



For Immediate Release

ACADEMY OF FRIENDS NOW ACCEPTING RFPs FOR 2007 FUNDING OF HIV/AIDS AGENCIES

*Board of Directors Announces New Officers,
Committee Chairs and New Members of the AOF Board*

SAN FRANCISCO, June 20, 2006—**Academy of Friends** (AOF) today announced that it is now accepting Requests For Proposals (RFPs) for 2007 from Bay Area health and social service agencies that seek financial support for the direct care of individuals with HIV and AIDS, and/or the prevention of HIV and AIDS. AOF welcomes proposals from agencies and organizations providing services in the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Sonoma. Applications and funding guidelines for 2007 are available by visiting AOF at www.AcademyofFriends.org. The deadline for submitting a completed proposal is July 19.

Last season, AOF received over 40 proposals and 13 agencies were selected. At a recent reception on May 23, \$500,000 was distributed to this year's 13 beneficiaries including such organizations as **Maitri**, **Black Coalition on AIDS**, **Diablo Valley AIDS Center**, and **Project Inform** among others. In recent years, individual grants to beneficiaries have ranged from \$15,000 to \$40,000. Since its inception in 1980, Academy of Friends has given out more than \$6 million in direct grants to HIV and AIDS organizations providing critical services to Bay Area men, women and children living with this disease.

In a related announcement, the Academy of Friends revealed the newly elected slate of officers of the Board of Directors and committee chairs, and welcomed ten new individuals to the Board. AOF Board Members serve a minimum term of three years and a maximum of two terms or six consecutive years. All AOF Board Members voluntarily serve on various committees throughout the year and provide professional guidance, financial support and production assistance at the annual Gala.

The 2007 Officers of the AOF Board of Directors are: **Alan E. Keith**, *chair*; **Scott E. Miller**, *vice-chair*; **Nanette Duffy**, *gala chair*; **Steven H. Weiler**, *treasurer*; **Michele Nessier**, *secretary*; and **Charles Bello** and **J. Douglas Piper**, *members at large*. The 2007 AOF Committee Chairs are: **Gregg G. Solem**, *beneficiaries and production*; **Scott Miller**, *development*; **Steven Weiler**, *finance*; **Scott Bates**, *governance*; **Richard Wortman**, *marketing*; **Jon Finck**, *public relations*; **Robert Pinnix**, *raffle*; and **J. Douglas Piper** and **Rob Murray**, *silent auction*.

Newly elected to the Academy of Friends Board of Directors are **Randy Brasche**, **Raymond Brizendine**, **Neil Cohen**, **Robby Combs**, **Deborah Doyle**, **Howard Edelman**, **Patricia Farrar-Rivas**, **Bill Gunn**, **David Miranda**, and **George Rosenfeld**. The AOF Board also includes veteran members **Arthur Goodrich**, **Hugo Lai**, **Brandy J. Lowe**, **Richard S. O'Connell**, **BJ Stiles**, and **Tom Stroik**.

At the heart of the Academy of Friends is the annual Gala, a lavish formal event held on the night of Hollywood's Academy Awards® telecast. The Academy of Friends Gala is widely regarded as the biggest Oscar party in the nation outside of Los Angeles. The 27th annual Academy of Friends Gala will be held Sunday, Feb. 25, 2007. For further information about the activities of Academy of Friends, visit www.AcademyofFriends.org or call 415/995 9800.

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