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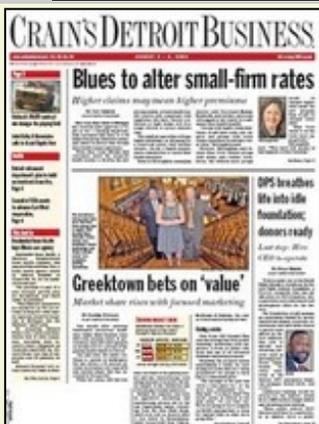
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POSTED: 2:32 p.m., Jun. 11, 2009

LAST MODIFIED: 2:33 p.m., Jun. 11, 2009

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## Erb Family Foundation awards more than \$2.5 million in grants

By [Sherri Begin Welch](#)

The Fred A. and Barbara M.

Erb Family Foundation this

week approved its second round

of grants, awarding more than

\$2.5 million.

The grants support arts and

cultural organizations, water

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quality efforts in the watersheds impacting metro Detroit and Bayfield, Ontario, and efforts to restore the Great Lakes region.

Included in the grants was unrestricted, general operating support for 30 cultural and arts organizations and a grant of

\$100,000 over two years to the Heidelberg Project in Detroit to hire a development director and program director to help implement a strategic plan for a cultural village.

Other second-round grants included:

- \$100,000 to **Cranbrook Educational Community** in Bloomfield Hills to support its upcoming exhibit that will mesh art and science.
- \$100,000 to **Mosaic Youth Theatre** for operating support and to motivate new or increased donations, with half the grant providing match funds to motivate new or increased donations.
- \$100,000 to the **Sphinx Organization** to support the **Sphinx Preparatory Music Institute** and **Sphinx Overture** programs, with half the grant going to provide match funds to motivate new or increased donations.

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- \$125,000 challenge grant to the **Detroit Science Center** to help fund construction of a clean water through green engineering exhibit.
- \$100,000 over two years to the Arlington, Va.-based **Nature Conservancy** to complete the Lake Huron conservation planning process.
- \$100,000 to the **Ecology Center Inc.** in Ann Arbor for general operating support.
- \$100,000 to the **Michigan Environmental Council** in Lansing to strengthen the connections between the Detroit program and state policy work on environmental health, justice and water issues.

The awards follow \$1 million in grants made by the foundation in December to nonprofits providing food and emergency assistance and bring the Erb Family Foundation's total awards during its first year of operation to nearly \$3.54 million.

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