



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
For additional information contact:
Victoria Tirrel, Communications Associate
vtirrel@bushfoundation.org
651-379-2238

Photo Available

CATHERINE JORDAN TO JOIN BUSH FOUNDATION LEADERSHIP/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

(Saint Paul, MN – September 28, 2009)—Nonprofit and community leader, educator and arts advocate Catherine Victoria Jordan will bring her wide-ranging expertise to the Bush Foundation in November when she joins the team focused on [developing courageous leaders and engaging entire communities in solving problems](#).

“Catherine epitomizes community engagement,” said Bush Foundation Vice President Pamela Wheelock. “Her passion for excellence—whether it’s focused on the arts, education, youth, nature, health or civic activities—is infectious and delivers impact in the community. As she turns her focus toward the diverse communities in Minnesota and the Dakotas, we expect her catalytic and courageous leadership will result in real change and will advance the Bush Foundation’s goal of developing courageous leaders and engaging entire communities in solving problems.” Wheelock is leader of the team focused on the Foundation’s leadership/community engagement goal.

Jordan is the president and CEO of AchieveMpls, a Local Education Fund and intermediary that supports the Minneapolis Public Schools, a position she will leave in late October. In that job she received the 2007 Minnesota Vision Award from Positively Minnesota, recognizing her leadership in building a career and college pipeline for students from that district.

Jordan said, “It is a terrific honor to join the Bush Foundation and its leadership/community engagement team. I see the position as a rare opportunity to bring my skills and experience in the arts, education, community organizing and systems change together in one place. I look forward to building relationships with our community partners to advance the Foundation’s goals and to leverage the community’s extensive human and financial resources to tackle the challenges we face.”

At present, Jordan sits on the Board of Directors of the Saint Paul-based Jerome Foundation and the Blacklock Nature Sanctuary. She has also worked as an executive director, board member, performer, volunteer or consultant at myriad Twin Cities nonprofit organizations, including the United Arts Council, Women’s Art Registry of Minnesota (WARM), Girl Scout Council of Greater Minneapolis, Peer Education Health Resources, Northwest Area Foundation, In the Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Theater, Artspace Projects, Rainbow Research, Circus Juventas, Lyndale Neighborhood Development Corporation, Saint Paul Convention and Visitors Bureau,

Twin Cities Public Television, Illusion Theatre, Minnesota Citizens League and At the Foot of the Mountain Theatre. Jordan founded and ran Culture Incorporated, and produced four Saint Paul's Firststar Capital New Year festivals (1997-2000).

Early in her career, Jordan worked as a sexuality and AIDS educator and filmmaker, winning a gold medal in 1988 at the International Film and Video Festival of New York for her film *All of Us and AIDS*. She also received the National Parents Association Award in 1981 as executive producer of *Some of the Things that Go On Out There*, a film about adolescent rites of passage. She served as a Hamline University undergraduate sociology instructor from 1987 to 1996 teaching *Marriage and Family, Sex Roles, Sex and Sexuality: An American Perspective*.

Jordan's BA in education is from Antioch College, and her MA in law and human services is from Antioch University in Yellow Springs, Ohio. She has completed post-graduate work at the University of Minnesota in speech communications.

Jordan's work at the Foundation begins November 9.

*The **Bush Foundation** was established in 1953 by 3M executive Archibald Bush and his wife Edyth. The Foundation strives to be a catalyst to shape vibrant communities in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota by investing in courageous and effective leadership that significantly strengthens and improves the well-being of people in these three states*

In 2009, the Foundation is pursuing its [Goals for a Decade](#)—in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota to develop courageous leaders and engage entire communities in solving problems, to support the self-determination of Native nations and to increase educational achievement. (For more information about Goals for a Decade, visit www.bushfoundation.org.)