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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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www.NortheastCulturalCoop.org

New Hampshire Cultural Non-Profit Celebrates Major Funding Awards

Amherst- Northeast Cultural Coop (NCC) launches two major initiatives thanks to funding from international foundations – Center for Global Partnership and the Freeman Foundation, totaling over \$275,000. These awards will help NCC meet its goals and objectives to provide programs in education, culture, and the sciences for educators, students, and the general public that foster an awareness and deeper understanding of the global community we all share.

The award from CGP, Center for Global Partnership, a branch of the Japan Foundation, with offices in New York and Tokyo, is designated for the development of a curriculum guide to help celebrate the centennial anniversary of the culmination of the Russo-Japanese War that ended with the signing of the Portsmouth Peace Treaty of 1905. This project, under the leadership of NCC Executive Director, Blanche Milligan, is a collaborative effort with the Japan-American Society of New Hampshire and the Portsmouth School District. Teachers from seacoast schools as well as scholars from several major universities, including Harvard and Dartmouth, are working on the project that will be available to teachers for use in their classrooms by the spring of 2005.

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East by Northeast, a three-year initiative funded by the Freeman Foundation of New York and Stowe, Vermont, will introduce a series of programs around the state for corporate leaders, community groups, educators and students, dealing with historical and contemporary issues from East and Southeast Asia. These programs will include visits by international scholars and authors, as well as performers, experts on international investment and finance, as well as teacher programs and week-long institutes. This initiative will begin in the fall with a visit from award –winning author and illustrator, Allen Say, author of the Caldecott winning title, *Grandfather's Journey*, whose books tell many stories for all ages about growing up between two cultures—Japan and the U.S. Also, this fall, a series of workshops on the international story of The Monkey King, will be held throughout the state, culminating with a performance at The Music Hall in Portsmouth of the Beijing Opera's traveling Monkey King Adventures.

Northeast Cultural Coop, a non-profit charitable organization, founded in 2003, welcomes you to explore its many program offerings by visiting www.NortheastCulturalCoop.org or by calling Blanche Milligan at 603-673-8470 for more information. To be added to our mailing list, send your name and mailing address to Melanie@NortheastCulturalCoop.org or to PO Box 346, Amherst, NH 03031.

For additional information on the Portsmouth Peace Treaty of 1905 and programs that will celebrate this moment in New Hampshire's history, visit <http://www.portsmouthpeacetreaty.org>.

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