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Spirit & Place Festival receives \$30,000 grant from The Indianapolis Foundation

Money to support festival, fund Pecha Kucha prize

Indianapolis – In an economic climate that has many nonprofit organizations seeing a downturn in funding, The Spirit & Place Festival is thrilled to receive a sizable donation from The Indianapolis Foundation, an affiliate of Central Indiana Community Foundation. Brian Payne, president for the Central Indiana Community Foundation and The Indianapolis Foundation, is serving as chair of the 2009 Festival.

“The Indianapolis Foundation’s support has been integral to our success since 2004,” says Pam Blevins Hinkle, director of the Spirit & Place Festival. “We are honored to partner with the Foundation this year on the ‘Inspiring Place’ theme. With their help, the festival will explore what ‘place’ means to our cultures and communities.”

Twenty-thousand dollars (\$20,000) of the grant will go toward general operations of the Festival. Ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) of the grant will serve as the prize money for “Pecha Kucha: The Next Indianapolis,” a fight-club meets PowerPoint competition in which the most creative minds in Indianapolis will present their ideas for the “next” Indianapolis.

Spirit & Place Festival has also received major funding from Eli Lilly and Company (sponsor of the Public Conversation occurring Sunday, November 15), Lilly Endowment Inc., Allen Whitehall Clowes Charitable Foundation, Inc., IUPUI, TrendyMinds, University of Indianapolis and Butler University.

“Spirit & Place Festival offers a stage for fresh ideas, conversation, and just plain fun. Our sponsors recognize that creative civic engagement experiences have the power to transform our life in community with one another,” continues Blevins Hinkle.

The 14th annual Spirit & Place Festival runs Friday, November 6 through Sunday, November 15, 2009. For a complete listing of events and ticket information, please visit www.spiritandplace.org.

The Indianapolis Foundation, an affiliate of Central Indiana Community Foundation, is a community foundation supported by gifts and bequests from a variety of donors. It was created in 1916 to: ensure that the quality of life in Marion County continuously improves; help where needs are greatest and the benefits to our community are most

substantial; and provide public-spirited donors a vehicle for using their gifts in the best possible way now and in the future as conditions in our community inevitably change.

Spirit & Place is a collaborative community project managed by The Polis Center, part of the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI. Major financial contributors include Lilly Endowment Inc.; Allen Whitehill Clowes Charitable Foundation, Inc.; the Indianapolis Foundation, an affiliate of CICF; Butler University, IUPUI/IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, and the University of Indianapolis, as well as more than 200 other community partners and donors. For a free festival magazine or more information, call The Polis Center at (317) 274-2455 or visit www.spiritandplace.org.

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