PRESS RELEASE

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Roslyn Landmark Society Awarded $100,000 from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation for the Roslyn Grist Mill Restoration

The Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation has awarded the Roslyn Grist Mill Project a $100,000 grant to help fund the construction of a new concrete foundation with stone veneer utilizing the existing foundation stones. Kathy Curran, executive director of the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation, said “The historic mills that still dot Long Island were the centers for all their communities. Entire towns were built around them. Our mills represent not only economic and social hubs, but they are also vestiges of latest technology of their day. Long Island’s early mills are the perfect embodiment of history, science and cultural content.”

A total of $2,511 million has been raised to date for this historic project from grants, awards and donations from New York State, Nassau County, trusts, foundations and the Roslyn Landmark Society membership.

Roslyn Landmark Society President Howard Kroplick said: “We thank the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation for their financial support. This grant will allow us to expand the restoration of this historic project during the next six months. Upon completion, the building will be used as an educational center which will provide historical and educational opportunities, and advance economic investment in our community. The Roslyn Landmark Society is grateful for the ongoing support which will save an icon located in the middle of the historic Village of Roslyn enabling it to be enjoyed by generations to come.”

The Roslyn Grist Mill is a rare surviving Dutch-framed watermill built between 1715 and 1741 purposely built for industrial use rather than farming. It operated as a working water mill for over 150 years. On April 24, 1790, the owner of the grist mill Hendrick Onderdonk was visited by President George Washington in his Roslyn residence adjoining the grist mill. Washington referred to the grist mill in his diary. From 1920 to 1974, the grist mill building served as a tea house and was a tourist attraction to the village. The building was placed on the National Historic Register of Historic Places in 1986.

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About Roslyn Landmark Society

Founded in 1961 by Roger and Peggy Gerry, the Roslyn Landmark Society is a 501 (c)(3) organization whose mission is to provide education, restoration and preservation of historically significant buildings, sites, and decorative elements which document the rich heritage of life and progress in Roslyn and the surrounding historic communities on Long Island.