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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## Chamber Sponsors Business Leaders Mission to China in April 2009

China, a 5,000-year-old civilization, has always been one of the most exotic and intriguing destinations for travelers. Its rich cultural heritage – which includes the invention of moveable type, astronomy and spaghetti – has shaped world history. Today, China is an economic powerhouse that will continue to shape the world's future. Its unique business systems are ever evolving; its influence on the global markets grows daily. Any true understanding of China must encompass both its cultural history and its contemporary position as a business leader.

The Greater Akron Chamber is proud to offer its members, family and friends an opportunity to immerse themselves in the study of both the culture and business life of this unique country. The nine-day excursion, from April 13-21, 2009, promises to be the educational adventure of a lifetime. Under the guidance of Citslinc International Inc., the Chamber has designed this trip to include not only sightseeing at some of the world's most famous landmarks – including the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, the Forbidden City and the Ming Emperor's tombs – but also the country's centers of commerce. Participants will visit not only Beijing, the capital and home to the most recent Olympics, but also Suzhou, Hangzhou and Shanghai, the mainland's financial and business center. There, travelers will tour the Pudong Economic Development Zone to learn about the manufacturing and financial models that fuel its worldwide success.

This 9-day tour is only \$1,899 per person (based on double occupancy). The price includes round-trip airfare from JFK airport, three full meals a day, English-speaking tour guides, 4-star and 5-star hotel accommodations, fees for all attractions, and any applicable taxes. Once in China, your personal group tour guide will describe optional trips, which are available at a moderate additional cost.

The registration deadline is December 2, 2008. Your registration must include your non-refundable fee of \$200, payable only by check, which will be deducted from your \$1,899 fare. A current passport, valid through October 21, 2009, and a Chinese Visa are required. Although each traveler may obtain his or her own Visa, we recommend that you allow the Greater Akron Chamber to work through Citslinc professionals to finalize and approve your Visa application for an additional fee of \$165.

An invaluable pre-trip orientation briefing is scheduled for Monday, November 3, 2008, from 4:30-6 p.m., at the downtown Akron-Summit County Public Library meeting room. Please direct any questions to Tony Rinella at (330) 237-1250 [rinella@greaterakronchamber.org](mailto:rinella@greaterakronchamber.org) or Becky Guzy at (330) 237-1227 [guzy@greaterakronchamber.org](mailto:guzy@greaterakronchamber.org).

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***The mission of the Greater Akron Chamber is to drive economic development and prosperity for the people of the Greater Akron Region.***

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