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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Inland Northwest Community Foundation awards  
Florence Wasmer Grants**

SPOKANE, WA, *September 30, 2010*— Nonprofit organizations in Eastern Washington and North Idaho were awarded more than \$125,000 in grants from the Florence Wasmer Fund for Children and Families and the Florence Wasmer Fund for Arts and Culture at Inland Northwest Community Foundation.

The grants, ranging in size from \$1,400 to \$5,176, fulfill the legacy of Florence Wasmer who wished to help meet the basic needs of individuals and families and to support arts and culture. The Wasmer funds are managed through Inland Northwest Community Foundation, and awards are made annually through a competitive grant process.

“These grants were awarded to support organizations that improve the quality of lives for people throughout the Inland Northwest. As we move to recover from the recession, these grants provide critical funding to organizations in our region,” said Inland Northwest Community Foundation President & CEO Mark Hurtubise.

The Wasmer Fund for Children and Families provided grants totaling \$70,062 to organizations that support children, families and individuals through shelter, nutrition, health care, education and other human services. The organizations include: American Red Cross, Inland Northwest Chapter (Spokane County); Association for Handicapped Recreation (Kootenai County); Bonner Community Food Center (Bonner County); Coalition of Responsible Disabled (Spokane County); Communities in Schools (Spokane County); Gonzaga University (Spokane County); Kinderhaven (Bonner County); New Hope Resource Center (Spokane County); Olive Crest Abused Children's Foundation (Spokane County); Our Place Community Ministries (Spokane County); Spokane Tribe of Indians (Stevens County); St. Vincent de Paul Salvage Bureau (Kootenai County); West Bonner County Food Bank (Bonner County); Women's & Children's Free Restaurant (Spokane County); YFA Connections (Spokane County); YMCA of the Inland Northwest (Spokane County).

The Wasmer Fund for Arts and Culture awarded grants totaling \$55,416 to organizations that further arts and humanities education and enjoyment and awareness of the arts and humanities in the Inland Northwest. The organizations include: Center Pointe (Spokane County); Coeur d'Alene Symphony Orchestra (Kootenai County); EWU Office of Grants and Research Development (Spokane County); Festival Dance and Performing Arts Association (Latah County); Holy Names Music Center at Fort Wright (Spokane County); Community Building Partners, Inc. (Kootenai County); Mobius Kids (Spokane County); Northwest Museum of Arts & Culture (Spokane County); Opera Coeur d'Alene (Kootenai County); Pend Oreille Arts Council (Bonner County); Spokane Area Children's Chorus (Spokane County); Spokane Folklore Society (Spokane County); Spokane Symphony Society (Spokane County); Whitworth University (Spokane County); Washington State University Foundation (Whitman County).

Founded in 1974, INWCF serves 10 Eastern Washington counties and 10 North Idaho counties to foster vibrant and sustainable communities in the Inland Northwest. The community foundation manages more than 285 funds valued at \$58 million and has awarded \$37 million in grants and scholarships since its inception, positively impacting thousands of lives in this region.

For more information on INWCF and its work in the Inland Northwest, contact Director of Gift Planning PJ Watters at 509-624-2606.

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