

DATE: September 21, 2009

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SUBJECT: The Melva P. Jones Fund for Music and Art Awards \$12,800 to Local Nonprofit Organizations

Roanoke, VA – The Melva P. Jones Fund for Music and Art, a component fund of Foundation for Roanoke Valley, awarded \$12,800 to six local nonprofit organizations. The Fund provides support to music and art programs and organizations, with a preference for those which benefit the citizens of Vinton.

Thursday Morning Music Club was awarded **\$2,000** to provide music and dance scholarships to qualified local students. Since 1981, the Club has provided cash awards, stipends for summer instruction, and college scholarships to hundreds of students throughout the Roanoke Valley.

Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce was awarded **\$1,500** to provide bus transportation to the Vinton Christmas Parade for area marching bands. The Vinton Christmas Parade is held annually and the marching bands are an integral and crucial part of the parade.

The **Vinton Historical Society/Vinton Museum** was awarded **\$3,000** to preserve the quality of items by storing historical items in display cases, to purchase artwork from local artists, and to help fund the annual Variety Music Program. Each of these projects helps to improve and preserve the history of the Town of Vinton.

The 2006 Vinton War Memorial Vision Committee, Inc. was awarded **\$3,300** to help support and maintain a Veterans' Monument in Vinton. This project will recognize

and honor Veterans from Vinton and Roanoke County who were killed in action and who have or who are currently serving our country.

The **William Byrd High School Choir** was awarded **\$2,000** to partially fund bus transportation to New York City to tour and perform in the city.

The **William Byrd Middle School Choir** was awarded **\$1,000** to purchase a class set of active votes to be used along with their LCD projector and Active Board. This will allow students to answer questions without have to leave their desks.

The Melva P. Jones Fund for Music and Art is administered by Foundation for Roanoke Valley. The Foundation, established in 1988, is the community foundation serving 10 counties in Southwest Virginia, including Alleghany County. Foundation funds range in size from a minimum of \$10,000 to several million dollars. To date, donors have also committed approximately \$72 million to benefit the community through the Foundation using various types of deferred estate gifts.

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