

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

** 25 years strong*



LGCA Announces Grants for 2005 Thirty-two Community Projects to Receive \$51,500

(Toronto, Ontario – March 23, 2005) The Co-Chairs of the Lesbian and Gay Community Appeal Foundation (LGCA) have announced that the LGCA will distribute \$51,500 this year to thirty-two projects that strengthen the LGBT communities. LGCA grants are awarded in arts & culture, health & social services, and research & education categories.

“We’re thrilled that the total value of our grants this year is more than 25% higher than last year,” said Doug Kerr, LGCA Co-Chair. “The success of our last fundraising campaign bodes very well for our 25th anniversary, which we are celebrating this year.” Co-Chair Beth Jordan added, “We’re very grateful to all our individual donors, who made our 2004 campaign such a great success. This year we plan to raise the LGCA’s profile significantly and keep this momentum going, so that we can increase our ability to fund worthy and innovative projects next year.”

Among the projects funded this year:

- Thornhill Secondary School Gay-Straight Alliance, to organize Pride Week in April and produce a multi-school conference promoting equity and inclusiveness for LGBTTT students
- Chinese Canadian National Council, to support the Equal Marriage Campaign in the Chinese community
- Gays and Lesbians of African Descent, for visibility during Pride Week
- Ontario Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf (Toronto Chapter), for a mural and Pride activities
- Family Service Association's Queering the Family Tree, for educational materials on LGBT-led families
- East Scarborough Boys and Girls Club, for LGBT youth outreach at Morningside Mall

The 2005 LGCA grants announcement was made at a reception at The Mask Restaurant in downtown Toronto. Among the invited guests were Toronto City Councillor Kyle Rae, grant recipients, LGCA Board members and supporters, and members of the media.

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For more information, please contact:

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The only foundation of its kind in Canada, the LGCA celebrates its 25th anniversary in 2005. Since 1980, the LGCA has provided more than \$1.5 million for worthwhile community projects, all raised from individuals in the community. LGCA was the Honoured Group for Pride Toronto 2004.