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### MOLLY D. SHEPARD RECEIVES 2012 BRAVA! WOMEN BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

BALA CYNWYD, PA—Molly D. Shepard, Founder, President, and CEO, *The Leader's Edge/Leaders By Design*, has been selected as a **2012 Brava! Women Business Achievement Award winner**, as announced by *SmartCEO* magazine.

The Brava! Women Business Achievement Awards honor the top 25 female CEOs, presidents, business owners, and executive directors in Greater Philadelphia. This year's list of distinguished honorees includes Toni Pergolin, President and Chief Executive of Bancroft; Nanette Sciolla Carney, Chief Executive Officer of The Carney Group; and the Honorable Renée Cardwell Hughes, Chief Executive Officer of the American Red Cross Southeastern Pennsylvania Chapter, to name a few.

In their third year, the Brava! Awards are presented to women business leaders who are known for both their entrepreneurial endeavors and their commitment to their communities. Their achievements include business milestones as well as philanthropic activities, and they serve as shining examples for women throughout the region. Collectively, the 2012 honorees have generated \$1.3 billion in revenue and are responsible for over 4,200 employees.

Shepard has been active in the field of career counseling, leadership development, executive coaching, and executive search. She is the author of several books, the most recent entitled ***Preparing for Your Prime Time: A Woman Boomer's Guide to Retirement***, which provides a road map for women who are ready to take the next step on the journey into retirement. This book explores retirement alternatives and offers strategic exercises and tips for navigating the decisions presented by this new (and fun) phase in life.

The 2012 Brava! Awards will be presented at a gala on Wednesday, July 18, 2012, at The Merion in Cinnaminson, NJ. The honorees will be joined by 400 local C-level executives and other guests, including past Brava! Award winners. In addition, donations of business attire will be accepted for Dress for Success Philadelphia, an organization that promotes the economic independence of local women transitioning back into the workforce.

**SmartCEO** magazine ([www.smartceo.com](http://www.smartceo.com)) is a regional publication designed to deliver innovative ideas, guiding advice and forward-thinking insight about the daily challenges of running a growing company. Monthly, more than 30,000 business leaders in the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington markets turn to the pages of SmartCEO.

**The Leader's Edge/Leaders By Design** ([www.the-leaders-edge.com](http://www.the-leaders-edge.com)) is an international leadership development, executive coaching and consulting firm that has partnered with hundreds of executive men and women to enhance their leadership styles. Our talented team of coaches is diverse, with years of experience working in corporate settings. This unique element ensures that each of our coaches is positioned to strategically develop the specific initiatives outlined by leaders who work with us. Our vision is to assist high-potential and executive men and women in cultivating their leadership excellence so they can achieve success in the top tiers of organizations.

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