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**For Immediate Release**

## **Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh receives \$2 Million Grant for Capital Campaign**

**(Pittsburgh, PA – September 5, 2007)** Recognizing the important role libraries have in the economic growth of the region, The Heinz Endowments approved a \$2 million grant to Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh’s Capital Campaign. The grant will support construction projects in the Hill District and North Side and the renovation of the Library’s East Liberty location.

In 2006, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh officially launched the public phase of a \$55 million Capital Campaign, “Libraries for Life: Building Communities, Enriching Lives,” to continue the Library’s system-wide revitalization project. Since 2001, six neighborhood locations and the first floor of the Main Library in Oakland have been renovated, providing handicapped accessibility, climate control systems and state-of-the art technology. The visibility of the completed renovations has brought new vitality, with all locations benefiting from increased visitor and circulation numbers.

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh’s current economic impact study showed that 83% of respondents indicated the renovations were important to their enjoyment of the library while 64% sited that recent renovations to the library were important to their decision to visit a Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh location. The study, conducted by the Carnegie Mellon University Center for Economic Development quantifies the Library’s economic benefits to the region.

The Heinz Endowments supports efforts to make southwestern Pennsylvania a premier place to live and work, a center of learning and educational excellence, and a home to diversity and inclusion. Committed to helping its region thrive as a whole community - economically, ecologically, educationally and culturally - the foundation works within Pennsylvania and elsewhere in the nation to develop solutions to challenges that are national and even international in scope. One of the largest and most innovative independent philanthropic foundations in the country, the Endowments awarded more than \$55 million in grants in 2006.

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### **About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh**

“Free to the People” since 1895

Established as a public trust in 1895, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh serves the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County with a distinguished history of leadership among the country’s great public libraries. Through its 19 neighborhood locations, including Main Library and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region’s most visited asset. Each year the Library provides more than 6,000 free programs, classes and other learning and training opportunities that are tailored to meet the dynamic and diverse needs of people living in Western Pennsylvania.