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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ACTiVATE® AT UMBC ALUM RECEIVE NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT.

Baltimore, MD (March 4, 2011) –The Path Forward Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, home of the award-winning ACTiVATE® women’s entrepreneurship program, is proud to announce that three of its ACTiVATE graduates, Kimberly Brown, Sequoia Ramsey, and Meta Cadigan have been recognized by *Enterprising Women Magazine’s* Enterprising Women of the Year Award with Honorable Mentions. This highly-competitive award recognizes top women entrepreneurs in North America.

“These three are a great example of the diversity of women who come through ACTiVATE and also demonstrate the high-caliber of accomplishment the program is proud to be associated with,” shared Julie Lenzer Kirk, co-founder and CEO of the Path Forward Center. “Their success in business and job creation coupled with their commitment to giving back to their communities provides strong role models for other women aspiring to build their *Business Beyond One™*. They represent the core of what the ACTiVATE program is all about.”

ACTiVATE® is a pre-incubation program and growing national community for women entrepreneurs. Started in 2005 at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County through a grant from the National Science Foundation, ACTiVATE has been licensed exclusively by the Path Forward Center for replication around the world to help mid-career women start businesses and create jobs.

Kimberly Brown is President and CEO of Amethyst Technologies (www.amethysttech.com) in Baltimore, MD. Ms. Brown completed the ACTiVATE program in 2008. Amethyst Technologies provides overall management, implementation and execution of quality systems for FDA regulated activities including clinical trials and drug development.

Sequoia Ramsey, CEO of Realistic Computing, Inc. (www.realistic-computing.com) in Baltimore, MD and ACTiVATE class of 2007, provides comprehensive IT services, with expertise in local and wide area networks, hosting, web design and an array of managed services.

Meta Cadigan is the Owner of CertaPro Painters of Columbia (<http://columbia.certapro.com/>) in Columbia, MD and a 2006 graduate of the ACTiVATE program. Meta started CertaPro after her experience in ACTiVATE ignited her entrepreneurial spirit, prompting her to leave a career in construction management to start her business.



Winners and Honorable Mentions will be celebrated at a gala dinner at the 9th Annual Enterprising Women of the Year Awards Celebration in Boca Raton, FL on March 11, 2011.

About the Path Forward Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship:

The Path Forward Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship has been formed as a nonprofit to be a catalyst for economic change by activating women to build their *Business Beyond One*[™]. Its inaugural program, ACTiVATE®, helps women start technology-enabled businesses from a variety of sources including technology transfer and then brings together complimentary programs to help women build capacity as they grow and scale their businesses. The ACTiVATE program is currently recruiting women for programs at UMBC and George Washington University's Ashburn campus. www.PathForwardCenter.org.

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