FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Aug. 30, 2013

September is Friends of Youth Month for Material Good

Friends of Youth is pleased to announce a new month-long partnership with Material Good, the Seattle-based maker of Little Shirley vases that benefit charitable causes. During the month of September, a portion of the proceeds from the sale of Marigold Little Shirleys, orange ceramic vases, will be devoted to Friends of Youth’s Capital Campaign.

“I started Material Good as a way to honor my grandmother Shirley, who died of cancer, and this partnership with Friends of Youth is a wonderful way to recognize the needs of the next generation,” said Material Good Founder Lauren Burman. “We look forward to helping Friends of Youth raise money for new homes for homeless youth through the sales of the Marigold Little Shirley.”

The Material Good partnership kicks off as Friends of Youth’s Capital Campaign reaches the 60-percent mark toward a $7.5 million goal. As part of the partnership program, each month Material Good shines a spotlight on a different health or arts-related cause. Ten percent of the proceeds from all sales of the specific colored vase during the designated month will be donated to that charitable organization. Product tags for that organization reflect the partnership, as well as signage at retail locations and a social media campaign.

“We are honored to be chosen as a beneficiary of the Little Shirley campaign,” said Friends of Youth CEO Terry Pottmeyer. “I had the honor of meeting Shirley, and have watched Lauren’s vision grow, not only to honor her Grandma Shirley, but also to support so many other causes. The colorful vases make wonderful gifts while they also serve as reminders about the needs of youth in our community.”

Each Little Shirley vase starts out as liquid clay, individually slip-casted and hand-finished on a wheel. The vases are hand-glazed, sanded and stamped with the authentic Material Good logo and founder Lauren Burman’s initials. Each Little Shirley vase is hand-crafted by Seattle ceramic artists at the Material Good studio in SODO. The vases are 4 inches tall by 2.5 inches wide and come in a rainbow of 36 colors, ranging from glossy to matte finish. Retailing at $20, Little Shirley vases are both meaningful and affordable.

Little Shirleys are available at more than 100 locations across the country, including locally at: Nordstrom, Seattle Art Museum, Ravenna Gardens and The Space Needle. Order online at www.nordstrom.com. A complete list of locations is available at http://www.material-good.com/stores.

About Friends of Youth
Friends of Youth provides a comprehensive range of therapeutic services for youth, young adults and families on the road to self-sufficiency. With 62 years of experience, national accreditation, 20 sites and programs
serving 17 cities, the Kirkland-based agency provides safe places to live and emotional support for youth and families in challenging circumstances. For more information, please visit www.friendsofyouth.org.

About Material Good

Material Good is a Seattle-based ceramic production company best known for its handcrafted Little Shirley vases. Founder Lauren Burman established Material Good out of her desire to create a socially responsible business that honored her grandmother, Shirley, while supporting health and arts organizations. Material Good’s mission is to inspire people to take action and create a dialogue in their communities through their purchasing power, while fostering understanding about topics that affect us all. Material Good offers customers the opportunity to get and give back by providing affordable, hand-crafted ceramic art and donating 10 percent of the profits to community organizations. For more information, please visit www.material-good.com.

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Attachment: Photo of Marigold Little Shirley vase