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Eyedrum Awarded \$2,500 Grant from Buddy Taub Foundation Los Angeles-based organization surprises gallery with needed gift

ATLANTA — In recognition of its work providing visual and performance art and music to underserved communities, Eyedrum Art & Music Gallery was awarded \$2,500 from the Buddy Taub Foundation on Thurs., May 31.

The Buddy Taub grant comes on the heels of Eyedrum receiving a \$30,000 grant from the Warhol Foundation last June for its dedication to innovation in visual arts.

The Buddy Taub Foundation is an independent group based in Los Angeles. Its giving totaled more than \$475,000 in fiscal year 2005 to only preselected charities. Eyedrum is among such widely recognized nonprofits as the Art Institute of Chicago, the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City and the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles to have received grants from the foundation.

While the Warhol grant came with specific requirements for use of the funds, the Buddy Taub grant can be used however Eyedrum sees fit.

“We at Eyedrum were very surprised and pleased to receive this award. We have always contended that the gallery spaces and performance area have national and international reach,” Executive Director Robert Cheatham said.

Eyedrum is the logical recipient of such awards. Since its founding in August 1998, Eyedrum has provided a sympathetic venue for emerging multimedia artists working outside mainstream esthetics, and artists making advanced work with little commercial potential —two often overlapping communities that were drastically underserved in Atlanta before Eyedrum changed the rules of the game.

For more info, please contact Eyedrum at 404-522-0655 or www.eyedrum.org.

Started in 1998, Eyedrum is a nonprofit organization that applies an interdisciplinary approach to the arts by incorporating a wide range of contemporary art, music and new media. The gallery expanded to its 3,000-square-foot downtown/Grant Park space, which includes a professional-quality stage and lighting, in 2005. Eyedrum is operated entirely by volunteers, and supported through memberships and donations. The gallery is a six-time-winner for *Creative Loafing*'s Best Alternative Arts Space, and has been recognized internationally as well as locally by Atlanta's Office of Cultural Affairs, the Fulton County Arts Council, and within the community at large for its advancement of innovation.