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The National Creativity Network (NCN) in partnership with its honorary chairman, Sir Ken Robinson, is pleased to announce Susan McCalmont, President of Creative Oklahoma, as the winner of the inaugural Sir Ken Robinson Award for Leadership in Creativity & Innovation. The official announcement was made at the State of Creativity Forum in Oklahoma City, OK. Sir Ken Robinson, a global authority on creativity, remarked that the award in this first year was given to “someone who has demonstrated quite extraordinary leadership in creativity and innovation.” He noted that McCalmont was “the driving force behind the establishment of Creative Oklahoma and the effort to truly make Oklahoma ‘The State of Creativity,’ as well as being a co-founder of the NCN and providing inspiration and counsel to many leaders and organizations in North America and beyond.”

McCalmont was presented with a unique multicolored kilnformed glass bowl created by Dr. Steven Immerman of Clearwater Glass Studio in Eau Claire, WI. Immerman is an example of the very creativity the NCN seeks to advance in his multifaceted life as a general purpose surgeon, surgical oncologist, and noted artist.

The National Creativity Network (www.nationalcreativitynetwork.org) is a US-registered international nonprofit that seeks to advance the skillful application of imagination, creativity, and innovation to positively improve commerce, culture, education and government across North America. The NCN works with regional coalitions and national organizations across Canada, Mexico, and the United States as well as with global partners with similar goals.

The Sir Ken Robinson Award for Leadership in Creativity & Innovation was established by the NCN to annually honor an individual whose work has enhanced and enriched creativity and innovation among individuals and/or organizations. Sir Ken Robinson had the honor of selecting this year’s inaugural winner. Winners in subsequent years will be selected in accordance with guidelines mutually agreed to by Sir Ken and the NCN Board. The NCN will administer the award and it joins another award annually bestowed by the NCN – the USA Creative Business Cup – whose winner goes on to compete for the Global Creative Business Cup in Copenhagen, Denmark as part of the annual activities associated with Global Entrepreneurship Week (www.creativebusinesscup.com). The 2013 winner of the USA Creative Business Cup was Zero Gravity Creations LLC of Baltimore, MD (www.zerogravitycreations.com).