



# Campaign for the Arts

June 23, 2008

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## **People's Bank and LeCocq Family Donate \$100,000 to Campaign for the Arts**

Bellingham – The Campaign for the Arts has received gifts from several long-time Bellingham families who, through their past financial support, have built many of the institutions and services in our area that we now take for granted. Locally owned People's Bank and its Chairman of the Board Irwin LeCocq Jr., along with his wife Frances, have donated \$100,000 to the Campaign for the Arts.

Irwin LeCocq Jr. says, "As a local bank that has been in business since 1920, we understand the value of investing in community resources. Civic endeavors, such as the Campaign for the Arts, will only continue to payback on the initial investment in terms of the cultural enrichment and economic benefit the Arts District will bring to area residents."

The Campaign for the Arts (CFA) is a non-profit headed by citizens committed to supporting efforts to enhance the Arts District's historic icons; the Whatcom Museum and Mount Baker Theatre. The CFA will benefit the endowments of each organization, assist with capital costs not covered by the Bellingham Whatcom Public Facilities District (PFD) and cover all campaign costs. The CFA is raising \$8.6 million that will be matched by up to \$25 million of public investment from the PFD and the City of Bellingham in select Arts District projects, including streetscapes. The construction of Whatcom Museum's new facilities for fine art and children's exhibits as well as the final phase of improvements to the Mount Baker Theatre will solidify these two institutions as the cornerstones of the Arts District.

Many other families and individuals are contributing to what will become lasting legacies in our community. To date they have given \$5.1 million to help the Campaign for the Arts achieve its goal. The Arts District encompasses not only the museum and the theatre, but also the public library, the new Pickford Theatre and the American Museum of Radio and Electricity, as well as several art galleries, restaurants and the Upfront Theatre, located just outside the district's official boundaries. To find out more information about leaving a legacy to enrich our community, visit the Campaign for the Arts online at [www.artsdistrictbellingham.com](http://www.artsdistrictbellingham.com).

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