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**ARTS & BUSINESS COUNCIL OF RHODE ISLAND, INC.
ANNOUNCE 2010 ENCORE AWARDS WINNERS**

The event pays tribute to Rhode Island's best and brightest in the worlds of arts and business.

Providence, RI – March 25, 2010 – The Encore Awards, the signature event of the Arts & Business Council, is back. The event, postponed last year due to a sluggish economy, has been retooled and will be held at the Rhode Island Philharmonic Orchestra & Music School's Carter Center for Music Education & Performance on April 30 at 6 p.m.

The Encore Awards are unique in their elegance, excitement and electricity. The 2010 Encore Awards promise to deliver a new experience. The event pays tribute to Rhode Island's best and brightest in the worlds of arts and business. Fabulous entertainment, and delectable cuisine complement the awards of excellence, creating an evening and an event that you won't soon forget.

“By postponing last year's Encore Awards, we were able to really re-examine the event, which had become an elaborate production,” said Executive Director Peter Bramante. “We feel that this year's Encores – our 20th- retains the vibrancy and excitement of previous events but emphasizes our organization's true mission: to strengthen the bonds between the corporate and creative cultures.”

The 2010 Encore Awards will celebrate both the visual and performing arts, with entertainment and exhibits throughout the venue, including a unique art-making experience for guests. There will also be an awards ceremony honoring:

- Special Recognition Award- Catherine Bert, Bert Gallery
- Small Business Award- Durkee, Brown, Viveiros & Werenfels Architects
- Arts Advocate Award- Lisa Carnevale
- Jabez Gorham Award- Community MusicWorks
- Encore Award- Lifespan and Paula Most
- Individual Achievement Award for Performing Arts- Larry Rachleff , RI Philharmonic Orchestra
- Individual Achievement Award for Visual Arts- Jonathan Bonner

Ticket prices for the event range from \$100 for VIP tickets to new lower priced general ticket for \$60 per person and \$40 per person for Artists. Corporate and non-profit sponsorships are also available. Proceeds from the event help to underwrite the programs and services the Council provides to nearly 60 arts and cultural organizations and individual artists across the State. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.experienceencore.com. Or call 401-621-6127

The Arts & Business Council of Rhode Island (A&BC/RI) is a chapter of the Arts & Business Council of Americans for the Arts (AFTA) -- the nation's leading non-profit organization for advancing the arts in America. AFTA's mission is to stimulate partnerships between the arts and business that strengthen both sectors and the communities they serve.

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