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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Beyond Benign Brings Green Chemistry, Science Education to Life at Gala Open House, Nov. 5

Nonprofit group welcomes public to experience unique art and science workshops, exhibitions and entertainment that showcase its focus on green chemistry and sustainable science education

WILMINGTON, Mass., Oct. 22, 2009 – Beyond Benign, a nonprofit organization that provides science education programs built on the principles of green chemistry for a sustainable future, is holding the first public open house at its new facility here on Thursday, Nov. 5, from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm.

Business leaders, educators and the general community are invited to unite around a common theme of *“Creating a Sustainable Future through Green Chemistry Education.”* The evening will feature activities that demonstrate state-of-the-art green chemistry technologies and activities that merge art and science in a creative, entertaining fashion. Dr. John Warner, global green chemistry leader, author and founder of [Beyond Benign](#) and the [Warner Babcock Institute for Green Chemistry](#), will lead an exhibit and talk. An RSVP-only tour of the Warner Babcock facilities, featuring the first-of-its-kind research facility dedicated solely to green chemistry innovation and research, will take place from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm.

“Our society is bombarded with ‘green’ causes relative to energy conservation, the environment, recycling and many worthy causes,” says Amy Cannon, executive director of Beyond Benign. “But the best way to ensure our sustainable future is by embracing the core principles of green chemistry, and we would like to make people aware of this. We view the Open House as a great opportunity to increase awareness of all aspects of green chemistry, and motivate leaders in business, government, education and the general community to find common ground and a desire support our work.”

Beyond Benign’s outreach and curriculum programs help increase science literacy and inspire future scientists to help save the world. Driven by the [12 Principles of Green Chemistry](#), a universal sustainable approach to any science, Beyond Benign creates tools, opportunities and partnerships to support the implementation of community involvement initiatives, workplace training, cooperative programs and K-12 education resources. It develops and conducts classroom visit programs for K-12 students as well science education curriculum development and teacher training programs for middle schools and high schools. There also is a Green Chemistry Fellowship Program linking college student mentors with K-12 classrooms. Since 2007, Beyond Benign has worked with more than 30 school systems in Greater Boston and New Hampshire.

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Art and Science Come Together

The Open House will feature an entertaining blend of art and science workshops, exhibitions, music and food. As part of Beyond Benign's new art and science program, Resident Artist Jerry Beck has curated a show entitled "Tale from Test Tubes: The Mixing of Art and Science." This group exhibition explores a wide-range ideas, strategies, mediums and expressions that serve as catalysts between these interconnected realms.

There will also be a display of artworks made by middle and high school students from the Innovation Academy Charter School, Tyngsboro, Mass. Responding to different green chemistry slogans, students have created images of how they represent a better future for themselves and the planet. Another exciting interactive art and science opportunity will be the "Giant Lab," which includes large-scale chemistry equipment in which the public will create art and learn about the art of green chemistry. Music will be performed by Squeaky Hinges String Band

In addition to the Warner Babcock Institute for Green Chemistry, key Beyond Benign partners and contributors include:

- Pfizer
- Biomimicry Institute
- Strem Chemicals, Inc.
- Guiding Green
- Fisher Science Education
- Advancing Green Chemistry
- Quincy (Mass.) High School
- Green Schools

For more information on the Open House, contact Kate Anderson at (978) 229-5456 or email info@beyondbenign.org.

About Beyond Benign

Beyond Benign was created by Dr. John Warner, a founder of the field of green chemistry, to provide an approach and means for scientists, particularly those involved in green chemistry and sustainable science, to reach out to the public. Guided by the belief that all scientists should be able to explain their research in a simple and meaningful manner to people from all backgrounds and of all ages, Dr. Warner's vision is to increase public awareness and understanding of science in general and specifically of the relationships between chemistry, human health and the environment.

In August 2007, Beyond Benign was incorporated as an independent non-profit organization. Building on the relationships established with community members and schools in the Greater Boston area, the organization has expanded the community outreach efforts to include curriculum development and teacher training for K-12 educators.

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