News Release

IBM Innovation Awards presented at
2009 Boston Cyberarts Festival

Boston, MA - **George Fifield**, Founder and Director of Boston Cyberarts, has announced the recipients of the 2009 IBM Innovation Awards for artistic creation in art and technology, given in recognition of outstanding work presented at the exhibitions and events featured in the 2009 Boston Cyberarts Festival. The awards were presented Friday evening at the 2009 Cyberarts Gala at IBM Research in Cambridge.

The Grand Award of $3000 went to "**Virtuelle Mauer/ReConstructing the Wall**" by **Teresa Reuter + Tamiko Thiel**, two artists based in Germany who are the primary collaborators on the artist team T+T. The virtual reality artwork investigates the impact of the Berlin Wall, which divided West and East Berlin during the Cold War until late 1989. A digital reconstruction of a segment of the dismantled Berlin Wall and its surrounding neighborhoods creates a place of remembrance that users can explore in order to experience and reflect on this historical time. The work was presented by the Goethe-Institut Boston.

In addition to the Grand Award, two Merit Awards of $1000 each were presented. The first was presented to **Daniel Phillips** for his work "**Inherent Tendencies Toward Disorganization**"Over the course of eleven months, the artist set up a camera to take thousands of still images of his studio floor, including his own actions in the space, and then connected these images into a moving animation. The work is on display at the Judi Rotenberg Gallery on Newbury Street.

A second Merit Award of $1000 was presented to "**Children of Arcadia**" a virtual reality installation hosted by the Cambridge Arts Council Gallery. The work allows visitors to explore a landscape that continually changes based on real-time data on current events. The artists involved in the creation of "Children of Arcadia" are **Mark Skwarek, Joseph Hocking, Arthur Peters, and Damon Baker**.

In making the awards, Fifield said: "We are delighted to be able to recognize the outstanding contributions these artists have made to the 2009 Festival." He added, "We are very grateful to our friends at IBM for their support in making these awards possible."

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About the Boston Cyberarts Festival

The Boston Cyberarts Festival, launched by George Fifield in 1999 with seed funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, is the only Festival in the world that features all art forms, including both visual and performing arts, film, video, electronic literature, public art, and web art. The 2009 Festival takes place April 24-May 10, 2009, at museums, galleries, performing spaces, educational institutions, and on the web. Complete information, including a searchable database of the more than 60 events and exhibitions, is available at www.bostoncyberarts.org.

Cyberart encompasses any artistic endeavor in which computer technology is used to expand artistic possibilities - that is, where the computer's unique capabilities are integral elements of the creative process in the same way that paint, photographic film, musical instruments, and other materials have always been used to express an artist's vision.

Boston Cyberarts is grateful for the support of many generous individuals and institutions, including The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, ArtsBoston, IBM, LEF Foundation, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Phoenix Media Communications Group, and 1330 Boylston.