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**MUSKEGON, TOGETHER RISING
RICHARD HUNT SCULPTURE DEDICATION
MUSKEGON, MI
FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2008
4:30 pm**

Chris McGuigan, President of the Community Foundation *for* Muskegon County announced that on June 13, 2008 at 4:30 PM at the traffic circle at the corner of Third Street and Western Ave in Muskegon MI, the Richard Hunt sculpture, “Muskegon, Together Rising” will be unveiled. A community reception will be held immediately following the unveiling under the tent at the Muskegon Museum of Art.

This gift to the Community of Muskegon was made possible by grants from the: Alcoa Foundation, Charles E. II and Patricia B. Johnson, Robert D. and C. Corcoran Tuttle Family, and the Cool Cities Fund of Michigan.

In 2005 the visioning process for *Imagine Muskegon* identified Muskegon’s historic and cultural center as the corner of Third Street and Western Avenue. This place later was set apart by City engineers and planners with a traffic circle, and today is the setting for renowned sculptor Richard Hunt’s “Muskegon, Together Rising.” Inspired by spirit and history, vision and aspiration, this soaring stainless-steel structure rises solidly from the earth and shore, gleaming in light and reaching with flames, arms, and wings into the sky.

Richard Hunt occupies a preeminent place as one of our nations’ most acclaimed and sought-after public sculptors. Both a colleague and friend of the late Corky Tuttle, Richard is well-known among West Michigan area art supporters. His commissioned work can be found coast-to-coast, including “We Will” in Chicago’s downtown, “And You, Seas” on St. Joseph’s pier, and “Mountaintop” in Memphis. Richard Hunt has studios in Benton Harbor and Chicago.

This unveiling marks the attainment of a major goal of the Downtown Muskegon Development Co.’s Public Art Committee, whose purpose is to assure that Muskegon’s new downtown will be visually remarkable through the public art it displays. The Committee is chaired by Patricia B. Johnson, President Emeritus of the Community Foundation, and consists of the following members: Judy Hayner, Executive Director Muskegon Museum of Art, John McGarry, Executive Director Muskegon County Museum, Henry Mathews, Director of Collections for Grand Valley State University, Wendy Kersman, Artist and Civic Leader, Peter Turner, Chair of the Community

Foundation Board, Bryon Mazade, City Manager for the City of Muskegon, Cindy Larsen, president/CEO of the Muskegon Area Chamber of Commerce, and Chris McGuigan, President/CEO of the Community Foundation.

Mr. Hunt will be available for interviews after the unveiling.

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