



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 11, 2009

Contact: Mac Daniel
617-954-2430

MCCA LAUNCHES 2009 COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
Applications Currently Available for Local Non-profit Organizations to Request Grant Funding

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA) today announced that it will begin accepting grant applications from local non-profit organizations seeking financial support as a part of the MCCA’s Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Fund Program. The deadline for the proposals is March 6, 2009.

“Boston is a city of neighborhoods, and every neighborhood contributes to our reputation as a great place to live and as a top-tier destination. But without the vital work of the non-profit groups within these communities, we’d be nowhere,” said James E. Rooney, Executive Director of the MCCA. “As we enter the third year of this program, we are pleased to have the opportunity to assist these groups with the important work they do throughout our city during these tight economic times.”

An internal committee of the MCCA will review the grant applications and determine which programs are eligible for funding based on the guidelines set forth by the Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Fund. Applications will be judged under the following criteria:

- § Organization must be Boston-based and recognized as a 501c3.
- § Funding must support at-risk youth, women or seniors throughout the community, or any program that revitalizes or improves a neighborhood, therefore improving the convention, tourist or visitor experience.
- § Funding may not support capital campaign funding or political causes and political action committees.

In the past, grant funding from the Community Partnership Program has supported a wide range of programs and initiatives that impact the lives of Boston residents, reaching every corner of the city. Recipients have included: BalletRox, a dance school in Jamaica Plain that requested funding to create summer dance programs for at-risk youth; the Charlestown Preservation Society, which used its grant to help restore a historic Civil War monument at the Charlestown Training Field; and Project D.E.E.P., a Dorchester-based educational program whose grant went towards creating additional after-school tutoring sessions for neighborhood students.

Since the Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Program launched in 2007, the MCCA has awarded more than \$183,000 in grants to 47 non-profit organizations in Boston – reaching out to

every neighborhood of the city. The MCCA has also awarded six academic scholarships to college students pursuing an education in the field of hospitality.

Funding for the MCCA's Community Partnership & Hospitality Scholarship Fund Program is provided as part of the MCCA revenues derived from a portion of the annual gate shows held at the BCEC, including the New England International Auto Show and the New England Boat Show.

For a full list of the MCCA's grant-making guidelines, as well as a downloadable version of the application, visit: www.massconvention.com. All completed grant proposals should be submitted directly to:

Dennis Callahan, Esq.
Community Partnerships & Hospitality Scholarship Fund
Massachusetts Convention Center Authority
415 Summer Street, Boston, MA 02210
(No faxes or electronic files will be accepted.)

About the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority

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 fiscal year 2008, the MCCA hosted 239 events at the BCEC and the Hynes with 914,549 attendees generating 627,544 hotel room nights and \$522 million in economic impact for Greater Boston.

###