



The State Organization
on Arts and Disability

NEWS RELEASE

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The 9th Annual ArtPartners Live Auction & Showcase Benefiting VSA Alabama – August 21, 2011

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. -- VSA Alabama hosts the 9th Annual ArtPartners Live Auction and Showcase on August 21, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. at B & A Warehouse. The event features a live and silent auction of collaborative works of art created by community artists and individuals with chronic illnesses and disabilities.

ArtPartners, developed in 2003, is VSA Alabama's signature mentoring program. Its mission is to provide a socially inclusive environment where local community artists and VSA emerging artists with chronic illnesses and disabilities can engage in meaningful relationship building through direct one-to-one engagement in the creative arts.

Throughout the fall and spring, community artists work one on one with children and adults with chronic illnesses and disabilities to create masterpieces together. The program culminates with the ArtPartners Live Auction and Showcase, featuring these colorful and whimsical collaborative works.

The ArtPartners Live Auction and Showcase features a live auction by Guin Robinson with approximately 25 pieces of collaborative art from ArtPartners studio time. An additional 150 pieces of art will be featured in the silent auction. NBC 13's Bettina Boateng will be the event's guest emcee. Attendees will also enjoy live music performed by the Neo Jazz Trio, wine and great food. Funds raised at the ArtPartners Live Auction and Showcase enable VSA Alabama to continue providing opportunities in the arts to children and adults with chronic illnesses and disabilities.

A Preview Party and Artists' Celebration will also be held on August 14 at the CVS Headquarters in Bessemer. VSA Alabama will celebrate the talents of this year's ArtPartners program during the Preview Party. Each piece of art and their collaborators will be personally recognized and celebrated.

The 2011 VSA Alabama ArtPartners Planning Committee includes Katherine Barr: Event Chair, Jennifer Lyles: Event Co-Chair, Bettina Boateng, David Corliss, Veronica Denson, Ellen Durham, Jennifer Ellison, Wyona Hamby, Jan Hitchcock Hofman, Jim Prestwood, Suzanne Respass, Meagan Vucovich, and Michael Woolley

Tickets to the ArtPartners Live Auction and Showcase are \$100 each or \$150 for each pair and may be purchased at the door, by phone 205-307-6300, or by visiting ArtPartners2011.eventbrite.com. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For additional information, please call Meagan Vucovich, Project Coordinator at 205-307-6300 ext. 12, send e-mail to Meagan@vsaalabama.org or visit www.vsaalabama.org

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