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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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“MAYOR’S AWARDS FOR THE ARTS” RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED
Recognition Ceremony Scheduled for October 13, 2011

Pocatello Mayor Brian Blad has selected the recipients for the 2011 “Mayor’s Awards for the Arts.” Those set to be honored are: Tal Sampson—Individual Award; Portneuf Medical Center—Corporate Award; and the Pocatello Municipal Band—Lifetime Achievement Award. Information about each recipient follows.

Tal Sampson is an accomplished local artist who has shown his work at the ISU John B. Davis Gallery, Gate City Fine Arts and Westside Players Theater to name a few locations. One of his pieces is also prominently displayed in the Pocatello City Council Chambers – a portrait in the likeness of Chief Pocatello. As no photographs were available, Tal collaborated with the descendants of Chief Pocatello to create a likeness which the family approved.

Portneuf Medical Center opened its new hospital in Pocatello earlier this year. As part of the vision for the facility, hospital officials made a conscious decision to incorporate art. Each level of the hospital is decorated with art from local and regional artists. The result is a stunning display of different mediums and styles. In addition, the piano located on the mezzanine and guest performers provide beautiful music for patients, their families and the staff.

The Pocatello Municipal Band has been providing weekly summer concerts to the community for over 20 years. Each Sunday evening (July through early August) volunteer band members gather at the Ross Park Band Shell to perform. These dedicated volunteers play a wide variety of music and provide a fun and enthusiastic show every week.

“It is an incredible honor for me to recognize these three recipients for their contributions to art in our community,” said Mayor Blad. “What they do to create and support art makes our quality of life so great.”

Mayor Blad plans to recognize the recipients Thursday, October 13, 2011 at the 8th Annual Art for Food Celebration. This event is hosted by The Idaho Foodbank, 555 South 1st Avenue, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and will include entertainment, art displays, food and more. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. Tickets will go on sale in a few weeks.

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