

News Release

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Jan Gusich, Akhia Public Relations, 330.463.5650



Taste of Hudson Donates \$30,000 to Area Organizations

November 1, 2007 – **Hudson, Ohio** – Thanks to another highly successful event, Taste of Hudson is extremely proud to announce that it has raised \$30,000 for local, community-based charities and non-profit organizations. Beneficiaries receiving checks include Safe Kids Coalition of Summit County, The Hudson Library and Historical Society, Hudson Community First, Pioneer Women of the Western Reserve, Hudson Farmer’s Market, Hudson Community Foundation/Hudson Fireworks Project, Leadership Hudson, Hudson Cable Television and Hudson High School Scholarship Fund.

The festival’s primary beneficiary, Safe Kids Coalition of Summit County, an organization dedicated to keeping kids safe through a variety of education programs, was presented with a check this week in the amount of \$17,500, bringing to \$45,000 the amount Taste of Hudson has given to the organization over the past three years. Overall, Taste of Hudson in its three-year history has donated \$70,000.

“We are absolutely thrilled to present this check to a deserving organization like the Safe Kids Coalition which does so much to keep our children safe and sound,” said Executive Director Andy Malitz. “We look forward to furthering our relationship with Safe Kids Coalition of Summit County for the 2008 Taste of Hudson and for many years beyond”, Malitz added.

“We are very thankful to all of the participants in Taste of Hudson especially our sponsors,” said Malitz. “Without their support we could not have produced a successful Taste of Hudson. These include, Summa Health System, Akron Children’s Hospital, The Step-2 Company, Windstream Communications, Allstate Insurance, Laurel Lake Retirement Community, RE/MAX Legacy, Henning Software, National City Bank, Heinen’s Village Market, FirstMerit Bank and First & Main. 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.

Taste of Hudson presented checks in the following amounts to these organizations on Thursday, November 1: Safe Kids Coalition of Summit County \$17,500; Hudson Community Foundation/HCF Fireworks Project \$2,500; Leadership Hudson \$3,000; Community First \$1,500; Hudson Library and

Historical Society \$1,500; Pioneer Women of the Western Reserve \$1,000; Hudson Cable TV \$1,000; Hudson Farmer's Market \$1,000. In addition, \$1,000 has been donated to Hudson School System to establish a scholarship to a deserving student pursuing a career in culinary arts or hospitality.

"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 the initial objectives of the Leadership Hudson Class of 2004 and we are proud to continue the legacy that has been established through those initiatives".

Co-presented by Summa Health System and Akron Children's Hospital, the Taste of Hudson two-day festival held over Labor Day weekend attracted nearly 25,000 people to Hudson's historic downtown. At the event, visitors sampled delicious foods from 20 area restaurants while enjoying live entertainment, fine arts and crafts, children's activities, cooking demonstrations and much more in a family-friendly atmosphere. The 2008 Taste of Hudson is scheduled for Sunday, August 31 and Monday, September 1, 2008.

Taste of Hudson 2007 was Co-Promoted by Windstream Communications and The Step 2 Company. Other contributing sponsors included: Allstate Insurance Company/The Christine Mayfield Agency, Laurel Lake Retirement Community, National City Bank, Henning Software, RE/MAX Legacy, FirstMerit Bank, Heinen's Village Market and First & Main.

A Taste of Hudson is a Rotary Club of Hudson Clocktower event organized by 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.