

## Press Release - September 16, 2007

### Hoffman Center Awarded First Remodel Grant

The Hoffman Center for Art, Culture and Education in Manzanita has received a \$1,000 grant from US Bancorp Foundation to help refurbish the Center's Annex building to support a broad range of programs.

Astoria-based U.S. Bank Region President Kevin M. LaCoste presented the grant. "We very much appreciate the opportunity to partner with you," Mr. LaCoste said in his forwarding letter. "Please accept our best wishes for your continued success."

"We were very excited to receive the funds," said Hoffman Center board president David Dillon. "They come at a timely point, as we are about to deliver the revised remodeling plans to the city for approval and need to begin fund-raising for the Annex remodel project."

The Hoffman Center purchased the building, the former Treasure Cave at 594 Laneda Ave., in October 2006. "The community told us early on that the Hoffman Center concept would be defined by the wide variety of programs it could host and support," said Dillon. "Our only building at the time - Lloyd and Myrtle's former house at 595 Laneda Ave. -- could not accommodate very much. So we came up with the idea of buying the building across the street, and doing some remodeling to begin the programs. Replacing the Hoffmans' old house with a brand new facility will be an important future project."

Since the purchase, the Annex building has hosted art history classes, art workshops, Chautauqua lectures, clay classes, Spanish conversation group meetings, a kids' kite festival and two musical performances. The building is now equipped with a kiln for firing clay works, and an antique letterpress for specialty printing projects.

The Annex remodeling project is expected to cost over \$100,000. "The Center board has already designated \$20,000 from Hoffman Center assets to support the effort, but it takes an entire community to make an arts center. We plan to ask local contributors as well as state-wide granting organizations to provide the rest of the funds," said Dillon. "The grant from US Bancorp Foundation will help us get started. It is also indicative of the broad support we are receiving from the community and businesses. Kelly Benson, local US Bank branch manager, did a great job bird-dogging our request to US Bancorp."

People interested in holding workshops and classes related to art and culture, or helping with the remodel or fund-raising, are encouraged to contact the Hoffman Center at 503-368-3846 or send an email to [info@hoffmancentermanzanita.org](mailto:info@hoffmancentermanzanita.org).