

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**READY READERS APPOINTS SEVEN NEW MEMBERS
TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

July 21, 2010 (St. Louis, MO.) – Ready Readers, an award-winning not-for-profit organization committed to inspiring a love of reading in preschool children from low-income communities, announces the appointment of seven new Members to its Board of Directors. New Board Members include **Erica Bailey, Derek Davenport, Ann Dillon, Paul Lints, Mary Riew, Missy Slay, and Julie Stern.**

Erica Bailey is a Department Manager for Enterprise Holdings EAN Services. She is an active community volunteer with 100 Neediest Cases, Neighborhood Houses-Day of Caring, SPENSA, Dress for Success, Tour De Cure, Dine out for the Cure, as well as a *Ready Readers* volunteer reader.

Derek Davenport is the Head of Intermediate Education at the St. Louis Charter School. He is a former school counselor at the St. Louis Charter School, and a former counselor and case manager at Therapeutic Interventions in Nashville, Tennessee.

Ann Dillon is an active community volunteer, the former Chair of the New City School auction and a licensed attorney.

Paul Lints is Vice President, PNC Wealth Management. He served as a former Board Member of The Down Syndrome Association of St. Louis and for the South County Chamber of Commerce. He was a fundraiser for the Asthma and Allergy Foundation.

Mary Riew is an active community volunteer. She is a member of the Wellesley College Club of St. Louis and the Harvard Club of St. Louis. Mary is a parent volunteer at John Burroughs School, a former Board member of Forsyth School, the former president of Forsyth Family Organization, a former member of the Junior League of St. Louis, a former banking associate at JP Morgan and a former strategic planning analyst for Kaiser Permanente.

Missy Slay is the Principal of Slay Event Management and Consulting (SEMACE), organizing events from community festivals, corporate and non-profit events, and intimate fundraisers to national sporting events and city-wide conventions such as LIVE on the Levee, NCAA Men's and Women's Final Four tournaments, and the Saint Louis Convention and Visitor Commission's Holiday Magic just to name a few. Missy was named to the St. Louis Business Journal's "40 under 40" list in 2000 and in 2005

recognized as a "St. Louis Influential", a business and community leader who is making a definite impact on the region. She also joined the likes of Bob Costas, Jack Buck and Buzz Westfall as a recipient of the Sam Muchnick Sportsman Award from the MS Society recognizing her business leadership and entrepreneurial spirit that makes a meaningful difference within the St. Louis sports community.

Julie B. Stern is an Adjunct Professor to student teachers at Saint Louis University, a community volunteer for the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and a JCCA Board Member. She is a Curriculum and Instruction Advisor for the Ladue School District, a former third grade and gifted education teacher in the Parkway School District, and a former third grade and kindergarten teacher for the Chicago Public Schools.

On July 1, 2010, new Directors were appointed by the Board of Ready Readers. They include:

Susan K. Goldberg, President
M. Lynn Yearwood, Vice President
Karen Berger, Second Vice President
Laura B. Winter, Secretary
Harvey Citerman, Treasurer

About Ready Readers

Ready Readers, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization in St. Louis, inspires preschool children from low-income communities to become readers by reading aloud to them and by increasing their exposure to quality books and stimulating reading-related activities. Currently, more than 450 volunteers read weekly to more than 7,000 low-income 2-5 year old children who attend early childhood programs in the St. Louis area. The same reader always reads to the same children, allowing the children to associate a special person with the fun of reading. Six times during each school year and once in summer, readers also give the children personalized new books to take home for further enjoyment. This year, volunteers gave more than 49,000 high quality new books to the preschool children. Ready Readers also continues to give new and gently used donated books to needy classrooms. If you enjoy reading aloud to young children, join Ready Readers as a volunteer reader. For details about becoming a volunteer, donating books or becoming a sponsor of Ready Readers, visit www.readyreaders-stlouis.com.

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