

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 30, 2008 CONTACT: Doreen Stoller Hermann Park Conservancy 713-542-5876 ext. 331 doreen@hermannpark.org

HERMANN PARK CONSERVANCY RECEIVES ONE MILLION DOLLAR GRANT FROM THE TIFFANY & CO. FOUNDATION

HOUSTON – September 30, 2008 – Hermann Park Conservancy has been awarded a \$1,000,000 grant from The Tiffany & Co. Foundation to dedicate The Tiffany & Co. Foundation Bridge in the new Lake Plaza in Hermann Park.

In the wake of Hurricane Ike, Hermann Park Conservancy is especially grateful for this generous grant, which will help the Conservancy move forward with capital improvement projects while repairing damage inflicted by the storm.

Lake Plaza is one of several Park improvement projects totaling over \$45 million to be completed for the Park's centennial in 2014. Lake Plaza is a new community gathering space that will offer a café, dining terrace, new main Hermann Park Railroad station named Kinder Station, gift shop, volunteer building, and public restrooms.

Currently under construction, The Tiffany & Co. Foundation Bridge will be an elegant and essential element within the Plaza, offering newly accessible views, increasing connectivity within the Park, and enhancing the beauty of the area without disturbing the natural surroundings. The entire Lake Plaza is a LEED certified project scheduled for completion in March 2009.

"This grant from The Tiffany & Co. Foundation is instrumental in our work to preserve, protect, and improve Hermann Park. The Conservancy is honored to be one of the three recipients from across the United States," said Doreen Stoller, executive director of Hermann Park Conservancy.

This grant is part of the expansion of The Tiffany & Co. Foundation's urban parks program to major cities nationally. Other grant recipients across the country include Parkways Foundation in Chicago, Illinois and The Vizcayans in Miami, Florida. "Our mission to beautify open space urban environments brought about the opportunity to partner with Hermann Park Conservancy, and we are very happy with the elegant, arched bridge design that resulted from the Conservancy's efforts to enhance Lake Plaza," said Fernanda Kellogg, president of The Tiffany & Co. Foundation. "The bridge will be ideally located to increase access, while offering a romantic view of the natural surroundings."

About The Tiffany & Co. Foundation

Established in 2000, The Tiffany & Co. Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations working in two main program areas: the environment and the arts. The Foundation's environmental conservation program promotes responsible mining, healthy marine ecosystems, the enhancement of urban environments and the preservation of culturally significant landmarks. In addition, the Foundation fosters design excellence by supporting organizations dedicated to the decorative arts. For more information on The Tiffany & Co. Foundation, please visit <u>www.tiffanyandcofoundation.org</u>.

About Hermann Park Conservancy

Founded in 1992 as Friends of Hermann Park, Hermann Park Conservancy is a nonprofit citizens' organization dedicated to the stewardship and improvement of Hermann Park – today and for generations to come. Through a public-private partnership with the City of Houston, the Conservancy raises millions of dollars each year to enhance and maintain Hermann Park, one of Houston's most historic and popular green spaces. For more information on the Conservancy, visit <u>www.hermannpark.org</u>.

###