



NEWS RELEASE

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**THE FRICK ART & HISTORICAL CENTER PRESENTS
THE ROY A. HUNT FOUNDATION AWARD FOR COMMITMENT TO
EDUCATION IN THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES
TO NAOMI BERES**

*Thomas Jefferson High School English teacher successfully
integrates art and humanities into her curriculum*

**Award Program: Wednesday, May 13, 2009: 12:00 p.m.
 The Frick Art Museum auditorium**

May 12, 2009, Pittsburgh, PA— The Frick Art & Historical Center is pleased to announce **Naomi Beres** as the recipient of the *2009 Roy A. Hunt Foundation Award for Commitment to Education in the Arts and Humanities*. Ms. Beres is an English teacher at Thomas Jefferson High School in the Jefferson Hills School District, where she has taught since 2002.

In 1999, the Roy A. Hunt Foundation made a designated grant to the Frick Art & Historical Center to be utilized for an ongoing excellence in teaching award. The *Roy A. Hunt Foundation Award for Commitment to Education in the Arts and Humanities* is given annually to an educator who has demonstrated a commitment to participating in the Frick's education programs, and who has successfully integrated the arts into the students' learning experience. Ms. Beres has demonstrated these qualities in her work with her students.

In visits to the Frick with her students, Ms. Beres has demonstrated extraordinary creativity in connecting the museum collections and exhibitions to her curriculum. In 2007, her students

attended a Noh theater performance during the special exhibition, *The Prints of Tsukioka Kôgyo*, and used that experience as an introduction to a Greek theater unit on *Oedipus Rex*. A visit to Clayton, the restored Gilded Age home of the Henry Clay Frick family, served as an introduction to 19th-century literature and the extreme changes in society that occurred at that time. Ms. Beres has stated, "In order to reinforce the notion that art and literature are intertwined and in order to understand the literature of a time period, one must also understand the dominant philosophy and the art that comes from that philosophy."

Paintings in the Frick's collection are used to enhance Ms. Beres' classroom unit on artistic movements or "isms" and 20th-century modern writers. A PowerPoint presentation created by Ms. Beres, that is shown in advance of visits to the Frick, provides students with opportunities to practice their skills in critiquing a painting, an exercise which serves as a basis for critiquing passages from short stories written by such literary figures as Kafka, Sartre and Faulkner.

Ms. Beres holds a bachelor's degree in English Literature and a master's in Education, both from Chatham University. She teaches 10th grade Honors English and 12th grade English, Journalism and Mass Media. Ms. Beres also serves as advisor for the school newspaper, *The Statesman*, as well as for the Japanese Club.

Ms. Beres will be recognized at a ceremony in The Frick Art Museum auditorium on Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at 12:00 p.m. The ceremony will be attended by Ms. Beres' students, who will present a short workshop performance.

On hand for the award presentation will be Beatrice C. Carter, Executive Director, Roy A. Hunt Foundation; David A. Brownlee, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Frick Art & Historical Center; and Bill Bodine, Director of the Frick Art & Historical Center. Ms. Beres will be presented with a plaque for display at Thomas Jefferson High School, and a check in the amount of \$3,000 will be presented to the school to help defray the cost of future field trips and enrichment activities. Additionally, students of Ms. Beres will receive complimentary admission passes to Clayton to encourage visits from students and their families.

The Roy A. Hunt Foundation Award for Commitment to Education in the Arts and Humanities was established at the Frick Art & Historical Center through the efforts of Torrence M. Hunt, Sr. (1921–2004), a longtime Alcoa executive who was involved with many civic, educational, wildlife, and conservation groups. Following his retirement from Alcoa in 1982, Mr. Hunt served as senior trustee of the Roy A. Hunt Foundation, named for his father and established in 1966. Thanks to the generosity of Mr. Hunt and the Foundation, including Torrence M. Hunt, Jr., who serves as a trustee on the foundation’s board, thousands of students have participated in enrichment activities through support provided by *The Roy A. Hunt Foundation Award for Commitment to Education in the Arts and Humanities*.

The Frick Art & Historical Center offers educational programs for children, students, adults and families. During the Frick’s last fiscal year (2007–2008), these programs served nearly 14,000 individuals. For more information about the Frick and its educational programs, please call 412-205-2022 or visit TheFrickPittsburgh.org. Free parking is available in the Frick’s off-street lot, or along adjacent neighborhood streets.

For additional information or images, please contact Greg Langel, Media and Marketing Manager, at 412-371-0600 ext. 524 or GLangel@TheFrickPittsburgh.org.

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The Frick Art & Historical Center, a museum, historic site and cultural center serves the public through preservation, presentation, and interpretation of the fine and decorative arts and historically significant artifacts for all residents of and visitors to Western Pennsylvania.