



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 17, 2005

**CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS RECEIVES \$100, 000 GRANT
FROM THE HEARST FOUNDATION**

SEATTLE, WA – Cornish College of the Arts is pleased to announce the award of a \$100,000 grant from The Hearst Foundation to establish the William Randolph Hearst Endowed Scholarship Fund at Cornish.

Founded by philanthropist William Randolph Hearst, The Hearst Foundation reflects the philanthropic interests of its founder, including education and culture. The Hearst Foundation provides opportunities to underserved and underrepresented populations, ensures students access to a quality education and supports programs that enrich the lives of young people by engaging them in cultural activities, primarily through arts-in-education programs.

By providing financial support to Cornish students, the William Randolph Hearst Endowed Scholarship Fund will increase the College's ability to attract and retain the most gifted and diverse student body possible. The Fund will allow the College to increase the number and amount of scholarships awarded, benefiting a larger number of talented students. "The Hearst Foundation is pleased to help Cornish increase its scholarship fund," said Thomas Eastham, Vice President & Western Director. "We wish the college great success."

Growing the Endowment is a critical component of the Campaign for Cornish, building a significant and permanent source of funds with which the college can attract the highest caliber of students. A strong endowment fund will allow Cornish to give deserving students the support they need to continue their education.

Other recent gifts to the Endowment include a generous \$375,000 gift from the Jon and Mary Shirley Charitable Foundation, establishing an endowment to support the visual arts. In addition, the Peter Vinikow Endowed Scholarship for Jazz Studies was established with a \$75,000 gift in honor of Peter Vinikow, who was one of the Northwest's pre-eminent jazz bassists.

ABOUT CORNISH COLLEGE OF THE ARTS

Cornish College of the Arts is the premier, accredited arts college in the Northwest, inspiring the highest standards of artistic and academic excellence. Founded in 1914 by Nellie Cornish, Cornish College is the only private, accredited college in the region offering baccalaureate degrees in visual and performing arts. Cornish College offers a Bachelor of Music and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in art, dance, design, theater and performance production. Uniquely, Cornish College provides a rigorous educational environment for the cultivation of technical mastery, artistic integrity and practical knowledge. The faculty at Cornish is comprised of practicing master artists and professional educators, renowned in their respective fields. The college maintains a low student to faculty ratio, allowing for individualized teaching and mentoring. Cornish College is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges and the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

Over the years, Cornish has hosted a parade of important artists in the roles of students, teachers or as visiting artists-in-residence, including John Cage, Merce Cunningham, Mark Tobey, Martha Graham, Morris Graves, Imogen Cunningham, Laurie Anderson, Philip Glass, Jacob Lawrence, Mark Morris, Meredith Monk, Bobbie McFerrin, Obo Addy, Rinde Eckert, Bebe Miller, Ruth St. Denis, Ted Shawn, Bill Frisell, Robin Holcomb, Jeff Koons, Michael Spafford, Lynda Barry, Chet Huntley, Syvilla Fort, Ping Chong, Kenny Werner, Ralph Towner, Mary Frank, Thornton Wilder, Lou Harrison, Jane Ira Bloom, Kraig Patterson, Musicians Accord, Bun Ching Lam, Brendan Fraser, Myra Melford, Sharon Isbin, Joanne Brackeen, Oliver Lake, California Ear Unit, Colorado Quartet, and Gary Peacock, among others.

#####