



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, May 20, 2010

Contact: Mac Daniel
617-954-2430

**MCCA Awards Annual Community Partnership Grants & Hospitality Scholarships
to 16 Local Non-Profits and Three Students**

BOSTON – James E. Rooney, executive director of the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority, awarded checks totaling \$89,000 to 16 local non-profits and three hospitality students at the annual awards luncheon today.

The awards were distributed as part of the MCCA’s Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Fund, a two-part program established and sponsored by the MCCA and State Senator Jack Hart. The goal of the program is for all of Boston’s neighborhoods to benefit from consumer shows at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center (BCEC) and to establish scholarships to boost workforce development in the hospitality industry.

“This grant and scholarship program allows the MCCA to reach out and to give back to every neighborhood in the city,” said Rooney. “With this program, we are dedicated to being a true neighbor and letting the success we’ve achieved return to both the city and its students.”

The 16 non-profits represented Boston and four of its neighboring communities—Brighton, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain and Roxbury:

- Boston – (7) Everybody Wins! Metro Boston, Save the Harbor / Save the Bay, Jumpstart for Young Children, Inc., Latin American Health Institute, Teen Voices, Boston Partners in Education, FriendshipWorks
- Brighton - (1) The Fishing Academy
- Dorchester – (4) College Bound, Dorchester Community Center for the Visual Arts, Mujeres Unidas en Accion (MUA), Boston Learning Center
- Jamaica Plain – (2) BalletRox, Little Brothers – Friends of the Elderly
- Roxbury – (2) WEATOC, Inc., Discover Roxbury

The three scholarship students hail from communities from across the state:

- Everett – Svetlana Horner
- Longmeadow – Katherine Sutherland
- South Yarmouth – Jill Talladay

Each non-profit was awarded a \$5,000 grant and each student was awarded a \$3,000 scholarship. Since the program's launch in 2007, the MCCA has awarded more than \$346,000 in grants to dozens of non-profit organizations in Boston and \$29,000 in 11 academic scholarships.

The ceremony was held in South Boston's Boston Convention & Exhibition Center.

For more information, please see the following:

- About the Community Partnership & Hospitality Fund link
http://www.massconvention.com/about_par.html
- MCCA Launches 2010 Community Partnership Program press release link
http://www.massconvention.com/about_new2_pre.html

About the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA)

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority owns and oversees the operations of the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center, the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA and the Boston Common Parking Garage. In 2009, the MCCA hosted 208 events at the BCEC and the Hynes with 714,128 attendees, generating 521,556 hotel room nights and \$420 million in economic impact for Greater Boston.

###