

**For Immediate Release**

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North America- January 28, 2008 The Real Estate Staging Association™ (RESA) announces the 2009 Staging Industry and Leadership Award Winners.

The Real Estate Staging Association was formed to provide support to all professional real estate Stagers in North America. RESA has recognized Staging Professionals for their outstanding contributions and personal accomplishments to our industry.

The RESA Professional Stager of the Year is Melissa Marro. In spring 2006, she left that full time job and founded First Impressions Home Staging & Interior ReDesign in Charleston SC. In its short two-and a half years, First Impressions is now the largest staging company in the Greater Charleston Area. Mellissa and her team have helped service over \$80 million in listed properties.

The RESA Rookie Stager of the Year is Ryan Dressel of Staged Right Design in Roseville, CA. In his short 11 months of operation Ryan has achieved many successes. He is the stager of choice for California Closets of Roseville, and is very proud to have staged their showroom. His work has also been featured on HGTV's 2008 show, "The Big Reveal."

The RESA Staging Realtor of the Year is Susan Peters of RE/MAX Mutual Realty in Seattle, WA. Susan stages all of her listings at no additional fees and believes that every agent should partner with a professional stager. Susan is working a on a new business model that supports her concept of the Agent/Stager partnership. This is a model that will work anywhere in the country and she plans to unveil it a little later this year.

The RESA Innovator of the Year is Kym Hough and Terrylynn Fisher of StagersLIST.com. Kym Hough, Professional Home Stager of six years and owner of Staged-to-Sell.com, came from a 20+ year marketing career in the corporate world and Terrylynn Fisher is a 30-year veteran Realtor of Diablo Realty in Walnut Creek and has always been a firm believer in the necessity of Home Staging when marketing her clients' homes. Together they both make up StagersLIST.com an All-Inclusive Online Resource for the Real Estate Staging Community; a resource that Stagers in North America can utilize in a variety of ways to move their businesses forward.

The RESA Regional Vice President of the Year is Kathy Nielsen, owner and Founder of Georgia Interior Solutions, LLC and Real Estate Staging Expert, Kathy Nielsen has appeared on the pages of Atlanta Magazine, Atlanta Home Improvement; Points North; Atlanta Business Chronicle and the Atlanta Journal Constitution. With years of industry experience and having served hundreds of homes in the Atlanta area, she was selected by Edelman Productions to stage a home for their hit show on HGTV called "Sleep on It". Her expertise in home staging and interior decorating also led to her role as the local spokesperson for Georgia Pacific's Quilted Northern Ultra Plush 3 ply product.

The RESA Local Chapter President of the Year is Barbara Brock. Barbara is President of A Proper Place, a real estate staging company designed to provide solutions to sellers in showing their real estate. Her passion for staging whether an occupied or vacant apartment, house or mode home has led to industry awards and the selling of \$100 million in real estate. She has had the privilege of starting the RESA-NYC chapter and being on the board of Alfalit, an international agency to eradicate illiteracy. Prior to establishing APP, Barbara was a recognized Professional Organizer and Interior Decorator who has been on CNN, Channel 4 and in The New York Times.

The RESA State President of the Year is Kathleen Garvey. Kathleen Garvey is an award-winning professional Home Stager located in Southwest Florida. As a Design Specialist and the Owner of Enhanced Interiors & Home Staging, Kathleen offers her talented staging skills to help clients prepare their houses for sale. "My goal is to modify and improve the marketability of properties", says Kathleen Garvey, RESA State President for

Florida. "Real estate staging is essential if a homeowner wants to attract more buyers". Spanning over 20 years, Kathleen's creative experience also includes designing stylish interiors and residential renovations. Kathleen was also the winner of the RESA Stager Idol Competition in 2008.

The RESA Product of the Year award went to MirrorMate; Headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina, MirrorMate, LLC was founded by Lisa Huntting, who invented the product as a design solution for the four bare mirrors in her own home. As the original and industry leader, MirrorMate® frames are patented in the U.S. with additional patents pending in the U.S. and Canada. For product and company information, as well as a demonstration video, please visit [www.mirrormate.com](http://www.mirrormate.com), the company's retail Internet site.

The Real Estate Staging Association (RESA) is the trade association for Professional Real Estate Stagers. The organization provides business support services for professional stagers in addition to providing vital information on the benefits of staging to Realtors and home sellers. For more information about Real Estate Staging, the RESA Endorsement Program, or to find a professional stager call 800-201-8687 and speak with Shell Brodnax, or visit the RESA Web site at [www.RealEstateStagingAssociation.com](http://www.RealEstateStagingAssociation.com)

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