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***LXR Luxury Resorts presents “Impressions of Florida”
Bonnet House Annual Fundraiser and Juried Art Exhibit***

October 6, 2008, Fort Lauderdale, FL – LXR Luxury Resorts and Bonnet House Museum & Gardens announce the opening date of the newly named “*Impressions of Florida*”, the annual juried art exhibition and fundraiser to benefit the educational programs of Bonnet House. The name change allows artists to create works not only inspired by old south Florida but of the South Florida of today as well. The opening date is Friday, January 30 at 6:00 pm and the exhibition is set to open with a private showing for V.I.P. guests. Last year’s event was a great success with flame throwers, live statues, a mariachi band and artists throughout the dining area capturing the festivities on canvas. To date, Bonnet House has raised \$25,000 in sponsorship and the 2009 event promises to be even better than the previous year. V.I.P. guests will be treated to champagne and hors d’oeuvres, preview the exhibition, and partake in a rare viewing of the exclusive private living quarters of Evelyn and Fredric Bartlett, founders of the Bonnet House. The reception opens to members of the public at 6:30 p.m.

The poignant exhibition, presented by LXR Luxury Resorts, showcases artists throughout the state and their personal interpretations of “Florida.”. All guests and participating artists are invited to cast their vote for their favorite artist in the exhibition. The artist receiving the highest number of votes will receive the *People’s Choice Award*, awarded that evening. All of the artwork in the *Impressions of Florida* competition will be available for sale with 50% of the proceeds benefiting Bonnet House Museum & Gardens.

Additional highlights of the evening will include fine food, fine wine and live entertainment throughout the house presented by 360° Catering. Invitations for *Impressions of Florida 2009* will be mailed in November. If you would like to add your name to the mailing list or pay in advance please call (954) 563-5393 ext. 163 or visit us online at www.bonnethouse.org/bonnet_impressions.html.

The *Impressions of Florida* exhibition will be on display from January 31–March 29, 2009 during Bonnet House regular tour hours, Tuesday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and on Sunday from Noon until 4 p.m.

About the Bonnet House Museum & Gardens: Accredited by the American Association of Museum and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens is a 35 - acre subtropical estate and historic house museum located in the heart of Ft. Lauderdale. Bonnet House, in addition to being open for guided public tours six days per week, year round, offers a myriad of specially-designed programs for schools, adults and families. Bonnet House also has membership opportunities for local artists, emerging professionals and socialites. Music students from nearby universities and opera companies gain experience through their performances on property in the annual Young Artist Music Series and orchid enthusiasts have an opportunity to see and buy an exclusive selection of orchids as well as learn how to grow and care for orchids in their own homes during the Orchid Fair, December 6th and 7th, 2008. The mission of Bonnet House Museum & Gardens is to preserve, interpret and share the unique and eclectic historical legacy – artistic, architectural and environmental - of the Bartlett and Birch families, inspiring in our diverse audiences an appreciation for creative expression, historic preservation and natural conservation, while enhancing the educational, cultural and economic growth of the community.

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