



DALLAS MARKET CENTER

N E W S R E L E A S E

**Press Contact:**

Meredith Hite

Tel: 214-760-2883

E-mail: mhite@dmcmail.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**19<sup>th</sup> Annual ARTS Awards Winners Announced**

*– Dallas Market Center and ART presented awards during gala event –*

DALLAS – January 21, 2008 – Dallas Market Center, the world's largest wholesale merchandise resource, and the Accessories Resource Team (ART) announced the winners of the 19<sup>th</sup> annual ARTS Awards during a gala event held Saturday, January 19 in the Grand Pavilion at the Trade Mart. More than 700 guests attended the ceremony which featured the presentation of ARTS Awards in 25 categories as well as recognition of Academy of Achievement honoree Arlette Baker of Carl's Furniture in Boca Raton, Fla. Among the attendees were a wide range of retailers, manufacturers, sales representatives, media and designers from across the country.

The Grand Pavilion at the Trade Market was transformed for the evening and glowed in gold and cinnabar hues. The Asian influenced décor was modern and elegant. Hundreds of gold orchids and cinnabar Gerber daisies adorned the tables.

Presenters for the evening were top designers, retailers and industry personalities as well as DMC executives. Bill Winsor, President and CEO of Dallas Market Center, and Sharon Davis, Executive Director of ART, opened the evening. Other presenters included Cindy Morris, COO of Dallas Market Center, nationally renowned designer Barry Dixon, *Trading Spaces* personality, Edward Walker, and Colleen Visage, Progress Lighting and ART Board President. The Academy of Achievement Award was presented to Arlette Baker by Bob Dragen, Co-owner of Carl's Furniture.

The ARTS Awards, presented each January during the Total Home & Gift Market, is the premier awards program for the decorative accessories industry and recognizes excellence from retailers, manufacturers, sales representatives and designers in every region of the United States.

"We are proud to celebrate the decorative accessories industry each year in Dallas and partner with ART," said Bill Winsor, President and CEO, Dallas Market Center. "The ARTS Awards is one of the highlights of our January Total Home & Gift Market and we congratulate all the deserving winners."

"Once again the ARTS Awards represented the best the industry has to offer," said Sharon Davis, Executive Director, ART. "It's wonderful to work in an industry that continues to grow and excel because of people's creativity and hard work. We applaud all of this year's winners and finalists."

*– more –*

**19<sup>th</sup> ARTS Awards Winners**

**Manufacturers**

**Accent Furniture**

Four Hands – Austin, Texas

**Area Rugs**

Feizy Rugs – Dallas, Texas

**Decorative Accessories**

The Phillips Collection – High Point, N.C.

**Home Textiles**

Etoffe Makara – University Place, Wash.

**Lighting Fixtures**

Fine Art Lamps – Miami Lakes, Fla.

**Outdoor Living**

Seasonal Living Trading – Austin, Texas

**Permanent Floral**

SIA Home Fashion – Headquartered in France.

**Portable Lamps**

Oriental Accent, Inc. – Dallas, Texas

**Tabletop**

Juliska – Stamford, CT

**Wall Décor**

Art Dreams Home – Ventura, Calif.

**Retailers**

**East/Atlantic**

**Furniture Store**

At Home Nashville – Nashville, Tenn.

**Home Accent Specialty Store**

Accessories Etc. – Bethlehem, Pa.

**Lighting Showroom**

Southern Lighting Gallery – Augusta, Ga.

**Midwest/Southwest**

**Furniture Store**

McManus Company – Beaumont, Texas

**Home Accent Specialty Store**

Signed Sealed Delivered – Rogers, Ark.

**Lighting Showroom**

Metro Lighting – Brentwood, Mo.

**West**

**Furniture Store**

C.S. Wo & Sons – Honolulu, Hawaii

**Home Accent Specialty Store**

Moses at Home – Albuquerque, N.M.

**Lighting Showroom**

Sun Lighting – Tucson, Ark.

**Product Designer**

Kathleen Koszyk, Art Dreams Home

**Rising Star Retailer**

Culinary Connection – Plano, Texas

**Sales Reps**

**East/Atlantic**

Russ Jones, OneCoast Northeast Home

**Midwest/Southwest**

Amber Leone, Codarus

**West**

Tom Wright, Liteforce Sales

**Academy of Achievement**

Arlette Baker, Carl's Furniture – Boca Raton, Fla.

Make plans now to attend March Total Home & Gift Market (March 27 – 30, 2008) and June Total Home & Gift Market (June 18 – 24, 2008) taking place in Dallas. Attendees may contact the Dallas Market Center's in-house travel agency, MarketTravel®, for substantial travel and hotel discounts by calling 1-800-DAL-MKTS.

***About the ARTS Awards***

The ARTS Awards is the premiere awards program dedicated to the home decorative accessories industry. Twenty-six categories exist under the headings Manufacturer, Retailer, Product Designer, Sales Representative, Rising Star, Academy of Achievement and Hall of Fame. Manufacturers and the Rising Star award are nominated by retailers, sales representatives, designers, suppliers, consultants and other industry officials. Retailers are nominated by manufacturers, sales representatives and other industry officials. Sales representatives are nominated by manufacturers, retailers and other industry officials. Product designers are nominated by all. The Academy of Achievement honoree is selected by the ARTS Awards committee each year. Companies that have won the ARTS Awards five or more times will be inducted into the Hall of Fame. Hall of Fame members are: Distinctive Designs International Inc., Fine Art Lamps, Montage, Natural Decorations Inc., Palecek, Robb & Stucky and Schonbek Worldwide Lighting.

***About the Accessories Resource Team***

The Accessories Resource Team (ART) is the association representing accessory manufacturers, retailers, representatives and other industry individuals and companies interested in promoting the decorative home accessories industry. The association's goal is to enhance the market position of decorative home accessories. Each year ART sponsors programs such as the ART conference, regional educational seminars and the ARTS Awards. The Accessories Resource Team Web site is available at [www.accessoriesresourceteam.org](http://www.accessoriesresourceteam.org).

***About Dallas Market Center***

Founded in 1957, Dallas Market Center is the world's largest wholesale merchandise resource. Within its marketplace of more than five million square feet, retailers from around the globe source products ranging from home furnishings, gifts, decorative accessories and lighting to textiles, fashion accessories and men's, western, women's and children's apparel. With more than 50 markets each year attended by more than 200,000 retail buyers from all 50 states and 84 countries, Dallas Market Center offers hundreds of events and seminars geared toward helping retailers expand business and increase profits. As a result, more than \$7.5 billion in estimated wholesale transactions are conducted annually within the Dallas Market Center complex. The Dallas Market Center Web site is available at [www.dallasmarketcenter.com](http://www.dallasmarketcenter.com).

###