



## **News Release**

***For Immediate Release***

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### **Taste of Hudson Donates \$30,000 to Area Organizations**

*Donations total \$100,000 over four successful years*

**November 2008 – Hudson, Ohio** – Taste of Hudson is extremely proud to announce that the 2008 festival donated \$30,000 to local, community-based charities and non-profit organizations. Over the past four years, the event has successfully raised \$100,000 for area organizations

This year's beneficiaries include Safe Kids coalition of Summit County, Hudson EMS, Hudson Merchants Association, The Hudson Library and Historical Society, Hudson Community First, Pioneer Women of the Western Reserve, Hudson Farmer's Market, Hudson Community Foundation Fireworks, Leadership Hudson, Hudson Cable Television, and the Hudson High School Scholarship Fund.

The festival's primary beneficiary, Safe Kids Coalition of Summit County, is an organization dedicated to keeping kids safe through a variety of education programs. Safe Kids will be presented with a check in the amount of \$17,500, bringing to \$62,500 the amount Taste of Hudson has given to the organization over the past four years.

"We are absolutely thrilled to present these checks to the numerous deserving organizations, including the Safe Kids Coalition which does so much to keep our children safe and sound," said Executive Director Andy Malitz. "We look forward to furthering our relationship with Safe Kids Coalition of Summit County for the 2009 Taste of Hudson and for many years to come," Malitz added.

"We are very thankful to all of the participants in Taste of Hudson especially our sponsors and in particular our Co-presenting sponsors Summa Health System and Akron Children's Hospital," said Malitz. "Without their support we could not have produced a successful Taste of Hudson. The generosity of these sponsors is paramount to our success and provides us the ability to raise money for so many deserving organizations," Malitz said.

"We are trying to reach out to as many organizations as we can to continue to make a difference in the community," Malitz said. Jim Hackney, Taste of Hudson, Inc. Board President added that "the creation of Taste of Hudson has met, and exceeded, the initial

objectives of the Leadership Hudson Class of 2004 and we are proud to continue the legacy that has been established through those initiatives”.

Co-presented by Summa Health System and Akron Children’s Hospital, the Taste of Hudson two-day festival held over Labor Day weekend attracted over 25,000 people to Hudson’s historic downtown. At the event, visitors sampled delicious foods from 23 area restaurants while enjoying live entertainment, fine arts and crafts, children’s activities, cooking demonstrations and much more in a family-friendly atmosphere.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Taste of Hudson is scheduled for Labor Day Weekend, Sunday and Monday, September 6 & 7, 2009.

*A Taste of Hudson is a Rotary Club of Hudson Clocktower event organized by volunteers within the community in order to promote Hudson area entrepreneurship of its restaurants, businesses, artists and entertainers, and to provide funding for several charities. For more information and photos from the 2008 Taste of Hudson visit [www.tasteofhudson.com](http://www.tasteofhudson.com) .*