



Press Release: For Immediate Release – Friday, June 3, 2011

Art & Soul Featured Artists

The 9th Annual Art & Soul Charity Auction is a partnership with artists who care deeply about our community and support the mission of the National Center for Children and Families (NCCF). These artists contribute their most valuable gift to the community: their artistic expression.

NCCF's 9th Annual
Art & Soul Charity Auction

Friday, June 3, 2011
6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

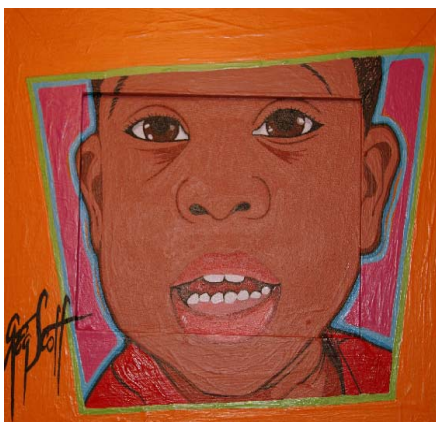
Silver Spring Civic Building
One Veteran's Plaza
Silver Spring, MD 20902

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Gregory Scott who currently resides in Upper Marlboro, MD is one of the three artists who are featured in this year's Art & Soul Charity Auction. When asked what inspires him, Mr. Scott replied, "I am inspired by...children, music, fashion, people, love and pop culture."

Gregory Scott – "Our Children...Our World"



Mr. Scott's true care and concern for children and youth in our community is exemplified through his decade long career at the Children's National Medical Center as the Gallery and Exhibit Coordinator for Children's Art Programs and Acquisitions/New Horizons, and his willingness to donate and volunteer at numerous youth programs and organizations.

"Seeing children go through health issues and be able to go through it;

seeing another human being feel good about themselves or seeing a child complete a goal...that's the best feeling in the world."

Ruth Ostrander "Mountain White Water"



Ruth Ostrander of Deale, Maryland, another of the event's featured artists, notes that her inspiration stemmed from her childhood memories of summers spent on the rocky shores and islands of beautiful northern Japan. "I know that the many years of living in the Orient have influenced my paintings because I naturally strive for simplicity and serenity in my work."

Ruth wishes she had been encouraged to pursue her heartfelt desires to draw and paint at a younger age. Her advice to young and upcoming artists is to, "Figure out ways to do art any way you can, even if there are no adults around that value art."

Matthew Clark - "In Flight"



Each artist participating in NCCF's auction has shown a willingness and enthusiasm to share their artwork on behalf of vulnerable children and youth. Matthew Clark, of Silver Spring, Maryland, explains, "My little sister was adopted, so I feel a connection to vulnerable children through her. Also, being the father of three children (ages 3, 2, and 4-months-old), and a stay-at-home Dad, I spend a lot of time with children. As a result, much of my artwork is influenced by children and hopefully appeals to them."

Mr. Clark encourages all young artists to "...make plans to keep it (art) a part of your life. Whether or not you become a full-time artist, you should decide on a career path that will reinforce that aspect of your nature."

The National Center for Children and Families (NCCF®) is a private, nonprofit agency committed to serving vulnerable children, youth, and families in the national capital area for nearly a century. NCCF's 13 programs address diverse human needs of more than 3,000 individuals, including nearly 400 foster children and youth each year. Visit us online at www.nccf-cares.org.

For additional information on the featured artists, contact Alisha Matlock at 301-365-4480, extension 113 or amatlock@nccf-cares.org

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