



For Immediate Release

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**Susan Leger-Ferraro, Founder of Little Sprouts Early Education, is onto something BIG
in the month of May!**

Lawrence, Ma. May 20, 2010 – On Wednesday, May 5th, Susan Leger Ferraro, President and Founder of Little Sprouts, was celebrated as 1 of 2 winners for the Enterprise Bank's Celebration of Success Entrepreneur of the Year Award. This award recognizes and celebrates two individuals for their entrepreneurial spirit, vision, innovation, determination and persistence. A panel of businesses and community leaders served as judges to evaluate the applications. They selected the winners based on the following criteria: business success, contributions to the community and industry, innovative business and practices or strategies, and proven leadership. The keynote speaker for the evening was former New England Patriot Tedy Bruschi. The awards were presented by Jack Clancy, CEO of Enterprise Bank and Jim Conway, Chairman of the Judging Committee.

On Tuesday, May 18th, Ferraro was honored at the Boston Women's Fund 25th Anniversary Take a Stand: Breaking Barriers – Building Justice Gala. The event was held at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel in Boston and included a VIP and Dine around Reception and featured a program including Grammy Award winner, Queen Latifah. Ferraro received a Women of Action Award, honoring women who advocate bringing justice and opportunity to women, children and families. The Boston Women's Fund is one of the first women's foundations in the nation and the first women's foundation in the state of Massachusetts.

Ferraro will also be honored on Tuesday, June 8th at the DCU Center in Worcester recognizing her 2010 SBA Massachusetts Women in Business Champion Award.

Ferraro is no stranger to winning awards, having recently been awarded the Athena International Award, the 2008 Beacon for Homeless Families Award from COMPASS for Homeless Families. When asked about these three prestigious awards, she acknowledged, "I'm honored to receive these on behalf of the entire Little Sprouts' team. We are big on transforming early education at Little Sprouts and this distinction showcase the hard work of our educators and directors and the amazing results our students achieve. Each of these awards brings notice on a larger scale to the importance of quality early education. Educating young children directly relate to an increase in graduation rates and improved literacy throughout school. The work we do with preschool is closing the achievement gap later in life."

Little Sprouts has been expanding the power and potential of early childhood education and child care for over 27 years in the Greater Merrimack Valley and Boston. The organization has earned national recognition for its curriculum and measurable results, most notably winning the U.S. Department of Education's "Preschool Centers of Excellence" award for the 9th year in a row. Little Sprouts' students score #1 nationwide in standardized national early literacy assessments.

About Little Sprouts Inc.: Little Sprouts has been a leader in providing award-winning early education since 1982. Little Sprouts is a group of humanitarians that trusts in the power of literacy to change the world; social, emotional, intellectual and physical literacy for children, youth, teachers and families. Little Sprouts believes in the commonality in humanity. They embrace that unity is best achieved by celebrating diversity. Little Sprouts has 11 schools in Massachusetts supporting families that reflect 56 cultures speaking 23 languages from all walks of social, economic, religious and ethnic backgrounds. To learn more about how you can join us in making the world a better place, visit us at www.littlesprouts.com or call (877) 977-7688.

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