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**LODO DISTRICT, INC. ANNOUNCES NOMINEES FOR THE 20th ANNUAL
LIMELIGHT AWARDS**

The nominees represent leaders in LoDo who demonstrated a strong commitment to the area.

DENVER, CO (February 18, 2010)—Over the past month the LoDo District, Inc. received over 25 nominations for the 20th Annual Limelight Awards and the organization narrowed down the nominees to 12. The winners will be presented with their awards on March 10, at 5:30 p.m. in the Seawell Grand Ballroom. These businesses and individuals made significant contributions to the community over the past year through their work in community service, building development and preservation, marketing, or service to the LoDo District, Inc. organization.

Jim Theye of Kentwood City Properties, the Denver Rescue Mission, and Chipotle Mexican Grill represent the Cares Award nominations, an award focused on philanthropic contributions or community involvement. Theye advocates for the residents of the Barth Hotel and works to constantly promote the LoDo Cares community service program. In 2009 the Denver Rescue Mission provided about 700,000 meals, increased the number of homeless shelters in the area by 4,000, and provided educational opportunities for over 100 people. Chipotle Mexican Grill committed funds and personnel to make a variety of events successful within the neighborhood, including: The Oyster Race, sponsoring the Wynkoop LoDo Light art lighting project at Manny's Bridge, the LoDo Block Party on Wynkoop and for bike racks on the Creek for the park located at Speer and Wewatta.

The Oxford Hotel, Chris Shears of Shears Adkins Architects and Union Station Advocates comprise the Legacy Award nominations. To receive a nomination in this category, individuals and businesses demonstrated a contribution to the visual, social and cultural life in the community. The Oxford Hotel invested heavily to help secure its place as one of LoDo's most memorable tourist destinations through their restoration of the historic canopy that welcomed travelers to downtown from 1894 to the 1930's. Shears exemplifies the legacy award through his participation in the design of many new buildings in LoDo. In addition, he participated in the Neighborhood Plan Process,

crafted design review guidelines and participated in numerous civic forums. The Union Station Advocates sponsored “A Night in Old Union Station” to recreate the iconic Welcome/Mizpah arch as a part of the development of Union Station. For a brief moment in time, reminiscent of its past glory, the station became alive with over 600 celebrants.

Samantha Martel of Downtown Denver News, Havey Productions and Senior Housing Options represent the Spotlight Award nominations, an award given to those who are marketing driven and help positively drive activity in the area through marketing or an event. Martel serves the LoDo community through her publication, the Downtown Denver News, the only newspaper devoted to LoDo. Martel promotes and communicates the concerns of the neighborhood to a larger audience and drives new traffic to the community. Havey Productions marketed the film “Denver Union Station: A Portal to Progress” throughout 2009 and premiered the film with more than 800 people in attendance. For the past two years Senior Housing Options marketed a benefit fundraiser at the Barth Hotel to encourage people to come to the Barth Hotel and LoDo. Both fundraisers were “environmental theater” performances; the first, “Hot L Baltimore” won a “best of” award from the Westword, while the second play, “A Hint of Winter,” was a new play by a Colorado playwright.

Laurie Helmick of Luxe Salon, Amy Evans of McCormick’s, and Kynton Chan of MetLife comprise the Service Award nominations. To receive a nomination in this category, these individuals demonstrated exceptional dedication to the organization. Helmick was the former president of LoDo District, Inc. and now heads the Economic and Community Development Committee. Helmick’s previous service as president and continual involvement in the District helped elevate the organization to a new level. Evans was the powerhouse behind every LoDo District event for many years, helping to successfully change the structure of the Events Committee. Chan is involved in multiple committees and has dedicated countless volunteer hours to improve the District. He currently chairs the Ambassador program and participates in all LoDo Cares events.

If you would like to attend the 20th Annual Limelight Awards please RSVP to info@lodo.org, 303-628-5428, or visit www.lodo.org.

-DIGITAL IMAGES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST-

About LoDo District, Inc.:

Founded in 1988, in Denver’s birthplace, LoDo District, Inc. is a membership organization that supports historic lower downtown’s (LoDo), unique historical, cultural and retail neighborhood, through marketing, education and advocacy. LoDo District, Inc. is committed to striking a balance between growth and preservation throughout the neighborhood.

For more information please visit: www.lodo.org.

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