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Press Release

Leading North Bay/ Bay Area Corporations and Legendary American Musicians Step Forward to Sponsor Petaluma Educational Foundation's Premier Annual Fundraising 2009 BASH

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Petaluma, CA: Philanthropic corporate and legendary American music leaders based in the North Bay have generously stepped up to the plate as major sponsors for the 2009 Petaluma Educational Foundation's unique, annual fundraising BASH.

Professional Property Management Company, RNM Properties, Sonoma County-based Exchange Bank and a national tribe of legendary American musicians of high-flying rock band, Moonalice, have joined forces to position this year's September 12th, PEF blockbuster BASH as one of Petaluma's premier fundraising events.

"We are extremely honored to receive the sponsorship commitment of Exchange Bank, RNM Properties and Moonalice," says PEF Executive Director, Janet Ramatici. *"This crucial support provides us with an opportunity to raise critically needed funds for all Petaluma area schools. The emphasis for The Bash is to raise funds for PEF's 'kids-in-Need' Grants to ensure that vitally needed educational programs continue."*

"Exchange Bank has a legacy of supporting the young men and women of Sonoma County," says the bank's VP/Business Development Officer, Ron Malnati. *"Investment in education for our future leaders is why we at Exchange Bank support the Petaluma Educational Foundation. Investments that will be returned a thousand-fold as these young adults embrace the opportunities and the challenges that the future holds."*

Founded in 1993, RNM Properties is a leading North Bay Area developer, owner and manager of high quality office and retail commercial properties, including 1800-2000 South McDowell Boulevard, overlooking Petaluma's scenic Shollenberger Park – home to this year's brand new, stylish venue for the September 12th PEF BASH.

“California's budget crisis is impacting our schools and limiting the scope of programs that most of us benefitted from when we were kids,” said Paul Elmore, President of RNM Properties. *“Partnering with the Petaluma Educational Foundation to host the BASH at RNM South McDowell Landing is an excellent opportunity to support the children in our communities. Quality education makes our community a stronger, better place to work and live.”*

“This exciting new location provides the perfect opportunity to showcase Petaluma's unique blend of new corporate energy with our historic roots,” says Ramatici, who for the past two annual BASH events had hosted the 500 to 700 person fundraiser inside the city's historic Sunset Line and Twine Building at Lakeville and Jefferson.

Moonalice is an extraordinary band of accomplished troubadours named after a Native American Tribe and consisting of seven highly acclaimed musicians who frequently fly across country for benefit music festivals and one-of-a-kind shows. Managed by Petaluman, Steve Parish, legendary band members include: G.E. Smith (lead guitarist of Hall and Oates, Bob Dylan Touring Band and former Music Director of Saturday Night Live) – bass, guitars, vocals; Barry Sless (American rock musician) – bass, guitar, pedal steel, vocals; Pete Sears (Rod Stewart, Jefferson Starship) – bass, keyboards, accordion, vocals; Ann McNamee (singer/songwriter) – bass, percussion, vocals; Roger McNamee (venture capitol entrepreneur and musician) – bass, guitar, vocals; Jimmy Sanchez – bass and drums and Jack Casady (legendary bassist for Jefferson Airplane and Hot Tuna) – bass.

“The Moonalice tribe supports education for all ages and is proud to be a part of this year’s Petaluma Educational Foundation’s BASH,” says Manager, Steve Parish. “Young people will shape our continuing future on this planet and contributing to their education is the best investment we can make. Thanks to all who make these scholarships and programs available to the students of Petaluma’s schools.”

Tickets for this year’s BASH will go on sale in July. Priced at \$150 per person, inclusive of a sit-down, three-course dinner, drinks and dancing to the live music of sponsor band, Moonalice, the September 12th semi-formal, social extravaganza will include live and silent auctions, an exclusive cocktail lounge and pre-dinner refreshments, all included in the single ticket price. Additional sponsorship opportunities are currently available to corporations and businesses. Contact PEF at 707 778 4632 or look for more informational updates online at www.pefinfo.com.

PEF receives no public funding. The Foundation raises funds from individuals, corporations and foundations and manages a benefit thrift store, Alphabet Soup, in downtown Petaluma. The mission of PEF is to improve the quality of education for all Petaluma area schools, public and not-for-profit private schools, from Kindergarten through high school. Programs benefit 12, 500 students from 33 schools by encouraging innovation in the classroom and by sponsoring cultural enrichment programs.

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