For Immediate Release June 5, 2009

Contact: Ryan Smith rsmith@visitraleigh.com (919) 645-2676

Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau Launches GLBT Website on visitRaleigh.com

Travelers Can Find Information on Hotels, Attractions, Dining and Entertainment

Raleigh, NC – Dynamic. Smart. Unexpected. Celebratory. These are just a few of the attributes visitors use to describe North Carolina's Capital City and there's never been a better time to discover our area, especially if you're a GLBT visitor. The Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau has made your vacation planning simple with a dedicated microsite on <u>www.visitRaleigh.com</u> containing specific information relevant to GLBT travelers.

Branded with a modernized rainbow version of an acorn, the traditional historic symbol of Raleigh, the City of Oaks, the site offers comprehensive listings of hotels, restaurants, shopping options, attractions, faith communities and an events calendar. From the portal, visitors can also make online travel reservations through Travelocity.

If you're not familiar with Greater Raleigh, our environment is lively, uniquely welcoming and friendly for all, and has been ranked "a capital city for GLBT communities" by gaydata.com. Whether it's an award naming the area one of the country's Best Places for Singles, Best Place to Do Business or Best City to Live, Work and Play, the Raleigh area extends a welcoming, vibrant and diverse environment to more than 10 million visitors a year.

Trendy restaurants on tree lined streets and cutting-edge culture with Southern charm give Greater Raleigh a "hip without the hassle" demeanor. Best known for its world-class museums, 25 free attractions, ballet, symphony, theatre and opera companies, live concerts, Capital area historic sites, festivals, sporting events and shopping in 11-major retail destinations; Greater Raleigh offers a variety of entertainment, all in a scenic park-like setting.

The area is a perfect starting point for any statewide adventure. Located centrally on the East Coast, half-way between New York and Florida, the location is convenient for trips to the beautiful beaches of North Carolina's Outer Banks, to the scenic Blue Ridge Mountains to the west or to the "Home of American Golf" to the south in Pinehurst.

The Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau, as the official destination and marketing organization of Raleigh and Wake County, accelerates sustainable economic growth and development by increasing visitor and convention business. Through its website <u>www.visitRaleigh.com</u> and other tools, the GRCVB assist local visitors in a variety of ways.