EVENT: MSU Marks World AIDS Day

DATE: Tuesday, December 1, 2009

LOCATION: Kresge Art Museum, MSU Museum, and Olin Health Center on the Michigan State University Campus

**MSU Marks World AIDS Day – Tuesday, December 1, 2009**

East Lansing, Michigan – On December 1, Michigan State University’s Kresge Art Museum, the MSU Museum and Olin Health Center join thousands of individuals and educational, health, and cultural organizations around the world to mark World AIDS Day, a one-day observance to remind our community and the world that the AIDS pandemic is not over. In observance of the day, the MSU Museum and Kresge Art Museum, in association with the Lansing Area AIDS Network, will each display a panel of eight individual 3-by-6’ blocks from The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt.

Founded in 1987, The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt is a poignant memorial, a powerful tool for use in preventing new HIV infections, and the largest ongoing community arts project. A typical “block” of The AIDS Memorial Quilt consists of eight individual 3-by-6’ panels sewn together. Virtually every one of the more than 40,000 colorful panels that make up the Quilt memorializes the life of a person lost to AIDS. The NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt panel will be on view in the MSU Museum’s Main Gallery December 1-3 and the Kresge Art Museum December 1-2. At the same time an AIDS panel from the MSU Museum's cultural collections will also be on display in the museum entryway.

This year’s World AIDS Day theme is “Universal Access and Human Rights.” Many museums and galleries have joined forces with World AIDS Day, creating a national movement on December 1 called Day With(out) Art, with special displays. Typically museums drape an object on display to symbolize the impact, loss and mourning from the widespread AIDS crisis. For more on Tthe NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, visit www.aidsquilt.org. For information on World AIDS Day visit www.worldaidscampaign.org.

continued on page 2
Olin Health Center Health Education Department is committed to bringing awareness of HIV/AIDS as well as remembering those that are living with and have passed from this illness. The Center will offer free and anonymous walk-in HIV testing on Tuesday, December 1, from 10 am–3 pm. In addition, a candlelight vigil will be held at “the rock” off Farm Lane (near Fairchild Auditorium) at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, December 1st.

Kresge Art Museum is located on the MSU campus, on Auditorium Road just west of the Alumni Chapel, on the first floor of the Kresge Art Center. The MSU Museum is located on West Circle Drive next to the Beaumont Tower. Admission to Kresge Art Museum is free. The museum is fully accessible to persons with disabilities.

Kresge Art Museum hours of operation are Monday-Friday 10 am-5 pm, Thursdays 10 am-8 pm, Saturday and Sunday 12-5 pm; The MSU Museum is open 9 am–5 pm weekdays, 10 am-5 pm Saturdays, 1-5 pm Sundays.

######