



PI BETA PHI FOUNDATION

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Pi Beta Phi Foundation Awards \$150,000 to Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts

ST. LOUIS, MO – March 13, 2009 – Pi Beta Phi Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Pi Beta Phi Fraternity, has announced a \$150,000 grant to Arrowmont School of Arts & Crafts in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. The grant is the largest single award of funds by the Foundation to the School. It will be used primarily to build Arrowmont’s marketing and development capability in order to generate greater contributed and earned income for the School.

“Pi Beta Phi and Arrowmont have a long history of collaboration,” said Foundation Board President Lisa Gamel Scott. “In the past, the Foundation has granted awards to upgrade Arrowmont’s infrastructure. With this grant, we’re not only supporting capital improvements; we’re enhancing Arrowmont’s ability to position itself successfully both now and in the future.”

When notified of the grant, Arrowmont Executive Director David Willard responded, “I am delighted that the Pi Beta Phi Foundation has approved our grant proposal. This comprehensive grant will allow us to address key long term needs, such as fundraising capacity and strategic planning, and also address a few short term needs. The Fraternity’s and Foundation’s ongoing support of Arrowmont is very much appreciated.”

The grant was made possible through a bequest to Pi Beta Phi Foundation from Mrs. Aileen Aylsworth Welgan, a loyal member of Pi Beta Phi Fraternity and long-standing supporter of the Foundation. Her devotion to both Pi Beta Phi and Arrowmont motivated Mrs. Welgan to bequeath a gift to the Foundation restricted for Arrowmont use.

“Mrs. Welgan’s gift carries double reward,” Scott continued. “It supports the two organizations she cared about. The Foundation is pleased to provide stewardship for this generous gift to benefit Arrowmont.”

Willard added, “Mrs. Welgan has been extraordinarily generous to the School over the years and has funded numerous projects. Her recent bequest to the Foundation for the benefit of Arrowmont will be used to move the School strategically forward in a way which would please her.”

The grant was unanimously approved by all members of Pi Beta Phi Foundation’s Board of Trustees, which includes two members of the Fraternity’s Grand Council.

About Pi Beta Phi Foundation: Pi Beta Phi Foundation is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. It acts as the fundraising arm for Pi Beta Phi Fraternity, providing grants and supporting programs to benefit Fraternity members and its philanthropies, including Arrowmont. For more information about Pi Beta Phi Foundation, please call 636-256-0680 or visit www.pibetaphifoundation.org.

About Arrowmont: Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts is a nationally renowned arts center that offers one week, two week and weekend workshops in ceramics, fiber, metals, glass, painting, mixed media, and woodworking for the beginner to advanced artist. Students learn in professionally equipped studios on a 14-acre residential campus in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Five galleries, an art supply store, and artist resource center are open visitors year round. Arrowmont was founded in 1912 as the Pi Beta Phi Settlement School. For more information about Arrowmont’s programs, visit www.arrowmont.org or call (865) 436-5860.

About Pi Beta Phi Fraternity: Founded at Monmouth College in Illinois in 1867, Pi Beta Phi Fraternity was the first national secret society of women to be modeled after the Greek-letter fraternities of men. Today there are 132 active chapters and more than 330 alumnae groups in the United States and Canada. The Fraternity’s partnership with First Book, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to giving children from low-income homes the opportunity to read and own books, solidifies the commitment to literacy that the Fraternity began when it founded the Pi Beta Phi Settlement School in Gatlinburg. The Fraternity promotes friendship, develops women of intellect and integrity, cultivates leadership potential and enriches the lives of members and their communities.