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PRESS CONFERENCE ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 2010

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Press Conference Advisory for Wednesday, April 14, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

Tennis Legend John McEnroe and World-Renowned Artist Eric Fischl Team Up to Jury Phoenix College Student Art Competition

Tennis legend and art aficionado John McEnroe and world-renowned contemporary artist Eric Fischl, a Phoenix College alumnus, are teaming up to raise funds to benefit the Phoenix College Eric Fischl Scholars Program and the John and Patty McEnroe Foundation during For the Love of Art, a two-part event that encompasses both tennis and art. As part of the event, Fischl and McEnroe will jury artwork entered in the Phoenix College student art competition on April 14th. Fischl, a long-time supporter of the Fine Arts program at Phoenix College, and his friend McEnroe will select two top Phoenix College art students to receive the Eric Fischl Vanguard Award, a \$2,500 prize. The Vanguard Awards will be presented later the same evening during the Eric Fischl Lecture Series, held at 7:00 p.m. at Phoenix Art Museum. McEnroe is this year's featured speaker, and will discuss his contemporary art collection, sharing insights about why he has chosen to purchase certain pieces.

WHAT: Fischl and McEnroe will speak about their support of up-and-coming young artists as they participate in jurying the entries in the 2010 Phoenix College student art competition. Both men will discuss what draws them to a particular artwork. Past Eric Fischl Vanguard Award recipients include Catie Raya, whose public art installation, *Meadow Scene*, was recently unveiled along the Melrose Curve on Seventh Avenue in Phoenix, and Francisco Garcia, who co-curated the *Graffiti Up* exhibit at the Phoenix College Eric Fischl Gallery in late March.

WHO: Eric Fischl, an American Contemporary Realist painter and sculptor and a Phoenix College alumnus, is considered one of the world's top contemporary artists. His work has been featured in galleries, museums, and private collections around the globe, including the Museum of Modern Art, the Broad Art Foundation, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, and the Walker Art Center. Tennis Hall-of-Famer John McEnroe, perhaps the most skilled and controversial of all tennis players, oversees The John McEnroe Gallery in New York City, where he collects and trades art and showcases the work of contemporary artists.

WHERE: Phoenix College – Eric Fischl Gallery (2nd level, Fine Arts Building on east side of campus)
1202 W. Thomas Road

WHEN: Wednesday, April 14, 2010 from 4:00 – 4:20 p.m.
Brief statements from Eric Fischl and John McEnroe 4:00 – 4:10 p.m.
Q & A session 4:10 – 4:20 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Visit www.phoenixcollege.edu/loveart.