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**Contact**      For ideastream:                      Gene Sasso                      216.739.3869                      gsasso@ideastream.org  
                         For Playhouse Square:                      Cindi Szymanski                      216.348.5258                      cindi@playhousesquare.com

**KULAS AND MURPHY FOUNDATIONS SUPPORT THE CAMPAIGN FOR IDEA CENTER**

Cleveland, OH – The Campaign for Idea Center at Playhouse Square has received two major grants totaling \$1.1 million from the Kulas Foundation and the John P. Murphy Foundation. The campaign was established to fund the development of the One Playhouse Square Building into the headquarters for WVIZ/PBS and 90.3 WCPN ideastream and the home of Playhouse Square’s arts education programs and services.

The Kulas Foundation awarded a \$600,000 grant to The Campaign for Idea Center, while the Murphy foundation granted \$500,000 to the campaign. The Kulas and Murphy Foundations have provided funding for educational programming and the arts in the Greater Cleveland area for many years. Both ideastream and Playhouse Square Foundation have received significant support from these organizations in the past and their gifts to The Campaign for Idea Center represent another important step in the campaign to fund this innovative community-enrichment initiative.

Since its inception in 1937, numerous arts organizations have benefited from the generosity of the Kulas Foundation. “The trustees view the Idea Center as a very significant project and wanted to contribute to its success in an important way,” Allan Zambie, Vice President and Secretary of the Kulas Foundation said.

“We are grateful to receive this very significant grant from the Kulas Foundation. The Kulas Foundation has supported both ideastream and Playhouse Square Foundation separately in the past. We appreciate that they also support our collaboration to develop the Idea Center,” said Jerry Wareham, President and Chief Executive Officer of ideastream.

The John P. Murphy Foundation gift to the Idea Center campaign corresponds with its primary interest in giving to educational, artistic and cultural institutions. Allan Zambie, also Executive Vice President and Secretary for the John P. Murphy Foundation commented, “We think this is one of the most innovative projects that we’ve seen in years and we wanted to give it strong support.”

“The Murphy Foundation’s generous gift to the campaign is sincerely appreciated,” expressed Art Falco, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Playhouse Square Foundation. “We are very thankful for their past support of the arts and education in our community. We are pleased for the recognition and major gift to this most important project.”

With these gifts, pledges to the campaign now total over \$12 million since ideastream and Playhouse Square began their joint fundraising effort. When complete the Idea Center will become a bustling center of activity housing ideastream employees currently located in separate broadcast facilities; Playhouse Square Arts Education programs; and the employees of other tenants. The facility will be a model of creative connectivity where digital media technology (radio, television and the internet) is used to create and distribute content, including news, information, educational services and performances.

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The Idea Center is a \$42 million project, including \$32 million for construction, furnishings, fixtures and equipment and \$10 million for programs and program-enabling technology. Having already secured commitments through historic tax credits, lost development rights and façade easements, The Campaign for Idea Center is a \$27.4 million initiative. The boards and staffs of ideastream and Playhouse Square Foundation are working together to construct, equip and program the Idea Center.

Playhouse Square Foundation

Playhouse Square Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit, which restored and operates Playhouse Square Center, the nation's second largest performing arts center. The Foundation's top mission is to provide high quality performing arts and entertainment programs to the citizen of Greater Cleveland and Northeast Ohio, and to support on-stage productions with leading-edge educational programs for people of all ages. It also strengthens the economic development of the region by making the downtown Cleveland Theater District a superior location for the arts, learning, business and living.

ideastream is a multiple-media public service organization with a mission to strengthen our communities by providing distinctive, thought-provoking programs and services that enlighten, inspire, educate and entertain. The organization was formed by the merger of public broadcasting stations WVIZ/PBS and 90.3 WCPN in July of 2001. The organization operates public television and radio stations in Cleveland with an audience of some 2.8 million viewers and listeners, an Educational Service group serving schools with nearly one half million students and manages the Ohio Public Television and Radio Statehouse News Bureau and Ohio Government Telecommunications in Columbus.

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