckart**

Sue Heckart's benevolence is seemingly boundless, especially when it comes to supporting the students of Sedalia School District 200.

A member of Smith-Cotton's Class of 1957, Heckart was born with music in her veins, performing in a trio with her parents, Stella and Del. Her interest in S-C and arts education has continued throughout her life, as evidenced by the Heckart Performing Arts Center, donated by Sue and named in honor of her beloved parents. For more than 40 years, Heckart and her Heckart | Family Foundation have fulfilled wish lists for not only instrumental and vocal music programs, but also other Sedalia 200 departments, including



scholarships and financial support for trips or events. Sedalia's arts students have no greater advocate than Sue Heckart.

Beyond the Heckart PAC, she has provided most of the funding for new seating in the Smith-Cotton Junior High auditorium, has provided student scholarships and is the most generous contributor to the Smith-Cotton Stadium at Jennie Jaynes Complex behind the high school. In addition, she provided the Heckart Allied Sciences Building and endowed scholarships at State Fair Community College, ample support for the Sedalia Symphony Orchestra and her business, Heckart Funeral Home, donates thousands of dollars each year as part of its Christmas Wreath Lighting Ceremony. She also helped build a new animal shelter for our community.

In her nomination letter, former Sedalia 200 Superintendent Dr. Harriet Wolfe wrote: "Sue Heckart is the perfect example of an alumnus who believes strongly in giving back to the community in which she lives and does business. ... Her generosity is unequaled by most and her vision for what can be brought to the youth and the adults of this community is far-reaching."

Inducted in Smith-Cotton Activities Hall of Fame, 2014