

ChicagoHistoryMuseum

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Lauren R. Dolan
312-799-2161
dolans@chicagohistory.org

2008 MAKING HISTORY AWARDS

On May 15, five award recipients will be honored in an evening of tradition and history.

CHICAGO (February 15, 2008) – The Chicago Historical Society is pleased to announce its 5 distinguished recipients for the 2008 Making History Awards. The awards will be presented on Thursday, May 15, 2008 at the Chicago History Museum with a cocktail reception at 5:30 p.m. followed by dinner and awards at 6:30 p.m. This year's recipients include: W. James Farrell, Sue Gin, Hanna H. Gray, Franz Jackson, and Abbott (acceptance by Miles White).

“The important tradition of these awards allows the opportunity to pay collective tribute to those who have demonstrated commitment and excellence in a wide variety of fields,” said Gary T. Johnson, Museum president. “This year's award recipients add to the list of the previous distinguished 63 recipients that have exhibited a passion for service to the citizens and institutions of Chicago.” The awards will be presented by James O'Connor, John W. Rowe, James S. Crown, Ramsey Lewis, and Andrew J. McKenna. Presenters O'Connor, Lewis, and McKenna are past award recipients.

W. James Farrell will be awarded *The Marshall Field History Maker Award for Distinction in Corporate Leadership and Innovation*. Farrell was the Chairman, President, and CEO of Illinois Tool Works. He was recognized in 2003 as a Spirit of America Summit Award recipient by United Way of America. He has made an impact on numerous corporations, including holding the position of director at Abbott, 3M Precision Optics, Inc., Allstate Insurance, Sears Roebuck & Co., Morton International, Premark International, United Airlines, Waud Capital, Quaker Oats Company, Kraft Foods, and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago where he was also Chairman.

ChicagoHistoryMuseum

Sue Gin will be awarded *The Bertha Honore Palmer History Maker Award for Distinction in Civic Leadership*. Gin was the Founder, Owner, Chairman, and CEO of Flying Food Group. Gin graduated from DePaul University, and has since been a member of their board of trustees, and co-chair of the Campaign for Excellence in Science. Gin was honored by the YWCA as an Outstanding Woman of Achievement, Ernst & Young named her their Entrepreneur of the Year Hall of Fame. Gin has been a board member of The Field Museum, Business Leadership Group of Workforce Chicago, Chicago Community Trust, Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center, Chicago Network, and the Chinese American Service League. She was President of the William McGowan Charitable Fund, and a member of the board of directors of the Chicago Botanic Garden.

Hanna H. Gray will be awarded *The Robert Maynard Hutchins History Maker Award for Distinction in Education*. Gray is a historian that was President of the University of Chicago from 1978 through 1993 and is currently the President Emeritus. She has taught at a number of educational institutions throughout her career including Bryn Mawr College, Harvard University, University of Chicago, Northwestern University, and Yale. She has been a fellow of the Newberry Library, the Center of Behavioral Sciences, and an honorary fellow of St. Anne's College in Oxford, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She holds degrees from Oxford, Yale, Brown, Columbia, Princeton, Duke, Harvard, the Universities of Michigan and Toronto and The University of Chicago.

Franz Jackson will be awarded *The Theodore Thomas History Maker Award for Distinction in the Performing Arts*. Jackson a staple in the jazz community has received numerous awards and mentions as a leader in the jazz movement. At 95 years of age, Jackson is credited as a founding member of the Jazz Institute of Chicago. In 2005, he was an American Heritage Jazz Series honoree as one of the Greatest Living Jazz Tenor Saxophonists, and in 2006, he received the Jazz Institute of Chicago Walter Dyett Lifetime Achievement Award. He has been a participant in the Jazz Institute's Millennium Park concert series for several years and as well as their Saxophone Summit concerts.

Abbott will be awarded with *The Cyrus McCormick History Maker Award for Historical Achievement*. This award will be accepted by Miles White, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of the organization. Abbott founded in 1888 by Dr. Wallace Calvin Abbott has been named by Fortune magazine as one of America's most admired companies every year since 1984. Abbott's global citizenship is far reaching from environmental action to HIV/AIDS awareness and concerns. They have been a leader in innovative science programming for Chicago Public Schools; contributed millions of dollars to relief for natural disasters across the world; reached out to developing countries providing low cost medications, and invested over \$40 million to help strengthen the health care system in Africa with training, laboratories and clinics.

ChicagoHistoryMuseum

Providing generous support for the 2008 Making History Awards are lead sponsors Bank of America, Exelon Corporation, and Molex Incorporated. Additional major support provided by JPMorgan Chase, the Daly Group, KPMG, Carole and Joseph Levy, Northern Trust, Jeanne and John Rowe, The Sidley Austin Foundation, and UAL Corporation, with media support by WTTW- Channel 11.

Tickets for this year's dinner and reception, at the Museum on May 15, start at \$500 per person, and may be obtained by contacting Kari Riordan at PJH & Associates, Inc. at 312-553-2000. Proceeds from the awards dinner benefit the exhibitions and programs of the Chicago History Museum.

###

The Chicago History Museum, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located at 1601 N. Clark Street. The Museum can be reached by CTA buses 11, 22, 36, 72, 151, and 156. Parking is conveniently located one block north of the Museum at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). Admission to the Museum is \$14 adults with audio tour, \$12 seniors/students with audio tour, free for children 12 years and younger. General Admission is free on Mondays. Please call 312.642.4600 or visit us at www.chicagohistory.org. The Chicago History Museum is affiliated with the Chicago Historical Society and acknowledges the Chicago Park District's generous support of all the Museum's activities.