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EXCEPTIONAL PHILANTHROPISTS HONORED BY MOVING IN THE SPIRIT

ATLANTA, GA (October 19, 2010) – Moving in the Spirit, a nationally recognized youth arts organization, honored three exceptional philanthropists from the Atlanta community in an awards ceremony on October 17, 2010. Ms. Randi Williams, Mr. J.D. Scott and Mr. James Stewart were recognized for their extraordinary efforts to strengthen Moving in the Spirit’s capacity and positively impact the lives of Atlanta’s youth.

Ms. Williams, affiliated with FIG Partners, received the Volunteer of the Year Award in honor of her dedicated leadership and genuine passion for making a difference in the lives of Moving in the Spirit students. Described by young dancers as “eager, supportive,” “generous and one-of-a-kind,” Ms. Williams has been integral in supporting Moving in the Spirit’s partnership with Atlanta Ballet, ensuring that students receive free weekly instruction from Atlanta’s finest professional instructors. Ms. Williams lead efforts to secure in-kind donations, including ballet bars, for Moving in the Spirit’s new stage, transforming an unusable space into an additional dance space safe for children. Together with her husband, Syd, Ms. Williams raised and contributed over \$12,000 in the past fiscal year.

Mr. Scott, of J.D. Scott Photography, was honored with the Pioneer of the Year Award. An enthusiastic contributor to Moving in the Spirit’s marketing endeavors, Mr. Scott additionally raised construction materials and spearheaded renovation efforts after Moving in the Spirit’s theater flooded in 2009. Mr. James Stewart, affiliated with the Jimmy Carter Library & Museum, received the Mentor of the Year Award. Each week, Mr. Stewart provides encouragement and support to 18 young males in Moving in the Spirit’s Men in Motion program, serving as a positive role model to boys in need of strong male mentors.

“The efforts of these volunteers have had an incredible impact on our organization,” states Dana Lupton, Executive & Artistic Director of Moving in the Spirit. “Their hard work has increased our physical capacity, allowing us to serve more young people than ever before, and ensured that our students have a safe environment in which to dance and grow as leaders. Most importantly, their constant dedication and generous spirits have made each young person here feel supported and loved.”

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Moving in the Spirit is a nationally recognized youth development program that uses dance as a vehicle to positively transform the lives of children and teens in Atlanta, Georgia. Through programs that integrate high quality dance instruction with performance, leadership and mentor opportunities, Moving in the Spirit impacts over 200 children and teens annually, encouraging them to overcome the obstacles they face each day and realize the potential for their lives. Ultimately, Moving in the Spirit educates, inspires and unites young people through dance, in order to help them become successful and compassionate leaders.