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McGregor Fund Announces Grants for the Argonaut Building and Detroit Historical Society

Detroit, MI, December 14, 2010 – The McGregor Fund has awarded two grants in support of significant capital campaigns for Detroit-based projects. College for Creative Studies was awarded \$1,000,000 for its Argonaut Building project, and the Detroit Historical Society was awarded \$800,000 for its Past>Forward Comprehensive Campaign to make improvements at the Detroit Historical and Dossin museums.

“Both projects will advance the missions of these important Detroit institutions and provide significant community and economic benefit. The projects are notable for their strong support by a broad group of investors and volunteer leadership,” said C. David Campbell, President of the McGregor Fund. “In these difficult economic times, carefully planned capital projects can be important investments in our region’s future viability, particularly investments in educational and cultural infrastructure that will help make Detroit a more appealing place to live, work and learn.”

The grants were approved by the McGregor Fund board of trustees at its December meeting, at which 12 grants totaling \$2,830,000 were approved for non-profit agencies working in the areas of human services, health care, public benefit, education and arts and culture (full list attached).

The McGregor Fund awarded a grant of \$1,000,000 to College for Creative Studies (CCS) to support development costs of the A. Alfred Taubman Center in the former General Motors Argonaut Building as a second CCS campus in Detroit’s Midtown, as well as improvements to the original Walter and Josephine Ford campus. The Taubman Center, an educational center devoted to preparing students for careers in the creative industries, opened in September 2009 following a very extensive renovation of the Argonaut Building, the former General Motors headquarters for research and design. Designed by Albert Kahn, the transformed Argonaut Building gives CCS a second campus, including classroom and studio space for the College’s undergraduate and graduate design programs, and dormitory space for 300 undergraduate and graduate students. The building also houses a new charter middle and high school focused on art and design, a joint venture of the Thompson Educational

Foundation, the Henry Ford Learning Institute and CCS; the Detroit Creative Corridor Center, a business accelerator that is a joint venture between Business Leaders for Michigan and CCS; and a conference center and 500-seat auditorium. Along with the development of the Taubman Center, CCS is making major improvements on the original campus, now known as the Walter and Josephine Ford campus, including new or improved spaces for Crafts, the academic studies departments, a Student Services Center, new video and sound studios, expanded library, and expanded dining facility and residence hall. The McGregor Fund grant, which is planned for payment over five years, will help to retire construction debt.

A grant of \$800,000 was awarded to Detroit Historical Society (DHS) for its \$21.6 million Past>Forward Comprehensive Campaign. The campaign, which began last year and is scheduled to last over five years, will raise \$11.2 million for capital improvements and \$10.4 million for the museums' general operations during the campaign period. Funds raised will be used to make significant enhancement of exhibits, outreach and educational programming at the museums. They will also ensure the preservation of DHS's collection of over 200,000 artifacts, digitization of key artifacts and an online searchable artifact database accessible to distance researchers, including children. Campaign funds will also support development of online curriculum tools for classroom use, as well as structural and exhibit lighting improvements for both museum buildings. As part of the operations budgets, DHS will be revitalizing its curatorial and education departments by restoring staff positions that had been left vacant during the recent restructuring of operations. The Fund's grant is scheduled for payment over four years, and is comprised of \$400,000 in capital support and \$100,000 per year in each of four years for annual operations.

The McGregor Fund is a private foundation established in 1925 by gifts from Katherine and Tracy McGregor "to relieve the misfortunes and promote the well-being of mankind." The foundation awards grants to organizations in the following areas: human services, education, health care, arts and culture, and public benefit. The area of principal interest of the foundation is the city of Detroit and Macomb, Oakland and Wayne counties. The McGregor Fund has granted over \$200 million since its founding and had assets of \$150 million as of June 30, 2010. Visit www.mcgregorfund.org for additional information.

**McGREGOR FUND GRANTS APPROVED
DECEMBER 2010**

HUMAN SERVICES

American Red Cross - Southeastern Michigan Chapter

Detroit, MI

\$100,000

To support work on local disaster and emergency services.

Coalition on Temporary Shelter

Detroit, MI

\$300,000

To support operation of the emergency shelter and supportive services for homeless persons

HAVEN, Inc.

Pontiac, MI

\$85,000

To support shelter and programs for survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Macomb County Warming Center

Roseville, MI

\$35,000

To support the Peer-to-Peer Project which provides group support meetings and direct aid for motivated homeless persons seeking permanent housing, employment and mainstream activities.

Serenity Services

\$75,000

Detroit, MI

To support programs for survivors of domestic and sexual abuse.

Turning Point, Inc.

Mt. Clemens, MI

\$60,000

To support shelter and programs for survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

College for Creative Studies

Detroit, MI

\$1,000,000 over 5 years

To support development of the A. Alfred Taubman Center in the former General Motors Argonaut Building as a second CCS campus in Detroit's Midtown and undertake improvements to the original Walter and Josephine Ford campus.

Greening of Detroit

Detroit, MI

\$250,000 over 2 years

To support the expansion of its urban agriculture work to develop urban market gardens and production-focused small farms citywide to build a food-secure Detroit.

Nonprofit Enterprise at Work, Inc.

Ann Arbor, MI

\$30,000

To support services through its BoardConnect, ResourceConnect and npServe programs to non-profit organizations in metropolitan Detroit.

EDUCATION

United Negro College Fund, Inc.

Detroit, MI

\$45,000

To support scholarships for Detroit-area youth to attend historically black private colleges and universities.

HEALTH CARE

World Medical Relief, Inc.

Detroit, MI

\$50,000

To support the Affordable Prescription Program which provides low-cost medication prescriptions for uninsured, low-income adults in metropolitan Detroit.

ARTS AND CULTURE

Detroit Historical Society

Detroit, MI

\$800,000 over 4 years

To support the Past>Forward Campaign, including \$400,000 for general operations of the Detroit Historical Museums and \$400,000 for capital costs.