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#### GANTT CENTER HONORS LOCAL ARTS LEADERS

Awards Presented at 32nd Annual Jazzy Holiday Luncheon November 30

Charlotte, NC – Belk Corporation — a Charlotte-based company whose rich heritage of community involvement and philanthropy dates back to its founding — will share the 2012 Gantt Center Legacy Award with community leader and retired arts educator, Jeanne M. Brayboy, and On Q Productions' Artistic Director, Quentin "Q" Talley. The awards will be presented at the 32nd Annual Jazzy Holiday Luncheon on Friday, November 30 at 11:30 am at the Westin Charlotte Hotel. Individual seats for the luncheon are \$125 per person. Tables of eight begin at \$1,500 and include a graduated series of benefits for civic and corporate table sponsors.

"At 32 years and counting, Jazzy is one of the longest running annual traditions in Charlotte and, for many, is a festive kick-off to the holiday season," said Gantt Center President & CEO David Taylor. "We are excited to celebrate both established art patrons and community leaders, Mrs. Jeanne Brayboy and the Belk Family, and to also honor "Q," an emerging leader who is helping to shape Charlotte's arts scene today."

Jazzy is the Harvey B. Gantt Center's major annual fundraiser and provides critical operating support for the Center and its educational programming. In addition to the awards presentation and live entertainment at the luncheon, Gantt Center leaders will review the year's key accomplishments and share the institution's impact on the Charlotte community.

Since 2010, master wood turner Charles Farrar has designed and crafted the wooden vessels that honor Gantt Center Legacy Award recipients. Farrar – whose work is now included in the White House art collection – uses the properties of wood to summon forth classical and non-classical forms of finely finished surfaces and designs each vessel to reflect the recipient's unique life story.

Traditionally held the first week of December, the 2012 luncheon has been moved one week earlier. Registration, also earlier this year, will begin at 11:00 am. Lunch follows at 11:30 am. Individual seats and table purchases are available online at [www.ganttcenter.org](http://www.ganttcenter.org); by phone at 704.547.3700; or in person at the Center. Organizations and corporations may contact Gantt Center Director of Advancement, Tiffany L. Graham at 704.547.3700, for sponsorship opportunities.

"We are focused on our mission to present the best of African American arts, culture and history through our exhibitions and programming. As we celebrate leaders in the arts, it is essential that we also strengthen community support so that we can continue to entertain and educate the scores of children and adults who enter our doors," concludes Taylor.

#### ABOUT HARVEY B. GANTT CENTER FOR AFRICAN-AMERICAN ARTS + CULTURE

Founded in 1974, Charlotte's Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture (formerly the Afro-American Cultural Center) exists to present, preserve and celebrate the art, history and culture of African-Americans and those of African descent through dance, music, visual and literary arts, film, educational programs, theatre productions and community outreach. Named for Harvey B. Gantt, the prominent Charlotte architect and community leader and former Mayor of Charlotte, the Center is housed in an inspired and distinguished award-winning structure and is home to the nationally celebrated John and Vivian Hewitt Collection of African-American art. To learn more, please visit [www.ganttcenter.org](http://www.ganttcenter.org).