## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, April 16, 2009

**For Further Information Contact:** Tobie Finzel at 503-705-2173 or Larry Cole at 503-728-9854 or Janet Wright at 503-397-1035

## COLUMBIA COUNTY CULTURAL COALITION REQUESTS GRANT APPLICATIONS FROM QUALIFIED APPLICANTS

The Columbia County Cultural Coalition (CCCC) requests grant applications for projects that address the priorities identified in the Columbia County Cultural Plan.

Grant awards will range from \$200 to \$1,500; the amount of Columbia County's 2009-10 allocation from the OCT will be determined in early July. Applicants must provide matching resources (in-kind or cash) and must be 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations or working with one. The Columbia County Cultural Plan and grant applications are available from the Columbia County website, <a href="www.co.columbia.or.us">www.co.columbia.or.us</a>; click the Links tab to reach the CCCC link. Applications must be postmarked by <a href="July 17, 2009">July 17, 2009</a>, for projects that will be completed between September 2009 and August 2010.

The CCCC has awarded a total of \$30,100 in grant funds to Columbia County cultural organizations since 2005 with funds allocated by the Oregon Cultural Trust (OCT). Established in 2001, the OCT is a public/private partnership that makes annual grants to county and tribal planning groups for cultural activities. The OCT Website, <a href="www.culturaltrust.org">www.culturaltrust.org</a>, contains information about its programs and the matching gift tax credit that is available to donors.

The CCCC and its Grants Committee are volunteers from Clatskanie, Rainier, Scappoose, St. Helens, and Vernonia, whose mission is to encourage projects and activities in the arts, local heritage and the humanities. Priorities in the Cultural Plan are protecting existing cultural assets, helping people experience a variety of cultural venues, and increasing access to and participation in cultural events.

Please direct any questions regarding the plan or the grant process to Janet Wright at 503-397-1035 or email to janet.wright@co.columbia.or.us.