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FLORIDA MOTION PICTURE & TELEVISION ASSOCIATION LAUNCHES EVENT FOR SAVE THE MANATEE CLUB

Orlando, Florida – The Florida Motion Picture & Television Association (FMPTA) has joined forces with Save the Manatee Club to celebrate both the best of Florida’s entertainment industries and Florida’s gentle giants at its 21st Annual Crystal Reel Awards Gala November 5-7, 2010 in Orlando.

FMPTA’s Crystal Reel Award was created in 1987 to honor outstanding achievement in the motion picture, television, and recording industries in the State of Florida. FMPTA’s Crystal Reel Awards Gala has long been recognized as the premier entertainment competition and has been noted as Florida’s version of the Oscar.

November is Manatee Awareness Month and all proceeds from the Silent Auction, held during the Gala’s VIP Reception, will benefit Save the Manatee Club, a national, nonprofit advocacy organization co-founded by former Governor and US Senator Bob Graham and singer-songwriter, Jimmy Buffett, who has been working to protect manatees and their habitat for almost 30 years.

Gala Executive Producer and FMPTA Metro Orlando Chapter President, Thomas P. Mitchell, Sr., stated, “The year after FMPTA was founded in 1974, Florida designated the manatee as the official Florida State marine mammal. As FMPTA celebrates its 36th year, we wish to celebrate one of the most endangered marine mammals in the United States who make their home in Florida.”

This benefit will help fund education and public awareness endeavors; research, rescue, rehabilitation, and release projects; and advocacy efforts.

“We are thrilled to be designated the beneficiary of the Silent Auction and praise FMPTA for helping to literally save manatees’ lives,” said Patrick Rose, Executive Director of Save the Manatee Club.

Donations to the silent auction can be made by contacting, FMPTA-Metro Orlando Chapter at info@fmpta-mo.com.

Mitchell is an award winning film Executive Producer/Director and award winning Photographer.

FMPTA serves the motion picture, television, audio recording and digital media industries in the State of Florida. Members include producers, directors, casting agents, cameramen, actors, stuntmen, technicians, make-up artists, set designers, equipment rental companies, recording studios and trade/craft services.

Contact – Linda Nesmith, Producer, 21st Annual Crystal Reel Award Gala at 386.873.2453.