



**The ESOP Association** *News Release*  
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## **Herff Jones Named 2009 Employee Ownership Month Poster Contest Winner**

**May 6, 2009 (Washington, DC)** – Herff Jones, Inc., an employee-owned company located in Indianapolis, Indiana, has been selected by The ESOP Association as its 2009 Employee Ownership Month Poster Contest Winner. The winning poster design was unveiled at the Association’s 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference in Washington, DC in front of 250 guests. The ESOP Association is the national trade association for companies with employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs) and the leading voice in America for employee ownership.

Herff Jones, Inc. is an Indianapolis based manufacturer of motivational and recognition products with 17 production facilities throughout the U.S. and Canada. Since 1920, Herff Jones, Inc. has been honoring tradition, achievement, and milestones in life with custom designed class rings, medals, awards, yearbooks, and curriculum programs. The company became an ESOP in 1989 and is 100% employee owned today.

Herff Jones’s poster was selected because of the idea it expressed: “Proud employee owners are successful employee owners!” The poster will be used by the Association to promote employee ownership month, which takes place every October and is a celebration of the incredible spirit of employee ownership.

This is the second win for Herff Jones in the annual poster contest. The company also designed the winning poster in 2007.

The core cause of The ESOP Association is the belief that employee ownership will improve American competitiveness, increase productivity through greater employee participation, and strengthen our free enterprise economy.

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