PRESS RELEASE January 4, 2010

The Arts Council, Inc. 80 E. Ocean Blvd., Stuart, FL 34994 Nancy Turrell – (772) 287-6676 X 14

Event: Howard Schafer: Journey of a Marine Artist

When: January 15, 2010

Where: Court House Cultural Center, 80 E. Ocean Blvd., Stuart

Who: The Arts Council, Inc.

Stuart, FL: The Arts Council, serving Stuart and Martin County, will present the artwork of Howard Schafer at an opening reception on Friday, January 15, 2010, from 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., at the Court House Cultural Center, 80 East Ocean Boulevard, Downtown Stuart. During the evening, a recently published book of his works will be signed by the author, Bion B. Bierer. Books will be available to purchase with a portion of the proceeds to benefit programs of the Council.

"We are thrilled to have Howard's images within the walls of our galleries again and we are very proud to help celebrate the release of this book which showcases the rich and rewarding life he led as a marine artist," stated Nancy K. Turrell, executive director of the Arts Council. Within the CHCC, the Martin County Community Foundation gallery features artwork of Florida and the Bahamas, while the Ayres gallery features New England and European images.

On Saturday, January 16 at 11:00 a.m., a lecture by Captain Jim Sharp, an instructor at the world-famous Chapman School of Seamanship, will be presented in the Martin County Community Foundation gallery of the CHCC. Captain Sharp is the author of *With Reckless Abandon, Memoirs of a Boat-Obsessed Life*, and magazine articles, and has cruised under sail and power in the United States and abroad. The lecture is free and open to the public.

The Howard Schafer: Journey of Marine Artist exhibition will continue at the Court House Cultural Center through February 12, 2010. The exhibition is sponsored by the Frances Langford Foundation and the Arts Foundation of Martin County.

The Arts Council is housed in the Court House Cultural Center and serves as the designated local arts agency for Martin County. The Arts Council provides services to visual and performing artists, arts organizations, students and the public and strives to instill a passion for and participation in the arts. For more information, please call 772-287-6676 or visit www.martinarts.org. The Arts Council is sponsored in part by the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council, the National Endowment for the Arts, the City of Stuart, Martin County Board of County Commissioners, and private contributions.

