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For Immediate Release

WHAT: Holiday Gift Market and Cafe

WHEN: Sunday, December 6, 2009, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

WHERE: Lighthouse Center for the Arts in Gallery Square North, 373 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta, FL 33469

COST: Shopping free and open to the public; Café suggests \$5 donation

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Lighthouse Center for the Arts offers Unique Holiday Shopping and Sweets

Tequesta, Fla. — (November 23, 2009) – Artistic, handmade treasures from 15 unique artists and vendors make gift buying as special as the season at Lighthouse Center for the Arts' upcoming Holiday Gift Market and Café. This enjoyable afternoon of gift buying and sweets sampling is scheduled for Sunday, December 6, 2009, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the museum gallery at 373 Tequesta Drive. Shopping is free and open to the public and a \$5 donation is suggested to enjoy the café. Shopping proceeds support local artists and the Center's year-round educational and outreach programs.

A committee of twenty museum members, chaired by Mary Imle, gathered to re-organize a decade-old holiday event which once was an afternoon of formal tea and gift shopping from the museum's retail store. The new committee decided to open the shopping to local artists and vendors by providing them booth space in which to sell their wares, and although tea will be offered, a more relaxed tasting of sweets and goodies will be offered at the indoor café.

Nine members of the committee have been busily creating their own specialties for sale including: designer fabric kitchen aprons; elegant seasonal wreaths, hangings and swags; a decorated table top "Kitchen Tree" that celebrates the joy of holiday cooking; specialty stockings (one including mink trim); capes and collars for canines; candle centerpieces; decorated table linens and wine bags; jewelry, purses and much more.

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Guests can also expect to purchase hand-decorated items of winter gloves, finger puppets, and jewelry created especially for children. The most unique merchandise offered may be the Peruvian art items recently purchased in Peru by Mrs. Imle for donation to the sale. Dolls, wall hangings, handmade cards, water-bottle holders, and a back-pack are some of the Peruvian items that make colorful and impressive gifts. Additional highlights include a gingerbread village and doll house display. "This Holiday Gift Market certainly has something affordable and enjoyable for everyone," stated Mrs. Imle. "The committee's hope is to make the market an annual event. We want to expose people to Lighthouse Center for the Arts in a new way – not as just a place for exhibits and classes, but as an education and outreach center for the community. Our service goes beyond the school and museum gallery."

The 2009 Holiday Gift Market and Café Committee members include: Mary Imle – Chair; Judy Brubaker – Co-Chair; Susan Bardin; Julie Silk-Beaumont; Jackie Britton; Kathie Byrne; Ann Eble; Carol Grillo; Muriel Hall; Lyn Ianuzzi; Barbara Kirsch; Grace Luper; Cathy Meyer; Beth Neuhoff; Louise Schwaab; Adele Schlusemeyer; Marge Ternes; Sally Tinnemeyer; Gil Walsh; and Janet Witt.

For more information on the Lighthouse Center for the Arts Museum or School of Art exhibitions, programs and events, visit www.LighthouseArts.org, or call (561) 746-3101. The Lighthouse Center for the Arts is located in Gallery Square North, 373 Tequesta Drive, Tequesta, Fla., and one-half mile west of US Hwy. 1. Museum hours are Monday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

ABOUT LIGHTHOUSE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

The Lighthouse Center for the Arts (LCA) is a non-profit community arts center dedicated to providing excellence in arts exhibitions, instruction, education and outreach for all ages. LCA is a member-supported organization with some support provided by the Palm Beach County Cultural Council, the Palm Beach County Tourist Development Council and the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners.

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Photo: LCA– Holiday Gift Market – Holiday Gift Market Committee members display a preview of decorated and hand-made items available at the December 6 Holiday Gift Market and Café event at Lighthouse Center for the Arts. Museum members and local residents are (left to right): Janet Witt, Jupiter; Marge Ternes, Jupiter; Kathie Bryne, Palm Beach Gardens; Mary Imle, Jupiter; Carol Grillo, Jupiter Inlet Colony; Louise Schwaab, Jupiter; Grace Luper, Tequesta; Sally Tinnemeyer, Jupiter; and Judy Brubaker, Jupiter. (Photo by Katie Deits)