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March 18, 2008

## WOODS CHARITABLE FUND AWARDS GRANTS

Donna Woods, Chair of Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., announced that the Fund approved new and renewal grants in Lincoln, Nebraska totaling up to **\$594,781**, as the first of its three grant cycles in 2008. "Fifteen tax-exempt organizations will benefit from these awards," Donna noted. **(BELOW)**

Of the \$594,781 in grants awarded, 51% of the funding will go toward projects in the interest area of Human Services (\$300,000), 31% for Civic & Community (\$185,781), 17% toward Arts & Culture (\$101,500), and 1% for Education (\$7,500).

*Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., a private grant-making foundation, makes grants three times a year to tax-exempt organizations seeking funding for programs in the areas of Human Services, Civic & Community, Education, and Arts & Culture, as well as programs and initiatives designed to assist New Americans in Lincoln. For more information on funding guidelines, call 436-5971, visit the Fund's website at [www.woodscharitable.org](http://www.woodscharitable.org), or write to either Pam Baker, Tom Woods or Angie Zmarzly at P.O. Box 81309, Lincoln, NE 68501.*

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### Approved for Funding by Woods Charitable Fund, Inc., March 2008

#### Arts & Culture

**Friends of Haydon, Inc. (\$29,500)** – Second and third-year support of an Education Coordinator to work with Haydon volunteer educators and community partners to develop and lead an ongoing series of art education projects primarily for the underserved K-8 students of Lincoln's Community Learning Centers, housed in Lincoln public schools

**Lincoln Municipal Band Association, Inc. (\$20,000)** – To conduct a feasibility study to evaluate the technical, economic, organizational and community aspects of this organization's plan to construct a new band shell in Antelope Park

**Lincoln Orchestra Association (\$30,000)** – For administrative, marketing and development staff support to help stabilize this organization that exists to broaden appreciation of and support for orchestral music of artistic excellence

**The Loft at the Mill (\$22,000)** – Third-year support of the Business Manager position to oversee the fundraising efforts of this organization that serves as a community-wide center for the arts

#### Education

**Malaika Foundation (up to \$7,500)** – For financial support of teachers from Title I schools in Lincoln to attend the International Education symposium, *Bringing the World to Your Classroom*, which provides teachers with the knowledge and resources to help students understand and appreciate their own culture in relation to other cultures at home and abroad

### **Civic & Community**

**EndowNebraska (\$10,000)** – Second-year support to continue and expand a marketing campaign aimed at increasing public understanding and utilization of Nebraska's charitable giving tax credit and to raise awareness of the opportunities to support Nebraska's nonprofit organizations

**NeighborWorks, Lincoln (\$110,000)** – To continue and expand on strategies developed during its five-year project aimed at increasing affordable housing in Lincoln as part of this organization's mission to keep Lincoln a safe and prosperous community through building stronger neighborhoods

**People's City Mission (\$10,000)** – For horticultural education, vocational training, planting supplies and garden space for shelter residents and transitional housing tenants, a collaborative project with UNL Extension in Lancaster County

**Sunrise Communications, Inc. (\$40,000)** – To convert KZUM radio station's transmission signal from analog to digital and to create a second community radio station focused on serving Lincoln refugees, immigrants and low income individuals

**VolunteerLine (\$15,781)** – Continued support of the marketing, staffing and office operations of a Corporate Volunteer Council (CVC) in Lincoln, which promotes workplace volunteerism, following its 2006 start-up phase

### **Human Services**

**Cultural Centers Coalition (\$50,000)** – For a shared Development Coordinator position for this collaboration, comprised of Asian Community & Cultural Center, Malone Community Center, Indian Center and El Centro de las Americas, that is dedicated to improving its client services through working collaboratively to strengthen each other and overcome the challenges shared by Lincoln's cultural centers

**Girl Scouts-Homestead Council (\$25,000)** – To launch the *Girl Scout Outreach Program* to coordinate with schools to offer Girl Scout programming on-site to middle and high school girls who are high risk, with programming focus on academic achievement, career development and dealing with real-life issues

**Lincoln Area Agency on Aging (\$15,000)** – For *The Unity Project*, which aims at enhancing protection and rights of vulnerable adults who reside in Lincoln area nursing homes and assisted living communities and to strengthen the Ombudsman Advocate Program

**Lincoln Lancaster County Child Advocacy Center (\$175,000)** – Toward construction of a new facility in Northeast Lincoln to accommodate the growing number of children and families served by this organization whose mission is to reduce trauma suffered by child abuse victims during abuse investigations and to increase the successful prosecution of child abusers

**Lincoln and Lancaster County Child Guidance Center (\$35,000)** – Renewal support to enable the agency to continue offering parent counseling services to those who cannot afford to pay, in order to enhance outcomes for the Center's child clients receiving mental health therapy