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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEALTHCARE ART CONSULTING SIGNS ON AS AN ADVOCATE FIRM OF THE CENTER FOR HEALTH DESIGN'S EVIDENCE-BASED DESIGN ACCREDITATION AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

CONCORD, CA (September 15, 2009) — The Center for Health Design (CHD), a nonprofit research, education and advocacy organization announced today that Healthcare Art Consulting of Dallas, TX formalized their commitment to the new Evidence-Based Design Accreditation and Certification (EDAC) Program as an Advocate Firm. Healthcare Art Consulting provides healing art programs to healthcare systems and facilities nationwide, and is dedicated to educating healthcare executives and organization leaders on ways to improve healing environments to allow patients to use less pain medication, reduce stress and anxiety, and minimize length of stay in healing environments.

EDAC is the newest professional accreditation and certification program for the healthcare design industry. Phase 1 of the program focuses on building the accreditation program which is an educational program that educates and assesses individuals on their understanding of how to base healthcare building design decisions on credible research evidence and project evaluation results. Phase 2 will focus on developing certification for building projects. As an advocate firm, Healthcare Art Consulting will engage, at minimum, 25% of its healthcare team through completion of the EDAC accreditation process.

CHD has been working to improve the quality and safety of medical facilities for the past 20 years focusing on the use of evidence-based design to improve outcomes for patients and staff and impact the bottom line. "We're excited that Healthcare Art Consulting has partnered with us as an EDAC Advocate Firm" says Debra Levin, President and CEO of The Center, "Their company's forward-thinking philosophy is closely aligned with EDAC's goals to educate the health design industry about the benefits of design research, and to grow the community of evidence-based design individuals."

The team at Healthcare Art Consulting believes that the EDAC philosophy is revolutionary in unveiling the multiple facets of the healing environment design process. "What has been a dilemma for our company is getting ten or more people in a room to decide selection of artwork," states Jerry Joyner, Chief Executive Officer of Healthcare

Art Consulting. “Now, we use research and evidence that is available to us to let our clients know that it’s not their personal selection of art that is most important, but it’s what is best for the healing environment, patients, staff, caregivers and desired outcomes.”

Healthcare Art Consulting embraces evidence-based design into client projects and even supports team members taking the EDAC examination through study guide reviews, time-off to study and monetary incentives for passing the EDAC examination. “We believe EDAC will become the new standard in healthcare design in the coming years” comments Megan Lapham, Chief Operations Officer of Healthcare Art Consulting. “We are constantly educating our clients with credible research on evidence-based design, as they look to us as an expert in developing artwork and therapeutic programs.”

The three study guides developed to assist applicants in preparing for the exam chronicle the evolution of the practice, trends affecting healthcare delivery systems, research methodologies and practical applications. Study Guide 1 is available at no charge and can be ordered from the EDAC website as a printed copy or pdf download. Study Guides 2 and 3 are also available from the website in printed form. The EDAC examination consists of 110 multiple-choice questions. Candidates have two hours to complete the exam. The examination covers five sections: evidence-based design for healthcare; research; pre-design; design; and construction and occupancy. To obtain copies of the Study Guides, as well as details on testing sites and exam dates, visit www.healthdesign.org/edac.

About The Center for Health Design

The Center for Health Design (CHD), formed in 1993, is a nonprofit research and advocacy organization of forward-thinking healthcare, elder care, design and construction professionals and product manufacturers who are leading the quest to improve the quality of healthcare facilities and create new environments for healthy aging. Its voluntary board of directors guides the work of paid staff that manages and directs the organization's research, education, outreach and advocacy efforts. For more information, visit www.healthdesign.org

About Healthcare Art Consulting:

Healthcare Art Consulting, located in Dallas, TX, specializes in providing art consulting services including art acquisition, framing, installation, artwork rental programs, art therapy and art helps healing programs to hospitals, primary care, outpatient care and long-term care facilities nationwide. The company's philosophy is based on educating clients, providing innovative artistic solutions and building partnerships with its clients. With over 500 projects completed, Healthcare Art Consulting helps heal people with visual stimulation each day. For more information, visit www.healthcareartconsulting.com