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For Immediate Release

Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park at Governors State University Receives CSCVB Tourism Grant

University Park, IL, March 31, 2009 - The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park at Governors State University recently received a \$6,000 Local Tourism Marketing Grant from the Chicago Southland Convention & Visitors Bureau (CSCVB). The grant will help to promote a series of events at the park located on the prairie landscape of the university. A special series of summer events will accommodate hundreds of visitors to the nationally recognized park and the Chicago Southland region. The series will be the first undertaking of this magnitude in the park's 30 year history. The grant will be used to purchase radio and print advertising in Chicago and Northwest Indiana, promoting event to an audience outside of the immediate Chicago Southland region.

"This grant from the CSCVB will make the difference between a "posters in the window" campaign and real advertising outreach for the innovative programming we will be presenting this summer," said Geoffrey Bates, Director and Curator of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park.

The CSCVB distributes up to \$66,000 annually to Southland municipalities and not-for-profit organizations to promote events designed to draw visitors into the Chicago Southland region for overnight stays. These visitors contribute substantially to the Southland economy through stays in regional hotels, dining at local restaurants, shopping, recreational activities, and needed services travelers require such as gas, oil, and sundry items.

"The local Tourism Grant program is a way for the Bureau to extend its marketing reach," said Jim Garret, CDME, President/CEO of the CSCVB. "The marketing efforts by our communities – in addition to marketing efforts by the Bureau – help us better promote the many festivals and event and area attractions throughout the Southland to potential visitors."

The Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park at Governors State University is located at 1 University Parkway, University Park, Illinois. For information on the park, its collection, and programming, or to receive the LandMarks newsletter, please visit www.govst.edu/sculpture, call 708.534.4486, or email sculpture@govst.edu.