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Governor Charlie Crist Names Carlos Beruff of Bradenton as Point of Light for Hispanic Heritage Month

TALLAHASSEE — Governor Charlie Crist today recognized Carlos Beruff as this week's Point of Light for exemplary volunteerism. Carlos has made donations benefiting the Community of Royal in Sumter County and the Young Performing Artists Inc. Carlos is the third of four Points of Light selected from Florida's Hispanic community, in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

"I am honored to acknowledge Carlos for his assistance to one of Florida's historic communities," said Governor Crist. "His contributions celebrate the past and bring promise to future generations."

Carlos has donated \$50,000 to Young Performing Artist Inc., a non-profit organization supporting youth artists across Florida and in the Community of Royal. The Community of Royal is one of Sumter County's oldest African American communities. Carlos' donations allowed for the preservation of one of the only remaining historical buildings in Royal. The building is the site the Royal volunteer fire station and the A.A. Young Sr. Historical and Enrichment Center of Royal. The Center provides after-school and summer enrichment programs for youth in the community. His gift has also led to the reinstatement of a scholarship competition granting \$500 scholarships to five young artists.

During Hispanic Heritage Month, the Points of Light award will recognize outstanding members of the Hispanic community dedicated to public service in Florida. Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationwide and runs September 15 through October 15. Additional information about Florida's Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations will be available on the Web site www.FloridaHispanicHeritage.com.

The Governor's Points of Light Award, sponsored by Royal Caribbean International and Celebrity Cruises, recognizes a Florida resident or organization that demonstrates exemplary service to the community. Award recipients are announced weekly. A panel of judges comprised of leaders in the areas of volunteerism and service evaluate all nominations and make recommendations to the Governor. The Volunteer Florida Foundation manages the program. For more information, or to nominate, go to www.VolunteerFloridaFoundation.org.

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