FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Innovators, Leaders Inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame for their Impact on the Automobile

Detroit, Mich. – July 1, 2013 – After 74 years, the Automotive Hall of Fame continues to celebrate automotive achievement around the world. Following in this spirit, attendees of the 2013 Automotive Hall of Fame Induction & Awards Ceremony (July 25) will recognize nine trailblazers, pioneers and leaders for their influence on the industry.

Hosted by RM Auctions at the Inn at St. John’s in Plymouth, Mich., the ceremony will award those who have made a significant impact on the automobile. Honorees are selected by the Awards Committee and approved by the Board of Directors.

Re-Induction (first ever re-induction in Automotive Hall of Fame history)
• Harley J. Earl – on the 60th anniversary of the first Chevrolet Corvette, Earl will once again be recognized for his contribution to the development of this iconic American sports car.

Induction
• Dr. David E. Cole – the chairman emeritus of the Center for Automotive Research (CAR) is celebrated for his extensive work on internal combustion engines, vehicle design and overall automotive industry trends.
• Robert A. Lutz – the retired General Motors vice chairman is honored for putting his fingerprints on countless vehicles through his work with GM, Opel, BMW AG, Ford of Europe, Ford North America, and Chrysler.
• Lionel Martin and Robert Bamford – The Aston Martin founders are acknowledged for their development of an iconic brand synonymous with luxury and elegance.
• Sir John Y. “Jackie” Stewart OBE – recognized as one of the greatest motor racing personalities of all times.

Distinguished Service Citation
• Bo Andersson – The president and CEO of GAZ Group in Russia is credited with achieving the best financial results in the company’s history, renewing over 75% of their product range in just 3 years, retaining leadership in the commercial vehicle market through Russia’s entry into the World Trade Organization, and launching contract manufacture of multiple vehicles with leading international auto makers.
• Neal De Koker – the founding president and CEO of the Original Equipment Suppliers Association (OESA) is acknowledged for his role as an industry expert on issues facing the automotive industry with emphasis on customer-supplier relations.
• James McElya – the president and CEO of Cooper-Standard Automotive is known for succeeding through major structural changes in the automotive supplier industry, unstable markets, and momentous technology shifts – all while dedicating his time to charity included the Jim and Jane McElya Charitable Trust, a foundation focused on children.

Young Leader & Excellence Award
• Lapo E. Elkann – Elkann, recognized as an Italian industrialist and creative entrepreneur, is president and founder of Italia Independent Group, with companies involved in lifestyle branding and advertising, and previously served as director of brand promotions for Fiat Group. Along with his two siblings, Lapo Elkann is the majority shareholder of Exor, the Fiat Group holding company. He is a descendent of Giovanni Agnelli, the founder of Fiat in 1899.
For more information or to purchase tickets visit: http://www.automotivehalloffame.org/event/2013-automotive-hall-of-fame-induction-awards-ceremony-hosted-by-rm-auctions

About Automotive Hall of Fame
The Automotive Hall of Fame celebrates the men and women whose automotive innovations changed the world and revolutionized our way of life. Originally called the Automobile Old Timers, its mission was to perpetuate the memories of the early auto pioneers. Achievement in the automotive industry is recognized through four award categories: Automotive Hall of Fame Induction, Distinguished Service Citation, Young Leadership & Excellence Award and Industry Leader of the Year. The Automotive Hall of Fame will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 2014.

CONTACT:
William R. Chapin
Automotive Hall of Fame
21400 Oakwood Blvd.
Dearborn, MI 48124
(o) 313 240 4000
(m) 313 720 9982
bchapin@thedriverspirit.org