



## **INAUGURAL UNITE WITH ART AUCTION AND GALA**

### **MORE THAN \$275,000 RAISED FOR UNICEF CANADA'S UNITE FOR CHILDREN, UNITE AGAINST AIDS CAMPAIGN!**

**Vancouver, BC** – June 25, 2008 - The inaugural Unite with Art Auction and Gala held Saturday, June 21 at the Rocky Mountaineer Station, was a huge success, raising \$276,523 for UNICEF Canada's Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS campaign.

This spectacular evening of art and advocacy featured more than 77 donated works of art from internationally acclaimed artists including Bill Reid, Fred Herzog, Chris Jordan, Gabryel Harrison, and Tiko Kerr, among others. The summer solstice evening also included live Jazz, Violinist Rosemary Siemens, and the Kunaka Youthful Marimba Players & the Miyanda dancers. Exceptional culinary delights were donated by some of Vancouver's finest restaurants and Chefs such as Chow, David Hawksworth, Glowbal, and Vij's.

"I am overwhelmed by the generosity of everyone at this event," says Shirley Kepper, Executive Director, UNICEF Canada BC and Yukon. "From the artists and galleries who donated these amazing works of art, to the volunteers, sponsors and art collectors who attended the event, everyone really pulled together to support this important cause."

More than 300 of the city's art collectors feverishly bid on one of the most exciting contemporary collections of donated artwork in Vancouver's history. The event was the brainchild of Alison Lawton, Chair of UNICEF's Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS campaign, and Arthouse gallery Director Julie Lee, Executive Director, Unite with Art. Together they filled the Rocky Mountaineer Station with stunning art, divine food and an incredible guest list.

One hundred percent of the art proceeds raised at the Unite with Art Auction and Gala will benefit UNICEF Canada's Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS campaign, which is the largest campaign ever initiated to bring attention to the global impact that HIV/AIDS has on children and youth. For more information visit [www.unitewithart.com](http://www.unitewithart.com) and [www.uniteforchildren.ca](http://www.uniteforchildren.ca). Stay tuned for future details on other dates and cities on the Canadian Unite With Art tour.

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Debra Walley  
Curve Communications  
T: 604.684.3170 ext. 113  
C: 604.727.2954  
E: [deb@curvecommunications.com](mailto:deb@curvecommunications.com)