



# Press Release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### The [Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation](#) Awards *Community Grant* to Charter Oak Cultural Center in Hartford, Connecticut

**Boston, MA, June 9, 2010** – The [Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp.](#), a nonprofit, tax-exempt entity established by attorneys from Brown Rudnick LLP, awarded a [Community Grant](#) to the Charter Oak Cultural Center to support the “Read It and Sleep” program. This initiative provides monthly Friday night “community pajama parties” where low-income neighborhood children and families can enjoy snacks, have a bedtime story read to them, and receive a copy of the book to take home. The Foundation’s grant will purchase 125 books to be distributed over five nights.

The Charter Oak Cultural Center of Connecticut is a multi-cultural arts center that showcases for the region’s ethnically and culturally diverse communities. The Center offers performances, exhibits, classes, free after-school programming in the arts for inner-city youth, lectures and events that nourish the mind, soul, body and spirit.

According to grant applicant Laura Rozza, “Under the auspices of our Youth Arts Institute, Read It and Sleep is designed to build family literacy by providing a free, nurturing activity that encourages reading in a fun and engaging way. With the support of organizations such as the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation, our program will improve reading skills among Hartford’s youth.”

Al Wallis, Executive Director of the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Corp., commented, “The Foundation actively seeks to support programs that will improve inner-city education, and we are pleased to partner with the Charter Oak Cultural Center on the Read It and Sleep program. We believe innovative projects such as Read It and Sleep will effect positive change by increasing the level of parental and community involvement in education. We are delighted to award them this grant.”

Created to support front-line educators who often do not have a voice in funding decisions, the *Community Grants* subsidize small, concrete projects, which will improve inner-city education within Boston, Hartford, Providence or New York within the coming year. The Foundation will generally consider grant applications monthly and award grants in an amount totaling not more than \$2000 in any one month. The grant applications and an explanation of the program can be found at <http://www.brownrudnickcenter.com/foundation/communitygrant.asp>.



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