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**INNER-CITY ARTS CELEBRATES PHILIP, MONICA ROSENTHAL
AND THEIR FAMILY
AT 2009 20th ANNIVERSARY IMAGINE GALA & AUCTION**

*Entertainment by Los Lobos;
Paul Reiser Emcees*

Los Angeles, CA – Inner-City Arts, a vibrant arts instruction campus for at-risk children in the heart of Skid Row, celebrated its 20th year with the 2009 Imagine Gala & Auction, tonight (Thursday, October 15) at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. Honorees were producer Philip Rosenthal, his wife, actress Monica Horan Rosenthal, and their children, Ben and Lily. Chaired by Anna and Ray Romano, the gala featured the culinary skills of celebrated chefs during the cocktail reception portion as well as dinner including: Wolfgang Puck, Alice Waters, Nancy Silverton, Mario Batali, Sherry Yard, Suzanne Goin, Michael Cimarusti, Gloria Felix, Suzanne Tracht, Matt Molina, Zoe Nathan and Vinny Dotolo and Jon Shook along with Let's Be Frank, Stefano's LA Farm, Umami Burger and The Cheese Store of Beverly Hills.

Versa-Style Dance Company and Inner-City Arts students kicked off the evening with a high-energy hip-hop dance number. Six-time Emmy nominee Paul Reiser emceed with entertainment by special musical guests, Los Lobos and performance artists Gabriel Cortez & Dario. A silent auction and live auction under the direction of Christie's Los Angeles President Andrea Fiuczynski featured such one-of-a-kind lots as a paintball experience with "GI Joe" star Tatum Channing; a trip to Taos and Santa Fe including visits to select artists' studios, river rafting and a stay in an "Earth Ship." Artwork by Andy Warhol, Julius Shulman and Raymond Pettibon was also featured.

"The Rosenthal family has been a tireless supporter of Inner-City Arts for many years," said Cynthia Harnisch, the organization's president and CEO who welcomed guests in tandem with Board Chairman Alan Berro. "Because of their vision, generosity and devotion, our students can now explore all aspects of the theatrical experience first-hand through the state-of-the-art Rosenthal Family Theater. We cannot think of more deserving family as Inner-City Arts celebrates 20 years of service to the most disadvantaged children of our city." Award-winning producer Lew Schneider presented to the Rosenthals.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the 2009 Barbara J. Schreter Scholarships to Amy Lee and Cienna Brown. Named for former Inner-City Arts board member, Barbara Schreter who passed away in 2005, the scholarships provide financial assistance to students who were inspired by their participation in Inner-City Arts to further their creative or academic endeavors. Schreter's son Jonathan presented the awards.

In celebration of Inner-City Arts 20th Anniversary, “points of light” were directed on several students, teachers and parents whose lives over the years have been deeply touched by the organization.

A native New Yorker, multi-award winning writer/director/producer, Philip Rosenthal began his career as an actor, but went on to write and direct theater before moving to Los Angeles. He is best known as the creator, writer and executive producer of the hit sitcom “Everybody Loves Raymond” which captured 15 Emmy Awards during its 1996 to 2005 run, including Best Comedy Series in 2003 and 2005. Rosenthal has the distinction of having directed President Bill Clinton in the White House Correspondents Dinner video, which was shown to wide acclaim at the April, 2000 event. He co-wrote “America: A Tribute to Heroes,” the 9/11 telethon which aired on all four networks, won a Peabody Award and an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Writing. Rosenthal won the 2002 Writers Guild Award for Excellence in Television for his original script, “Italy.” He returned to acting in James Brooks’ feature film “Spanglish” and has appeared in “Curb Your Enthusiasm,” “The TV Set” and “The Simpson’s Movie,” among others. Rosenthal is currently at work on a screenplay for Universal Pictures, a sitcom for the BBC and several projects for HBO.

Monica Horan Rosenthal, best known for her role as “Amy” on “Everybody Loves Raymond,” is co-founder of The Flourish Foundation, which provides grants, scholarships and mentoring in arts and educational programs for underrepresented middle and high school students in Los Angeles. She serves on the board of Inner-City Arts and is a member of The Everychild Foundation. Together, she and her husband are active supporters of organizations that work to build a strong and healthy city and world including: Big Sunday, City Year Los Angeles, Downtown Women’s Center, Shaare Zedek Medical Center, and the USC Shoah Foundation Institute. The Rosenthals reside in Los Angeles with their two children, Ben and Lily.

Inner-City Arts is a learning oasis in the heart of Los Angeles’ Skid Row where professional artists teach students in a real studio environment. Since its inception, Inner-City Arts has served 150,000 of the city’s most at-risk children at no cost to the students. Founded in 1989 by Bob Bates and Irv Jaeger, Inner-City Arts works in partnership with the Los Angeles Unified School District to bring elementary and middle school students to the campus during the school day for instruction in the visual and performing arts. High school students participate in after-school and Saturday programs. National, long-term research proves that students who attend Inner-City Arts’ classes show dramatic increases in statewide standardized test scores: 25% in math, 18% in reading, 8% in English proficiency. They also learn skills that are highly valued in the 21st century workforce such as collaboration, and creative and conceptual thinking. Most importantly, students who receive education in the arts are able to create a whole new vision of self- a new world of hope that includes accomplishment and belonging.

Scott Mauro, president of Scott Mauro Entertainment, produced the event.

For information on Inner-City Arts, visit www.inner-cityarts.org.

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