



LEADERSHIP. PARTNERSHIP. SERVICE.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Nancy Bromhal
Junior League of Raleigh
919-271-4115**

North Carolina Governor's Inaugural Ball Schedule Finalized
Gala Presentation and Inaugural Ball will be Friday, January 9

RALEIGH, NC (November 12, 2008) -- The schedule for the 2009 North Carolina Governor's Inaugural Ball and festivities, organized by the Junior League of Raleigh, is now finalized based on Governor-elect Beverly Perdue's calendar. The Gala Presentation and Inaugural Ball will be Friday, January 9, instead of January 10 as previously announced. The new schedule allows Governor-elect Perdue to host an open house at the Executive Mansion on January 10 following her inauguration.

“We are privileged to, once again, host the Inaugural Ball, and our key objective is to plan a celebration that meets the vision of the governor-elect and council of state,” said Virginia Yopp, Junior League of Raleigh president. “After 75 years of involvement with the ball, we recognize that the events and schedule may be altered to meet the governor-elect's needs. While we start planning long before the election because of the magnitude of this event, details are not finalized until after the ballots are counted and we are able to discuss with the governor-elect.”

The series of events honoring all the newly elected officials can be found at www.ncgovernorsball.org and also is listed below:

Council of State Reception
sponsored by AT&T, Duke Energy Carolinas and McGuireWoods
January 8, 2009, 6:30 p.m.- 8:30 p.m.
Raleigh Marriott City Center
\$125 per person

Rock the Ball
sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline and University of Phoenix
January 8, 2009, 9 p.m. – midnight
Lincoln Theatre
\$20 per person

-more-

Governor's Reception
sponsored by BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina
January 9, 2009, 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Location: TBD

North Carolina's Finest Gala Presentation
January 9, 2009, 8 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Raleigh Convention Center
\$200 per person (includes an inaugural ball ticket)

Inaugural Ball
January 9, 2009, 9 p.m. - midnight
Raleigh Convention Center
\$125 per person

“As an organization of women, we are especially excited to host this historic Inaugural Ball as we celebrate North Carolina's first female governor-elect and the first female majority North Carolina Council of State,” Yopp added.

The Junior League of Raleigh (JLR) is the only Junior League in the country to host an Inaugural Ball and first hosted the event in 1933. Since then, North Carolina's Inaugural Balls have raised money for many worthy organizations serving at risk children, including hospitals and other health agencies, public school programs, community centers and child abuse agencies. Some organizations have been local to Wake County while others have been statewide in scope.

Notable projects include the Boys and Girls Clubs of Wake County, North Carolina Smart Start, Communities in Schools of North Carolina, Heritage Park Community Learning Center and Natural Learning Initiatives and SAFEchild, the Junior League of Raleigh's signature project.

This year, following extensive research on community needs, proceeds from the 2009 Inaugural Ball will benefit the Center for Community Leadership, the League's gift to the North Carolina community. This new Center will offer a wide variety of training programs, shared meeting space and networking opportunities to non-profit organizations throughout the state. It will help other non-profits better serve their communities and enable the League to strengthen its existing programs and services. In addition to the new Center for Community Leadership, a portion of proceeds from the Inaugural Ball will be used to continue to fund JLR's community grants.

Ticket packages range from sponsorship packages to individual tickets. For more information, visit www.ncgovernorsball.org.

-more-

About the Junior League of Raleigh, Inc. (JLR)

The Junior League of Raleigh (www.jlraleigh.org) is an organization of more than 1,700 women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The League reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism. Since its inception in 1930, the League's contribution to the community has totaled more than 1,000,000 volunteer hours and more than \$4,640,000 to community projects focused on education, health, women and children's services.

Since 2000, the target area for the Junior League of Raleigh has been *Promising Youth*. Through strategic partnerships and collaborations with other community agencies, volunteer placements and annually awarded community grants, the League's contribution to the community since 2000 totals more than 175,000 volunteer hours and \$1,162,000 to promising youth.

###