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**BRIDGES FOR A JUST COMMUNITY ANNOUNCES HONOREES
FOR ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER**

59th Annual Dinner To Be Held June 4, 2009

CINCINNATI, OH – April 2, 2009 – BRIDGES for a Just Community announces honorees to be recognized for distinguished service at the 59th Annual Awards Dinner on Thursday, June 4, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency Downtown. This year's honorees are Lynwood L. Battle, Jr.; Karen M. Hoguet & Alvin Z. "Bunny" Meisel; David B. O'Maley; and James E. Schwab.

Lynwood L. Battle, Jr. has been committed to a lifetime of community service and social justice. After 28 years with The Procter & Gamble Company, Mr. Battle retired as the manager of worldwide diversity. In that role, he coordinated the company's affirmative action and equal employment policies. The company's programs were recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor's prestigious Opportunity 2000 Award, which is given to only one company annually. His commitment to public service led him to serve for eight years, including two as president, on the Cincinnati Board of Education. Human rights and social justice have been in the forefront of his interests for many years. In addition to his work with BRIDGES, he also led hearings on hate crimes as longstanding chair of the Ohio Advisory Committee of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. Mr. Battle is a resident of Downtown.

The first father-daughter team to be recognized as BRIDGES honorees are Karen M. Hoguet, executive vice president and chief financial officer of Macy's, Inc., and Alvin Z. "Bunny" Meisel, retired owner and president of Globe Furniture Galleries. Ms. Hoguet has volunteered her time in a diverse range of community service activities. She is treasurer of the Fine Arts Fund of Greater Cincinnati and is chairing the 2009 citywide Fine Arts Fund campaign. She is a member of the board of the Cincinnati Campus of Hebrew Union College, 3CDC and the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. She is a resident of Mt. Lookout.

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Throughout the years, Mr. Meisel has always been active in the community. He worked with others to improve Findley Market and served on the steering committees for Cincinnati's Bicentennial in 1988 and Tall Stacks. He is also active in the Jewish community and currently serves on the endowment committees of the Jewish Federation and Cedar Village. Mr. Meisel resides in Amberley Village, as well as Palm Beach Gardens, Florida..

David B. O'Maley has been chairman, president and CEO of Ohio National Financial Services since 1994. He began his life insurance career as an agent at Life of Virginia in 1968. Mr. O'Maley is a director emeritus of BRIDGES for a Just Community and has been an active community leader, having served on the board of the Chamber of Commerce, University of Cincinnati Foundation, The Greater Cincinnati Foundation and the Metropolitan Growth Alliance. He chaired the community-wide United Way Campaign in 1996, raising over \$50,000,000 for community needs. He is also founder of the Tri-State Warbird Museum, where he serves as volunteer chairman. Mr. O'Maley lives in Indian Hill.

James E. Schwab is the Cincinnati Market President for U.S. Bank. Since 1975, Mr. Schwab has touched nearly every aspect of the United Way organization, from planning to Leadership Giving, serving as the first, two-year chair of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society. In 2004, Jim and his wife Vivian co-chaired the United Way Campaign for Greater Cincinnati, raising over \$61 million. In 2008, Mr. Schwab chaired the Fine Arts Fund Campaign, raising over \$12 million. Mr. Schwab is chairman of Bethesda, Inc, and the Health Improvement Collaborative. He also serves as a trustee of Tri-Health, the University of Cincinnati Foundation, the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, The Children's Home and The Cincinnati Zoo. He lives in Downtown.

All five honorees will be recognized at the BRIDGES for a Just Community Annual Dinner for making significant contributions to the improvement of human relations in the Greater Cincinnati community. Serving as BRIDGES's major annual fundraiser, the event will be held on June 4, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Downtown, with a reception and silent auction starting at 5:30 p.m. and dinner and program at 6:30 p.m. For more information about the awards dinner or to purchase tickets, please visit on-line at www.BRIDGEScincinnati.org or call Nina Jackson at BRIDGES at 513-381-4660.

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About BRIDGES for a Just Community, Inc.

BRIDGES for a Just Community brings people together to achieve inclusion, equity and justice for all who live and work in the Greater Cincinnati community. As the region's leading human relations organization, BRIDGES' vision is to create a respectful, equitable and welcoming community for all citizens through education, advocacy and dialogue. Formerly the National Conference for Community and Justice (NCCJ) of Greater Cincinnati, BRIDGES for a Just Community has served the region since 1944. For more information, call BRIDGES at 513-381-4660 or visit online at www.bridgescincinnati.org.