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TIMBERVEST CEO STRETCHES TO BRIDGE GAP FOR ATLANTA NON-PROFIT

ATLANTA, GA (October 6, 2009) -- Timbervest Managing Partner and CEO, Joel Shapiro, and his wife Lauren, have made a substantial and transformative gift to Atlanta-based Moving in the Spirit, a nationally recognized youth development program that impacts over 200 children annually through the art of dance. Moving in the Spirit has been recognized multiple times by the President's Committee for the Arts and Humanities as one of the top youth arts programs in the nation.

The Shapiro's gift is the largest single donation that Moving in the Spirit has received from an individual in its 23-year history. The Shapiros are also first time donors to the organization, taking Moving in the Spirit on as a significant charitable interest in spite of the current economic recession.

Explaining their decision, the Shapiros say, "It's all about the kids – that's what pulls at our heartstrings. We want to give back to the community, level the playing field, and provide *all* young people with healthy, creative opportunities that are instrumental in developing leaders."

Commenting on the importance of the gift, Executive/Artistic Director of Moving in the Spirit, Dana Lupton, states, "Without Joel and Lauren's generosity, we would not be positioned as one of Atlanta's successful non profit organizations. Specifically, Moving in the Spirit was able to end in the black this past fiscal year and continue its high quality programming. The Shapiros have a heart for children and passion for making a difference."

The Shapiros plan to continue their investment in Atlanta's youth, stating, "We know our investment has a direct and immediate impact on the students served, ensuring they will become our future artists and leaders. We want to make sure the organization continues to have a healthy financial base, providing opportunities for generations to come. This is only the beginning."

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Moving in the Spirit is a nationally recognized youth development program that integrates high quality dance instruction with performance, leadership and mentor opportunities for young people in Atlanta, Georgia. Our mission is to educate, inspire and unite young people through dance, in order to help them become □ compassionate leaders.