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SuttonAdvisors, PLC

PRESS RELEASE

Arts Council of Greater Lansing Recognizes **Sutton**Advisors, PLC

Business Arts Award granted to local financial boutique for exemplary support to Lansing art community.

Lansing, December 7, 2009: We all would be hard-pressed to find a family like the Sutton's. Jerry, Linda and Jordan Sutton are a pillar in the Lansing Community. They are quick to RSVP to most community, charity and fundraising events. Most specifically, they are large contributors to the arts. The Business Arts Award recognizes businesses and organizations for leadership and commitment in support of the arts.

The Arts Council of Greater Lansing recognized Jerry, Linda and Jordan Sutton of **Sutton**Advisors, PLC with the Business Arts Award for their outstanding and consistent support of the arts in various forms throughout Lansing. The Suttons were surprised and honored to be nominated by several community members.

Jerry Sutton says of the award, "It was a special surprise. Being recognized is special, but not the reward. Our reward is in helping the various artists and in enjoying the music, the theatre, the galleries or whatever is going on in the community. For someone who is not particularly artistic, it inspires me to see others exhibit their creative talents. The strength of any community is made up of many different contributors, and the Arts Council leads the way in making sure both the arts and artists play a significant role in our community."

In their office and their homes, you will find art purchased from local artists ranging from ink drawings, reliefs, sculptures and oil paintings. Just about a year ago, they began supporting Zahrah Resh, an ambitious and very talented local artist, by way of giving her a gallery space above **Sutton**Advisors, PLC.

Zahrah is very appreciative of the gallery space. It's a simple act of kindness, but was calculated to the point of customizing the entire remodel upstairs to suit Zahrah's needs. Zahrah R. is becoming more of a household name and the Suttons continue to support her endeavors, whether attending Zahrah's exhibits, bringing their clients to the gallery for a meeting, hosting events in the gallery space to show off Zahrah's talents or by hanging her art in their own homes.

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The Zahrah R. Gallery is a very special place for us. It remains a solo gallery for a reason. The joy, energy and understanding that accompany works from Zahrah's collection are all emotions that translate well to the work that we do here at SuttonAdvisors," says Jordan Sutton.

Among being one of Zahrah R.'s biggest fans, the Suttons are also big contributors to the art of sports (Jerry was an MSU baseball player). Jordan Sutton recently volunteered many hours for the Wharton Center's Open House. You will often find Jordan and Linda Sutton shopping at local galleries and jewelry stores looking for beautiful handcrafted gifts to pass on to a friend or relative for a gift.

"The award itself is exquisite," says Linda Sutton. She continues, "It is displayed proudly and prominently as an invitation to our clients to inquire about the reason for such a lovely piece of art. We will be happy to tell them of the many opportunities they also have to help and to support. We want to thank the Arts Council's selection committee, their Board and to their staff for the recognition you gave to our family. We hope it encourages more support amongst others in the community."

Jordan is heavily involved with the Kresge Art Museum, as a member of the Friends Board. She is currently assisting Rizzi Designs in organizing a focus group to better build community involvement and increase membership as we prepare for the building of the new museum. She has studied several local and national museums, with a strong interest in bringing programming to the new museum in order to create entertainment, education and culture within the Greater Lansing Area. She is very interested in building the Friends Board to involve some younger members and is helping with succession planning as a focus of the Board, the museum's interests and the Museum.

Jordan Sutton said, "Honored more than surprised, I'm proud of the traditional board, committee and event work that we participate related to the arts. I'm especially passionate about the invention of the Zahrah R. Gallery of Contemporary Art." When asked what art means to her personally, she responded, "Art in all forms makes a positive and inspirational contribution to the environment in which we live."

They share their appreciation of arts from all age levels, which is evident of their display of plates from the Greater Lansing Food Bank's Annual Empty Plate dinner. These are on display year-round at the Sutton's Office.

Jordan Sutton adds, "The Arts Council is important in that it provides leadership and support for individual artists that otherwise may not have an avenue or the resources to work as a professional artist. The Arts Council signature events bring together arts supporters and not only celebrate progress, but also allow supporters in one area to be exposed to other Art Council artists and supporters."

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