



## News Release

**Immediate Release**  
**February 2, 2010**

### **ChristmasVille Named “SC Event of the Year” For Third Year in a Row!**

Rock Hill, SC—**For the third year in a row, ChristmasVille has won the coveted South Carolina Event of the Year Award** at this year’s Carolina Showfest Awards. ChristmasVille received the award in the category *Events Over \$50,000*. The awards were announced at the Carolina Showfest Excellence Awards luncheon on Monday, February 1, 2010 in Charlotte, NC. This year was a joint conference and trade show for Event Professionals in both North and South Carolina. ChristmasVille has captured the South Carolina Event of the Year Award every year except its inaugural year in 2006, when it won the award for “South Carolina Runner-Up Event of the Year”.

This year, **ChristmasVille also received the award for “Best Event Website in South Carolina”**, which was designed by City employee Terry Windell. Windell, a Neighborhood Empowerment Coordinator in the City’s Housing and Neighborhood Services Department, volunteered his time for this project. **Candy Clapp, ChristmasVille creator and festival director, received this year’s “SC Director of the Year” Award.**

Accepting the SC Event of the Year Award was John Rinehart, President of the ChristmasVille Board of Governors. “There was stiff competition for these awards,” said Rinehart. “And it’s an incredible tribute to the hundreds of volunteers who put in countless hours making a festival of this magnitude. We accepted this award on their behalf.”

Honorary Chair Allan Miller said was not surprised ChristmasVille won the event of the year." There is nothing quite like it anywhere. The huge increase in volunteer workers, the masterful job done by Terry Windell on our website and the outstanding hard work of our director Candy Clapp are reasons why this dynamic event grew even bigger in 2009 and will continue to grow into the future. We are all extremely proud of our team leaders, board of governors and committee members for making this annual festival a reality."

This year’s festival included over 70 events in four days. ChristmasVille was conceived as a festival to showcase historic downtown Rock Hill as a setting for the colorful, heart-warming artwork of Vernon Grant. All the activities, events and entertainment contributed to its success. Next year’s ChristmasVille will be celebrated from December 2 -5, 2010.

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