



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:
Ed Weirauch
302-528-8847
edweirauch@earthlink.net

ATTORNEY MAKES MAKING MUSIC EASY

PHILADELPHIA, PA – April 24, 2009 – If you don't know the law, you may not be able to succeed. That's what three Philadelphia artists who are among more than 20 mostly musicians for whom attorney Bruce Bellingham has provided pro-bono work over the last year.

And for this, Bellingham is this year's recipient of the Philadelphia Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts Volunteer of the Year award from the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia. TD Bank is presenting sponsor of the Awards 2009 Luncheon, which will be held on Friday, May 15 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center.

Shuna Miah, Managing Director of the Philadelphia Clef Club, says Bellingham "was a big part of our organization's revitalization."

Helen Faller, who created Mosaiqa Records with Bellingham's help, cites the attorney with teaching her how artistic and mechanical copyrights work.

And musician Dogukan Gungor credits Bellingham with establishing his own composing, recording and producing business.

Bellingham says that since he attended the University of Pennsylvania Law School in the 1990s, where pro-bono work was emphasized, he has maintained a commitment to support his community this way. "It's important for personal satisfaction and professional identity," says Bellingham, an associate with Spector Gadon and Rosen in Philadelphia. "All lawyers want their professional work to include a component of altruism."

Since June 2007, Bellingham has given over \$35,000 in total pro-bono assistance to artists through the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia.

"Volunteer work introduces a transactional (deal-making) component into my practice. Litigators do some 'peaceful' activities, like working out settlements, but helping people accomplish transactions in the first place is very different and enlarges one's sense of the practice of law," adds Bellingham, who lives in Wilmington, Delaware.

About the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia

An affiliate of the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce since 1981, the Arts & Business Council of Greater Philadelphia develops relationships between business and the arts for the mutual benefit of both and in support of the advancement of the Greater Philadelphia Region. For more information, please visit www.artsandbusinessphila.org or call 215.790.3620.

###