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**For Immediate Release**

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## **WMPRSA Starts 2009 with Five New Board Members, New President**

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., January 2, 2009**-The West Michigan Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America (WMPRSA) is pleased to welcome five new 2009 Board Members who will begin their three-year terms on January 7, 2009. WMPRSA also welcomes a new president-Andrea Clark, APR, of Amway.

The WMPRSA Board meets monthly to plan educational programs and special events for public relations practitioners, including the annual PRoot Awards that recognize the year's best PR programs, projects, and people in West Michigan. The board also works to advocate for public relations in West Michigan and promote WMPRSA's mission to "help public relations professionals develop and sustain the essential knowledge, skills and standards that will reinforce their integral role in the effective management of organizations."

New WMPRSA board members are:

- Brian Burch (Lambert, Edwards & Associates)
- Molly Klimas, APR (Intent Public Relations)
- Juanita Smith (Priority Health)
- Kate Washburn, APR (Wondergem Consulting)
- Katie Woodruff, APR (Katie Woodruff Communications)

WMPRSA board officers for 2009 are:

- President-Andrea Clark, APR (Amway)
- President-Elect-Robin Luymes, APR (Amway Global)
- Secretary-Derek DeVries (Grand Rapids Community College)
- Treasurer-Jennifer Ranville (Fifth Third Bank)
- Past President-Tim Pietryga (Consumers Energy)

Also continuing their terms on the 2009 WMPRSA board are Andrea Groom, APR (Wondergem Consulting), Roberta King, APR (Grand Rapids Community Foundation), Susan Koole (Herman Miller, Inc.), Lindsey Rodarmer (Zondervan, Zonderkidz division), and Latricia Trice (Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce).

\*For photos of board members, please contact Lindsey Rodarmer, (616) 698-3332 or [Lindsey.Rodarmer@zondervan.com](mailto:Lindsey.Rodarmer@zondervan.com)

### **About WMPRSA**

The West Michigan Chapter is comprised of nearly 150 PRSA members living within the western half of the lower peninsula of Michigan, from Benton Harbor to Traverse City. Its mission is to help public relations professionals develop and sustain the essential knowledge, skills and standards that will reinforce their integral role in the effective management of organizations. Learn more by contacting WMPRSA at (616) 308-5433 or by visiting [www.wmprsa.org](http://www.wmprsa.org).

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