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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

2006 MUSIC HAS POWER™ AWARDS
FEATURING PERFORMANCE BY ROB THOMAS

Honoring Acclaimed Neurologist and Author Dr. Oliver Sacks

September 20, 2006 (New York, NY) – On November 6, 2006 The 6th Annual Music Has Power Awards benefit will once again return to the Allen Room, Frederick P. Rose Hall, home of Jazz at Lincoln Center. The awards show is presented by The Institute for Music and Neurologic Function (IMNF), a member of the Beth Abraham Family of Health Services. Scheduled to perform at this year's star-studded event are Grammy-award winning singer/songwriter **Rob Thomas** and fourteen year old violin prodigy and national concert artist Jourdan Urbach.

This year, the IMNF is proud to honor renowned neurologist and author Dr. Oliver Sacks. “We celebrate his 40 years at Beth Abraham and honor his outstanding contributions in support of music therapy and the effect of music on the human brain and mind,” said Dr. Concetta Tomaino, Executive Director of the IMNF.

Dr. Sacks has written extensively about his experiences and findings and in 1973, he penned the highly acclaimed book “Awakenings” based on his work at Beth Abraham Health Services. His literature was later adapted into the 1990 Oscar-nominated Hollywood movie, “Awakenings” for which Dr. Sacks was the inspiration for Robin Williams’ character.

The **Music Has Power Award** was established six years ago to celebrate and recognize the significant accomplishments of the men and women who have brought new understanding to the use of the power of music to awaken and heal. Through this celebration, funds raised will support music therapy programs, along with clinical and scientific research. Past sponsors have included Kettle One Vodka; MTV; NAMM, The International Music Products Association; Steinway & Sons; and VH1.

The 2006 Music Has Power event begins at 7 p.m. For tickets, sponsorship and journal tributes, please contact: Cheryl Burgos at (718) 519-5880. All tickets include admittance to a special VIP reception.

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Founded in 1995 at Beth Abraham Health Services in The Bronx, the IMNF is unique in that it is driven by 35 years of clinical observations on the actual effects of music on different types of physical and neurological trauma. Directed by renowned music therapist Dr. Concetta Tomaino, with medical guidance from distinguished neurologist Dr. Oliver Sacks, its distinctive setting allows researchers to not only apply their theories, but to follow patient rehabilitation in the long term. The Institute actively collaborates with researchers and practitioners at other leading organizations to advance world progress in understanding and applying the power of music to promote healing and wellness. Some of the Institute's most promising research has been in the areas of music and language, memory, and recovery from nerve injury – leading to groundbreaking discoveries as to how music therapy can heal.

The Institute for Music and Neurologic Function is recognized internationally for its success in treating a variety of neurological conditions including strokes, trauma, dementia, Alzheimer's, and Parkinsons. Most recently, the IMNF has expanded its work in music therapy for childhood developmental conditions including autism.

About the Institute for Music and Neurologic Function:

The Institute for Music and Neurologic Function is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization and a member of Beth Abraham Family of Health Services. Through the scientific explorations of music and the brain, it seeks to establish new knowledge and develop more effective therapies which awaken, stimulate and heal through the extraordinary power of music. For more information, visit www.musicaspower.org.

About Beth Abraham Family of Health Services:

Founded in 1920, Beth Abraham Family of Health Services is a not-for-profit, continuing care organization established to care for poor, chronically ill and disabled adults of varying ages and backgrounds. In the forefront of continuing health care, Beth Abraham's services include four residential skilled nursing facilities, adult day health care programs, home care and AIDS home care, and independent housing facilities for the elderly and disabled. Beth Abraham sponsors the nation's largest Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) through Comprehensive Care Management (CCM). Its world-renowned Institute for Music and Neurologic Function is dedicated to advancing scientific inquiry on music and the brain and to developing clinical treatments to benefit people of all ages. With more than 3,000 employees, Beth Abraham serves nearly 5,000 people daily and remains committed to making life better for people. For more information on Beth Abraham Family of Health Services, please visit www.bethabe.org.

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