

**Cooper Foundation
870 Wells Fargo Center
1248 O Street
Lincoln, NE 68508**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 4, 2008**

COOPER FOUNDATION AWARDS OVER \$147,000

A project to host a Climate Change Student Summit for Lincoln sixth graders is among the grants totaling \$147,600 recently awarded by the Cooper Foundation. Teachers and students will use hands-on activities from the ANDRILL (Antarctic Drilling Project) program to develop research projects on climate change. The student summit in November of 2008 will offer opportunities for students to present their projects, listen to scientists share their expertise, and connect via video conference with other students in Chicago, Alaska and other nations.

“For a modest cost, this program offers many exciting possibilities for students to explore science technology, to interact with students in other countries on the global issue of climate change, and to become proactive problem-solvers about their present and future environment,” said Victoria Kovar, Program Officer of the Cooper Foundation.

The Cooper Foundation was founded in 1934 and has granted over \$16 million to benefit the people of Nebraska. The Foundation makes quarterly grant awards supporting education, human services, the arts, the humanities, and the environment in Lincoln and Lancaster County, and throughout Nebraska. For more information about grant guidelines and application deadlines visit the Foundation's website, www.cooperfoundation.org.

Grants awarded, May 2008

Grantees are located in Lincoln, Nebraska unless otherwise noted.

Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools - \$25,000

Second-year support for the Great Schools ... Forever! campaign of the Foundation for Lincoln Public Schools, to enhance reading, math and science programs, expand opportunities for low-income students and families, and to provide additional resources to schools and teachers so every student has a superb learning environment.

Grant Managers Network, Inc., Metairie, LA - \$750

General support for this organization that provides education and research on best practices in grantmaking and philanthropy.

Haydon Art Center - \$10,000

Support for the salary of the Program Manager and funding to complete an audit.

Houses of Hope - \$36,950

Support for upgraded technology to enhance staff efficiency and data security for Houses of Hope, which provides case management, transitional housing and a supportive environment for those are recovering from drug and alcohol abuse.

Lincoln Public Schools - \$4,900

Support to organize and host a Climate Change Student Summit for sixth grade students in Lincoln.

Clyde Malone Community Center - \$30,000

Third-year operating support for this organization that serves Lincoln's diverse and evolving community through educational, social, recreational and cultural programming for youth and families.

Meadowlark Music Festival - \$5,000

Support for the 2008 Meadowlark Music Festival, Nebraska's only summer classical music festival.

Nebraska Community Foundation - \$20,000

Support to implement a peer mentoring program for affiliated fund leaders. The Nebraska Community Foundation promotes philanthropy as a tool to enhance community development, and supports 200 affiliated funds in 171 Nebraska communities in their efforts to raise funds for special projects and community endowments. The peer mentoring project will recruit and train local leaders to provide technical assistance and share their expertise with other communities.

Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center, Denton, NE - \$15,000

General operating funding to support Spring Creek Prairie's growing educational programming and management of an 808-acre tallgrass prairie nature preserve.

**For clarification or additional information
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