

**PRESS RELEASE
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**The Conservatory at Plano designed by M+P Chosen as Finalist for
2008 NAHB Best Of 50+ Housing Awards Competition**

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Houston, Texas – May 5, 2008 – Meeks + Partners recently was named as a finalist in the 2008 Best of 50+ Housing Awards. Presented by the National Association of Home Builders' 50+ Housing Council, the Best of 50+ Housing Awards is the premier design and marketing competition for the seniors housing industry.

The Conservatory at Plano was announced as a finalist in two categories: *Overall Community - Market Rate Rental Apartments* and *Active Adult Housing - Clubhouse - Large*. The project was recognized by a panel of 13 judges that included builders, developers, architects, marketing experts and other respected industry professionals. The panel chose finalists from nearly 300 total entries in more than 40 categories.

The NAHB 50+ Housing Council will reveal the gold and innovation award winners at the Best of 50+ Housing Awards gala on May 20th in New Orleans. The gala will be held in conjunction with NAHB's Building for Boomers & Beyond: 50+ Housing Symposium.

Developed by Dallas-based The Conservatory Senior Residences, the 222-unit independent senior community is thoughtfully laid out on 6.89 acres in northwest Plano, offering 32 units per acre. The property features dramatic Spanish Colonial architecture that blends into the surrounding residential neighborhood, while creating a sense of old-world elegance.

Residents and guests enter the property through an impressive circular grand entry surrounding a classically-designed water fountain that leads to a porte cochère. A concierge welcomes residents and guests into a three-story atrium designed to reproduce a world-class resort, featuring a grand marble staircase. The grandeur that is evoked in the architecture, furnishings and art work was designed to replicate some of the great manor homes of Europe. Throughout the property, including building hallways, painted reproductions of renowned works of art by 18th and 19th century artists grace the walls as do other decorative arts and antique reproductions.

Featuring a grand two-story atrium, the 25,596 square foot community center offers a multitude of amenities that include a richly-appointed billiard and game room, a crafts center, a SPA, beauty/barber shop, library and fitness/therapy center, a grand dining hall, a 40-seat theatre, a bistro and lounge area and a brain fitness therapy center. Outside, an inviting resort-style pool area create a social gathering area as do strategically placed lushly-landscaped courtyards to promote an active environment. Every one- and two-bedroom apartment home includes luxurious finishes



and comfortable features for the residents such as individual entries, balconies, large closets, many built-ins and storage areas. Units range from 561 square feet to 1,068 square feet.

According to Donald J. Meeks, AIA, Chairman, Meeks + Partners, “Developer Marvin Myers has a great vision to create a luxurious setting for this community. Designed to encourage involvement, the layout of this community was critical. The master plan called for an assortment of amenities, which dictated the navigability of the buildings. In addition, Marvin Myers wanted a distinctive architectural style. With varied elevations, meandering pathways, lush landscaping mingled with water features, roof tiles and classical detailing, the architectural inspiration comes from the unified uses of arches, balconies and broad-tiled roof overhangs.”

Formed in 1974, Meeks + Partners architects specializes in award-winning multifamily, luxury and urban mixed-use projects as well as student housing, independent senior housing, mid- and high-rise buildings and urban land planning. The award-winning firm has planned and designed more than 600,000 residential and commercial units in the United States, including Central America, Europe, Russia and China. For more information, visit www.meekspartners.com.

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