



PRESS RELEASE

For more information:

Media Inquiries: info@madhousefl.com
Arlene Segovia @ 786-393-8955

LocalShops1.com Recognized by Creative Loafing with a Loafies Award: Best of the Bay “Best Voice for Local Business”



Tampa, FL (September 20, 2010) - LocalShops1.com and its founder, Ester Venouziou, recently received the Best of the Bay award for Best Voice for Local Businesses. "Not only does Ester live the local mentality, she spends her days and nights helping small businesses succeed in a tough economy," said the editors of Creative Loafing, which presented the award on September 15 and published the list of winners the next day in a special edition of the newspaper.

"She's working hard to rally the spirit of shoppers to buy local and business owners to support each other, and the small businesses of the area owe her a debt of gratitude" The award is a huge honor for LocalShops1.com, a grassroots effort founded just two years ago that has already become the area's largest network of independent businesses and independent-minded shoppers.

"We're extremely excited that LocalShops1.com is recognized by one of the area's top newspapers," Venouziou said. "We'd love to thank all the editors and readers who voted for us, and the Tampa Bay community for being so supportive the past two years." Venouziou recognized the efforts Creative Loafing extends daily on local businesses, especially for putting the spotlight on local businesses with the awards, thus increasing awareness of the unique shops located in the local community. Venouziou exclaims, "Shopping locally makes a difference!" In November, LocalShops1.com is planning its biggest event ever, Shopapalooza, the ultimate shopping experience on November 20th at BayWalk in St. Petersburg that will kick off the holiday shopping season. The event is just another effort to present the multitude of small business owner goods and services available to the shoppers in the Tampa Bay Area.

About LocalShops1.com

LocalShops1.com features Tampa Bay's most comprehensive directory of independent businesses and a shopping card, the 1Card, that offers discounts at more than 125 member businesses. The company also organizes networking meetings, store promotions and community events. The company launched a branch in Gainesville September 2010. Venouziou is available for media interviews.

About the agency

MAD House, Inc. is a full-service advertising and marketing agency with a specialization within the U.S. Hispanic market and focusing on small to mid-size companies. Services include printing and promotional items. MAD House, Inc. is based in Tampa, Florida. For more information, visit www.madhousefl.com.