Winnick Family Foundation Renews Grant to Syracuse University Literacy Corps

Karen Winnick gives back to her alma mater through Literary Corps program at Syracuse University

Los Angeles, CA – June 21, 2011 – The Winnick Family Foundation has made a continuing grant to the Literacy Corps of Syracuse University. Under the Literacy Corps program, elementary students in the Syracuse City School District are tutored by university students to expand and deepen their reading skills. Tutors are compensated through Federal Work-Study funds.

Pamela Kirwin Heintz, founder and director of the Literacy Corps Program, said: “It is gratifying to see literacy advocate Karen Winnick, who graduated from Syracuse University in 1968, participate in and support this vital program. More than 200 of Syracuse University students have participated in this program since its inception in 1997. Literacy Corps also participates in the First Book program in Syracuse and has distributed more than 30,000 First Book free volumes to children across the Syracuse Community.”

Karen Winnick, chairman of the Winnick Family Foundation, said: “Syracuse University’s Literacy Corps is a transformative program for the children of the communities surrounding the campus. The SU tutors often deliver the first books these deserving youngsters have ever owned.”

The grants provided by the Winnick Family Foundation have funded more than 20,000 hours of literacy programming for children in the Syracuse urban area. Tutors working with these children develop fundamental teaching and story-telling skills that will enrich the rest of their lives.

About the Winnick Family Foundation

The Winnick Family Foundation encourages project-specific programs but also selectively supports capital campaigns and unrestricted gifts to grantee organizations. There is a preference for projects in Los Angeles and New York – or for those having an international component.

Foundation naming grants include:

- Winnick Family Clinical Research Institute at Cedars Sinai Hospital
- Winnick House at the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University
- Arnold S. Winnick Student Center at the C.W. Post campus of Long Island University
- Winnick International Conference Center at the Simon Wiesenthal Center / Jerusalem
- Winnick Children’s Zoo in Los Angeles
- Winnick Faculty Scholar at the Graduate School of Business at Stanford University
Winnick Hall at the Skirball Cultural Center
Arnold & Blanche Winnick Popular Library and Karen Winnick Children’s Gallery at the Los Angeles Central Library
Winnick Hillel House at Syracuse University
Winnick Board Room at the Museum of Modern Art in New York City
Winnick Winners Mentoring Program for the Los Angeles Unified School District
Winnick Fellows at UCLA School of Medicine
Winnick Gallery at Yeshiva University Museum, Center for Jewish History

Karen and Gary Winnick and the Foundation have endowed university and high school literacy and scholarship programs at Brown University, at Mrs. Winnick’s alma mater Syracuse University, and at Gary Winnick’s alma mater, Long Island University.

They have also funded the transformation of the on-campus C.W. Post mansion administrative center – renamed Winnick House – as well as the main cafeteria which is now named in honor of Mr. Winnick’s late father.

In California, the Foundation has supported educational programs at the California Science Center, the Museum of Contemporary Art, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, KOREH L.A., the Los Angeles Zoo, L.A.’s Best Afterschool Program, the Wonder of Reading, the Fulfillment Fund and Noah’s Ark at the Skirball Center.

Among the many other Foundation grantees are the Special Olympics, The Center for Jewish History, Children’s Scholarship Fund, Partnership for Better Schools, Teach for America, The Gettysburg Foundation, The National Parks Foundation, Best Friends Animal Society, The Los Angeles Police Foundation, Shoah Foundation, and the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard University.

The Foundation also supports charities operating outside the United States, including the International Medical Corps, Flora and Fauna, World Wildlife Fund, the David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, the Israel Museum, the Israel Philharmonic, the Jerusalem Zoo, Heifer International and the Bloomfield Science Museum at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. For more information on the Foundation and its work, visit http://www.winnickfamilyfoundation.com on the Web.

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