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Step into Spring Gala to Benefit Steppingstone Scholars, Inc.
Supporters will step out for the hottest party in town to salute Philadelphia scholars

Philadelphia, PA – April 5, 2010 – The Step into Spring gala honoring Lincoln Financial Group and President and Chief Executive Officer Dennis Glass will be held on April 30, 2010 at the Please Touch Museum in Fairmount Park. The event will benefit Steppingstone Scholars, Inc., a Philadelphia based non-profit organization that develops and implements programs that prepare underserved schoolchildren for educational opportunities that lead to college.

Guests will ‘step out’ to raise money and awareness to continue Steppingstone’s mission and expand its impact, while saluting the work of the program’s courageous and devoted students. This colorful evening will feature cocktails on the carousel, a silent auction displayed on an indoor river, dinner, dancing and entertainment by Steppingstone Scholars alum Tim Spady, as well as music from The Edge.

A live auction will feature the *A Seat at the Table* Dining Series, an exclusive opportunity for donors to dine with leaders from various fields and partner with Steppingstone Scholars to give children the opportunity that education affords - to give them a seat at the table. Special guests include Kelly Corrigan, author, Gerry Lenfest, philanthropist, Mayor Michael Nutter and Stacey Snider, CEO and Co-Chair of DreamWorks Studios.

The Step into Spring event is being lead by co-chairs Jaimie and David Field and Wanda and Patrick Paul. Jaimie and David lead Entercom Communications Corporation as Director of Sustainability and as Chief Executive Officer and Director, respectively. Wanda Paul is the Senior Vice President at the Philadelphia Convention and Visitors Bureau. After 25 years as Regional Vice President with Aramark, Patrick Paul now serves as President and Owner of Patrick Paul Enterprises LLC, consulting in the food services industry.

“I am honored to help lead this event, which is a critical night for everyone involved with the organization” said Wanda Paul, board member and Step into Spring co-chair. “The spring gala creates an opportunity to share in the company of those who are dedicated to Steppingstone Scholars’ mission and show our appreciation for their support.”

Step into Spring will raise money and awareness to continue Steppingstone Scholars’ mission and expand its impact. The event raised more than \$250,000 in 2009 and has raised over \$2 million since 2001.

In addition to saluting the work of the program’s courageous and devoted students at the event, Steppingstone Scholars will honor one of its most committed supporters, Lincoln Financial Group and its President and Chief Executive Officer Dennis Glass.

“We are so grateful for the companies and individuals who work to support organizations that are truly making a difference, like Steppingstone Scholars,” said David Field, Step into Spring co-chair. “It is these very organizations that help our city remain competitive on a national scale.”

For more information about Steppingstone Scholars or about the Step into Spring Gala, please visit www.steppingstonescholars.org or call 215-508-5150.

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About Steppingstone Scholars, Inc.

Steppingstone Scholars, Inc. is dedicated to helping educationally underserved students in the Greater Philadelphia Region achieve academic success. Students with the potential and a community of support are prepared for admission to and success at the best public, non-public and independent college preparatory schools through a program of academics, mentoring and support. Steppingstone Scholars works with partner schools to create opportunities that lead to college.

Steppingstone Scholars, Inc. admits children of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to children at Steppingstone Scholars. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, placement opportunities, support services and programs.

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