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**Fred and Mary Koch Foundation Donates \$90,000
to Create New Sculpture Garden at Wichita Center for the Arts**

Wichita, Kan. – In recognition of the Wichita Center for the Arts' 90th anniversary, the Fred and Mary Koch Foundation has donated \$90,000 to the Center for the design and construction of the Koch Family Sculpture Garden. The contribution adds to the Koch family's 70-plus year legacy of support for the organization. Construction of the sculpture garden will begin immediately with completion expected this fall.

Located west of the main gallery entry and adjacent to the Center's classrooms, the outdoor sculpture garden will be accessible for the public to view and enjoy, and will serve as an educational resource. The concept for the garden was originally developed in 1993 by Center Director Howard W. Ellington, as part of a master plan for the venue. "The Koch Family Sculpture Garden is another educational building block that will provide enjoyment and visual learning opportunities for the Center's students, members and community at large," said Ellington.

Susan Addington, community relations manager for the Fred and Mary Koch Foundation, anticipates that the garden will have widespread appeal. "This will be a place where students and visitors of all ages can experience, explore and learn more about the visual arts through sculpture," explained Addington.

Two of the garden's first sculptures, donated by Jay and Helen Galloway, will be unveiled this Friday at the 6:30 p.m. groundbreaking for the garden. A sculpture from the Gladys and Karl T. Wiedemann Foundation will also be announced along with other future gifts. Some of the Center's familiar treasures will also find a new home in the garden, including Bruce Moore's "Diana and Fawn," commissioned more than 40 years ago for the facility's opening.

Sculpting instructor and area artist Babs Mellor is celebrating the enhancement. "This will inspire students to work even harder with the possibility that their own sculptures could one day be featured in the garden," said Mellor.

Thomas D. Montgomery of GLMV Architecture is landscape architect and project manager.

About the Fred and Mary Koch Foundation

Established in 1953, the Fred and Mary Koch Foundation focuses its resources on not-for-profit organizations in Kansas that significantly enhance the state's quality of life through arts and arts education; environmental stewardship; human services; enablement of at-risk youth; and education. More information is at www.fmkfoundation.org.

Editor's Note: Renderings of the garden follow.

Koch Family Sculpture Garden



View of garden entry



Sculpture garden looking north



Reflecting pool