The Vizcayans receive $500,000 grant for restoration of Vizcaya’s Sutri Fountain Garden from The Tiffany & Co. Foundation

Miami, FL – (October 2, 2008) – The Vizcayans is pleased to announce that The Tiffany & Co. Foundation recently awarded a $500,000 grant for the restoration of the Sutri Fountain Garden at Vizcaya. This grant, along with ones to Grant Park in Chicago and Hermann Park in Houston, furthers The Tiffany & Co. Foundation’s mission to preserve the natural heritage that distinguishes great urban centers. This grant provides an essential private sector match for an award from the federal government’s Save America’s Treasures program and becomes an important part of a comprehensive restoration plan for Vizcaya’s buildings, gardens and outdoor statuary. The core funding for Vizcaya’s comprehensive restoration plan is a $50 million allocation of bond funds from Miami-Dade County approved by voters in November 2004.

“Vizcaya Museum and Gardens is a national treasure,” said Fernanda Kellogg, president of The Tiffany & Co. Foundation. “Restoring the Sutri Fountain Garden maintains the natural splendor of this historic preserve and also pays tribute to The Vizcayans, our partnering organization, and those who first envisioned the gardens as a glorious setting of beauty and repose.

“I will forever be grateful to The Tiffany & Co. Foundation, its president, Fernanda Kellogg, and others, who responded so favorably to our application,” said Norma Quintero, president of The Vizcayans. “It is a timely response to our focus on Vizcaya’s historic gardens and their preservation.”
That The Tiffany & Co. Foundation selected Vizcaya’s gardens for this generous award validates our belief in the importance of protecting and preserving this extraordinary setting for present and future generations.”

Said Joel Hoffman, executive director of Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, “As we have witnessed elsewhere across the country, the combination of public and private resources directed to the restoration of Vizcaya is another expression of our shared commitment to preserving our national heritage. We are so appreciative of The Tiffany Foundation’s investment in our efforts.”

On October 2, 2008, the National Trust for Historic Preservation awarded The Vizcayans its President’s Award saluting the organization’s half-century of preservation work at Vizcaya. The President’s award is special recognition by the President of the National Trust for Historic Preservation for outstanding and exemplary achievements in historic preservation. On February 24, 2009, The Vizcayans will host the first annual “Vizcayans Conservancy Luncheon”, modeled after the fabulously successful Central Park Conservancy Luncheon which raises millions of dollars to support New York’s Central Park. The Vizcayans Conservancy Luncheon will be held on the Mound at Vizcaya.

About The Vizcayans

The Vizcayans is the private sector support organization for Vizcaya Museum and Gardens, in partnership with the Vizcaya Museum and Gardens Trust. Since its inception in 1957, The Vizcayans has provided funding, advocacy and volunteer support for Vizcaya. The Vizcayans is the recipient of the President’s Award from the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

About Vizcaya Museum and Gardens

Vizcaya Museum and Gardens is a historic house museum and National Historic Landmark that preserves the Miami estate of Chicago industrialist, James Deering (1859-1925). Vizcaya is one of the most complete remaining examples of classical architectural and landscape design from the American Renaissance inspired by the traditions of the European Renaissance. Today, the 50-acre estate includes a main house, featuring 34 decorated rooms; 10 acres of formal gardens; and a native hardwood hammock and mangroves. Accredited by the American Association of Museums, offers tours in multiple languages and is open to the public 364 days per year. For more information on Vizcaya, please visit www.vizcayamuseum.org.

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, and 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 www.tiffanyandcofoundation.org.