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NASHVILLE CELEBRATES EXCELLENCE IN LOCAL COMMUNICATIONS

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – (Sept. 22, 2009) – The Nashville Chapter of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) presented Gold Pen Awards to communication industry professionals during a ceremony on Sept. 17, 2009. The Tennessean's "Ms. Cheap," Mary Hance, hosted the evening at The Listening Room.

"Some of the best professional communicators in the world are right here in Nashville, and Gold Pen gives them the opportunity to showcase their finest work," said, Glenda Betts, chapter president.

The 2009 Gold Pen Awards recognize great communication work that was produced or implemented between Jan. 1, 2008, and Dec. 31, 2008. A panel of judges from other southeastern U.S. IABC Chapters evaluated entries based on the quality of the work plan and the quality of the work sample.

Thirty-three IABC Gold Pen Awards were presented, including 22 Gold Awards, 4 Silver Awards, and seven Bronze Awards to business communicators and/or their respected agencies. *McNeely Pigott & Fox Public Relations* took top honors receiving 12 awards, including 10 Gold and two Bronze awards. *Lovell Communications* received 11 awards, including 6 Gold Pens, 2 Silvers and 3 Bronze awards. Additionally, Jan Morrison from Lovell Communications received the highest score for any entry this year for the Ombudsman ESA Tri-Fold Brochure.

Categories included public service announcements, media relations, video production, marketing communications, graphic design, direct mail pieces, speeches, news releases, self-promotion and sales promotion.

Chapter members receiving awards for exceptional contributions to the industry this year include: the "Fellow Award" to Catherine Garnett at redpepper, the "President's Award" to Jeanne Ludington from O'Charley's Inc., and the "Excel Award" to Lynn Bennett at StagePost Studios.

John Van Mol, chairman and CEO of Dye, Van Mol and Lawrence (DVL), received this year's "IABC Nashville's Career Lifetime Achievement Award."

Van Mol was recognized as an "experienced leader in public relations and crisis communications in Middle Tennessee."

Van Mol is a founding partner of Dye, Van Mol & Lawrence, now known as DVL Public Relations and Advertising, a firm serving local, regional and national clients from its Nashville base since 1980. DVL's clients cover a wide spectrum including, Bridgestone Americas Holding; two brands of the J.M. Smucker Company; Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskey; Nestle Waters; Psychiatric Solutions, Incorporated.; and the Tiger Woods Foundation.

Find out more about IABC Nashville at: http://www.nashvilleiabc.com

IABC is the leading resource for effective communication practice. We provide products; services, activities and networking opportunities to help people and organizations achieve excellence in public relations, employee communication, marketing communication, public affairs and other forms of communication. People around the world -- in every industry and in the public and nonprofit sectors -- have taken advantage of our resources to advance their careers and meet organizational objectives.