

Campaign Update

\$350,000 in Gifts, Pledges Announced

More than \$350,000 in major gifts and pledges to the Library's "Reaching for New Heights" campaign were announced during the Sept. 22 Kick-Off of the public phase of the fundraising effort. These gifts, plus an array of other gifts and pledges, have brought the campaign to over \$1.1 million, according to Beth Beasley, Friends Foundation Board president.

Recent gifts and pledges of \$10,000 or more include: Marvin and Sally Hartwig, \$60,000; Carl and Julie Schweser, Duke and Della McGrath, and Hills Bank and Trust Company, each \$50,000; Iowa State Bank & Trust Company, ACT, Inc. and the ICPL Friends Committee, each \$25,000; University of Iowa Community Credit Union, \$20,000; Tom Rocklin and Kim Ephgrave, \$10,500; and Wells Fargo Bank Iowa, N.A., Ailene Liechty, The David Braverman Foundation and the law firm of Phelan Tucker Mullen Walker Tucker & Gelman LLP, each \$10,000.

The goal of the campaign is to raise \$1.5 million to purchase new furniture and equipment for the expanded Library and to increase the Library's endowment by \$2 million. The campaign has raised over \$750,000 toward the building goal and \$400,000 for the endowment.

The Sept. 22 Kick-Off event officially launched the Special Gifts Campaign involving scores of volunteer solicitors who are gathering gifts and pledges in the \$1,000 to \$5,000 range. This phase of the campaign will be wrapped up by the end of 2001, according to Larry Eckholt, ICPL director of development. The solicitation of Leadership Gifts will continue through 2002.

Winners of the "Hard Hat Hooray" contest were announced on Sept. 22, as well. They included: "Best of Show:" University of Iowa Community Credit Union; "Most Creative Use of Materials:" Misha Goodman, Iowa City/Coralville Animal Control and Adoption Center; "Most Outlandish:" Steven Warner; "Prettiest:" Steven Warner; "Best Use of Library/Reading Theme:" a tie--Mark Gauger, The Fun Zone, and Beth Beasley. The contest attracted over 40 entries from Iowa City businesses and individuals.

Hundreds of people took part in the Kick-Off activities, which included the painting of the construction fence to be erected around the site of the Library's new "west wing" later this year. Kids also had their own version of the "hard hat" decorating event.

Special thanks to Planet X and the students from the Senior High Alternative Center, and their teacher Hani Elkadi, for their assistance in making these events possible.

The day ended with the big band sounds of the University of Iowa School of Music's Johnson County Landmark Jazz Band and an outdoor screening of "Beyond the Summit," a documentary about the 2000 Mt. Everest ascent team which, included Dr. Chuck Huss, honorary co-chair of the "Reaching for New Heights" campaign.