



## ***News Release***

### ***For Immediate Release***

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## **Taste of Hudson Donates \$40,000 to Hudson Area Organizations**

*Donations total \$175,000 over six successful years*

**October 29, 2010 – Hudson, Ohio** – Taste of Hudson is extremely proud to announce that this year’s successful festival raised \$40,000 for local, community-based organizations, bringing total donations over six successful years to \$175,000. Taste of Hudson has maintained, or increased, its donations to local non-profits each year donating, \$15,000 in 2005; \$25,000 in 2006, \$30,000 in 2007 and 2008, \$35,000 in 2009 and \$40,000 in 2010.

“This is what Taste of Hudson is all about – being able to share our success by helping the local organizations that help to make Hudson great,” said Executive Director Andy Malitz.

This year’s beneficiaries include: Baldwin House, Hudson Community First, Destination Hudson, Hudson Farmer’s Market, Hudson Fireworks, Hattie Larlham Foundation, Holiday Lights, Hudson High School Marching Band, Hudson EMS, Merchants of Hudson, Hudson High School scholarship program, Junior Leadership Hudson, Leadership Hudson, Leadership Hudson Safety Town Project, Pioneer Women of the Western Reserve, Hudson Library and Historical Society and primary beneficiary Safe Kids Coalition of Summit County.

The original mission of organizing committee of Taste of Hudson was to promote economic development in downtown Hudson, showcasing the community to the thousands of guests who visited the event. “Being able to do this, as well as present so many Hudson area organizations with donations from our proceeds each year, has truly been an honor,” Malitz said.

The festival's primary beneficiary, Safe Kids Coalition of Summit County, is an organization dedicated to keeping kids safe through a variety of education programs and donations of important child safety items like car seats, bike helmets and life vests to families of need living throughout Summit County.

"Taste of Hudson wishes to thank all of our participants and especially our sponsors, in particular our 2010 Co-presenting sponsors Akron Children's Hospital, Summa Health System and ACME Fresh Market along with Co-promoting sponsors Windstream Communications and Laurel Lake Retirement Community." said Malitz. Without their support, and that of all Taste of Hudson participants, we could not produce a successful Taste of Hudson each and every year. The generosity of these sponsors is paramount to our success and provides us the ability to raise money for so many deserving organizations," Malitz said.

"We are trying to reach out to as many organizations as we can to continue to make a difference in the community," Malitz said. Jim Hackney, Taste of Hudson, Inc. Board President added that "the creation of Taste of Hudson has met, and exceeded, the initial objectives of the Leadership Hudson Class of 2003-2004 and we are proud to continue the legacy that has been established through those initiatives."

The Taste of Hudson, a two-day culinary and lifestyle festival held annually over Labor Day weekend, attracted over 35,000 people to Hudson's historic downtown. At the event, visitors sampled delicious foods from 23 area restaurants while enjoying live entertainment, fine arts and crafts, children's activities, a wine and beer garden and much more in a family-friendly atmosphere.

The 7th Annual Taste of Hudson is scheduled for Labor Day Weekend, September 4 & 5, 2011.

*Taste of Hudson, a fund of the Hudson Community Foundation, is a Rotary Club of Hudson Clocktower Class of 2003-4 Leadership Hudson project event produced with the help of volunteers within the community in order to promote Hudson area entrepreneurship of its restaurants, businesses, artists and entertainers, and to provide funding for several charities. For more information and photos from the 2010 Taste of Hudson visit [www.tasteofhudson.com](http://www.tasteofhudson.com).*