

RAD RECEIVES SCORES OF RENAISSANCE APPLICATIONS TO CELEBRATE PITTSBURGH'S 250TH BIRTHDAY

PITTSBURGH—The Allegheny Regional Asset District (RAD) announces that it has received 79 separate applications for its first Renaissance Grant program in honor of Pittsburgh's upcoming 250th birthday, according to Executive Director David L. Donahoe. In addition, a distinguished panel was appointed in August to review the applications and make recommendations to the RAD Board.

According to Mr. Donahoe, the requests total \$1.7 million and represent a variety of eligible RAD programs that cross diverse disciplines, including requests from libraries, parks and conservation groups, regional facilities like the Zoo, Phipp and Aviary, and arts and culture organizations.

The Renaissance Grant program, adopting the official theme of the 250th celebration, Imagine What You Can Do Here, was first announced at a press conference in May. The program will be worth up to \$250,000. While RAD's traditional grant program focuses on operating grants and capital projects, Renaissance Grants will focus completely on a project that pair the work of eligible assets with students living and studying in Allegheny County.

"We're delighted by the enthusiastic response to the Renaissance Grant program and to see so many organizations thinking creatively about the 250th celebration," said Mr. Donahoe.

Applications will be reviewed by a distinguished panel that is expected to report back to the RAD Board later this Fall. Appointed at the September 4 meeting of the Board of Directors were:

Dr. Gail Edwards—Chief Administrative Officer, Urban League Charter School; Member of the RAD Citizen Advisory Board

Charlie Gray—Former Producer and Executive Director, Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera

Connie Galbreath—District Coordinator for State Library Services

Billy Jackson—Media Consultant; Former arts manager

Andrew Johnson—Artist; Associate Professor, CMU School of Fine Arts

Claudette Lewis—Administrator, Allegheny County Department of Human Services; musician

Mark Lewis—President and C.E.O., Poise Foundation

Ann Morrison—Vice-President, Government Finance of Citizens Bank; Board Member, Allegheny Land Trust

Rick Pierchalski—Chairman of the Board, Allegheny Regional Asset District

Laura Smiley—Director, Unseem'd Shakespeare Co.

Marc Taylor—Choreographer; former Artistic Director of Dance Alloy

Applicants were permitted to request up to \$25,000 based upon a budget submitted with the application.

Since 1995, RAD has provided grants totaling more than \$900,000,000 in support of our region's parks, libraries, regional facilities, stadiums and arena, and arts and culture programs.

###

Julie Goetz

ARAD Communications Manager

412-227-1900 ext. 14

jg@radworkshere.org <mailto:jg@radworkshere.org>

www.radworkshere.org <http://www.radworkshere.org>