



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **UNICEF Announces 3<sup>rd</sup> Unite with Art Auction**

*Gala evening of contemporary art and design will raise funds for UNICEF Canada's  
Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS campaign*

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Unite With Art Auction and Gala to be held on Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010
- Proceeds raised to benefit UNICEF's Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS campaign
- More than \$330,000 has been raised to date
- 90+ works of contemporary art, fashion and design will be up for auction, including works by renowned artists Robert Davidson, Joe Fafard, Graham Gillmore, Gabryel Harrison, Fred Herzog, Danny Singer and local designers Obakki, Inform Interiors, John Fluevog, Omer Arbel and Corrine Hunt, the co-designer of the 2010 Winter Games Olympic Medals
- Public preview of silent & live auction art May 31–June 2, 9am – 5pm at Maynards Auction House, 1837 Main St.

**Vancouver, BC – May 19, 2010** – In a continued effort to protect children around the world from HIV/AIDS, the Vancouver arts community will come together on Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Unite with Art event to raise funds to benefit UNICEF's Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS campaign. The gala event and art auction, to be held at the newly opened Maynards Auction House on Main Street, will feature 90+ works of contemporary art, fashion and design. Proceeds from the live and silent auctions will be donated to UNICEF.

This will be the third Unite with Art auction and gala event to benefit UNICEF's Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS campaign. Unite with Art executive director Julie Lee is confident that this year's auction will be another successful endeavour to assist UNICEF in its global mandate to serve the 2 million children under the age of 15 who live with HIV.

"When the Vancouver arts community is united for a cause, there is no limit to what we can do," said Lee. "Through the generosity of artists, supporters and sponsors who come together each year for Unite with Art, we are helping UNICEF to better the lives of children worldwide,"

The Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS campaign's mandate is to fight against this pandemic by supporting, caring, protecting, and supplying treatment to millions of children and adolescents. These children have fallen victim to this deadly disease the world over, reaching from sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Europe, the former Soviet Union, Asia, to the Americas. The impact is devastating, but there has been progress made: UNICEF reports that nearly half of pregnant women worldwide (up from 10 per cent in 2004) now have access to antiretroviral treatment to prevent mother-to-child transmission of HIV. Continued efforts to expand health care services and prevention measures will enable UNICEF to achieve a goal that will see a future generation of children living in an AIDS free world.

"Events like Unite with Art play an integral role in the fight against this global pandemic," said Alison Lawton, Chair of Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS for UNICEF Canada. "Art has the power to transcend cultures, boundaries and borders. Working with both sides –with the arts community and UNICEF – I have been privileged to see first-hand the impact a local initiative can have on a global effort."

A public preview of the works to be featured in the contemporary art auction will be held at Maynards from May 31 – June 2. Absentee bid ballots will also be available for those unable to attend the gala on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.



"Maynards is proud to be taking on a more significant role in our support of Unite with Art this year," said Barry Scott, President of Maynards Fine Arts and Antiques. "We have been long time supporters of UNICEF, and Unite with Art is a unique and wonderful way to connect art lovers with the organization in their ongoing efforts to secure the rights of all children. The Vancouver art market is strong and healthy right now and we're looking forward to another exciting auction."

#### **About Unite with Art**

Launched in 2008 by Julie Lee and Alison Lawton, Unite with Art has become Vancouver's premier contemporary art auction and gala event. Through the generosity of artists, sponsors and supporters, over \$330,000 has been raised over the past two years for UNICEF's Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS. For more information and to view this year's live and silent auction items, visit [www.unitewithart.com](http://www.unitewithart.com). Join Unite with Art on Facebook or on Twitter @unitewithart

#### **About Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS**

In 2005 Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS was launched as a global Call to Action to all those working to protect children from the impact of HIV and AIDS. The campaign aims to provide support, care, protection and treatment to millions of children afflicted with HIV/AIDS. The campaign calls for the next generation to be AIDS-free. Unite for Children, Unite against AIDS aims halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV and AIDS by 2015 by advocating for and focusing on the following goals – the Four Ps:

- P1 - Prevent mother-to-child HIV transmission
  - P2 - Provide paediatric treatment
  - P3 - Prevent infection among adolescents and young people
  - P4 - Protect and support children affected by HIV and AIDS
- For more information, visit [www.uniteforchildren.org](http://www.uniteforchildren.org)

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> Unite with Art Auction and Gala**

Date: Thursday, June 3, 2010 - Silent Auction: 6 pm / Live Auction: 8 pm

Venue: Maynards Auction House, 1837 Main Street, Vancouver

Outstanding offerings and luscious libations from Wild Rice, Habit, Nuba, 12b, Revel and The Refinery.

Desert by Daniel Le Chocolat Belge and Les Amis Du Fromage

Entertainment from Ali Milner and Alpha Yaya Diallo.

Tickets: \$200 at [www.unitewithart.com](http://www.unitewithart.com) or call UNICEF at 604.874.3666 ext. 8124

Presented in partnership with Zeidler Partnership Architects, Mindset Foundation, Bear Mountain Golf Resort Properties, Maynards Fine Art and Antiques, Vancouver Sun and Hartwig Industries

#### **Public viewing of silent & live auction works**

Dates: Monday, May 31 – Wednesday, June 2, 9 am – 5 pm

Venue: Maynards Auction House, 1837 Main Street, Vancouver

Absentee bid ballots will be available.

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