

News Release

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THE AFRICAN AMERICAN CULTURAL CENTER RECIPIENT OF \$4 MILLION GRANT FROM THE HEINZ ENDOWMENTS

PITTSBURGH, PA – The African American Cultural Center of Greater Pittsburgh received notification today that it has been awarded a \$4 million grant from The Heinz Endowments.

The grant, which was the largest among 237 Heinz Endowment grants awarded today, will go towards the design development, construction and endowment costs for the new AACC facility.

“We are delighted that The Heinz Endowments have taken such an interest in bringing to life such an important cultural asset as the African American Cultural Center for this region,” stated Neil A. Barclay, President and CEO of the African American Cultural Center. “On behalf of the Board of Directors and the Staff of the AACC, I want to thank The Heinz Endowments for their generous contribution, tremendous show of confidence and continued support for this project.”

Endowments President Maxwell King said that the directors felt the project was a powerful community asset, which played a significant role in their decision. “There is a realization that Pittsburgh has a special role in the telling of the African American cultural experience in this country and that The Heinz Endowments has a special goal of using its grant-making to promote diversity and inclusion,” King said.

Scheduled to open in 2007, the new AACC facility will make a stunning addition to Pittsburgh’s Cultural District, and a strong contribution to the financial and cultural regeneration of the city.

More than a museum, the new African American Cultural Center will be reflective of all aspects of African American culture. The new AACC will include galleries, classrooms, a 300+ seat theater, a gift shop, a café, and many multi-purpose spaces to be used for visual and performing art and community-based meetings and events.

The African American Cultural Center, a not-for-profit organization, presents exhibitions, performances, education and public programs that deepen understanding and appreciation of the African American artistic, cultural and social contributions to Pittsburgh, the nation and the world.

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