

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Kerry Koonce
Telephone: (515) 281-9646

**Iowa Workers' Monument Receives Additional \$250,000
Artists Design Unveiled**

DES MOINES – The Iowa Workers' Memorial Monument, scheduled for completion in April 2008, received a \$200,000 donation from the People of Iowa and \$50,000 from the Community Colleges today.

"The monument will be an ever-lasting tribute to Iowa's work ethic and the contributions of Iowa's workforce to our great state," stated Lt. Governor Patty Judge, "The monument signifies the combined efforts to working men and women who have lifted this state from the ground in every part of the state."

"Iowa is one of the thirteen states without a monument to its workers. The additional \$250,000 in gifts received today brings the total contributions for the project to over \$525,000 and will complete the project and provide for the ongoing perpetual maintenance of the monument," indicated interim director Dave Neil.

When completed, the monument will be a striking eleven foot tall by eleven foot wide balanced square form. Upon closer interaction, the sculpture is revealed to be four interlocking arms and hands, a powerful universal image, dedicated to the energy and integrity of the Workers of Iowa. Each arm supports the other, in the same way a diverse blend of people, from many back-grounds, come together to work and create the cultural and business base of Iowa. The monument will be placed at the northeast corner of Grand Avenue and East Ninth Street.

Iowa worker's both past and present have been known for their strong work ethic. They believe in the importance of honest work and a commitment of getting the job done. As Iowa moves into a hi-tech economy of the 21st century, it is important we be reminded that it is the Iowa worker and their strong work ethic that has brought Iowa's economy to this point.

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