

## The Artists' Invitational Silent Auction

*The Artists' Invitational* features works in a wide variety of medium. The artists are regionally, nationally, and internationally recognized. We have asked the artists for a piece that reflects their best work in the medium they most prefer. Thus, all the artists who have works on display here tonight have given us a glimpse into their personal vision and creativity. Many of the contributing artists are among our guests at the event, so please take a moment to thank them personally for sharing their talents with us. All works contributed to The Artists' Invitational will be showcased and sold in a Silent Auction format throughout the evening. High bidders are asked to pay for and take home their artwork at the end of the evening.

### The Artists

**KAREN BAKKE**, who holds a B.F.A. and M.F.A. in design, works successfully in a wide variety of media. She is a jeweler and silversmith and works in handmade paper. Karen teaches textile design and interior design rendering classes at Syracuse University, where she is the chair of the Department of Environmental Arts, Consumer Studies and Retailing. She does calligraphy and illumination and collects 19th and 20th century antiques. Her work has been shown extensively and is marked by a strong sense of composition and color.

**WENDY KISLIK BLANCK** has been creating art objects since high school. She was trained in jewelry making and expanded into other mediums including fused glass. She loves creating one-of-a-kind pieces. and exploring how different color glass combines and how to manipulate shapes. She also loves vibrant colors and sparkling glass which she tries to include in most of her work. Wendy looks at art as creating order from chaos. Fused glass is a lengthy process. Precision glass cutting is challenging the fusing phase can take 10 to 30 hours, and each piece is fused a minimum of two times. The glass is heated to between 1200 and 1500 degrees, and it is necessary to heat and cool the glass slowly to avoid cracking.

**WILLIAM CHURCH** holds an associate's degree in mechanical engineering. For the past 19 years, he has been self-employed as an artist/artisan with his wife and business partner, Barbara Updike. He has worked with bronze, copper, steel, stone, concrete, wood, stained glass, photography, and acrylic paint, and enjoys the challenge of new mediums. His work is in many homes and businesses from New York to Colorado.

**HALL GROAT SR.** was born in Syracuse at the end of the depression, and learned at an early age how to be independent. Growing up in a family business, he gravitated toward sales. At five years old, his neighbors became his first customers. He was a product of Edward Smith, Nottingham, and Central High Schools, where he began his art studies. On his 20th birthday, he was drafted and served as a combat rifleman in Korea.

Two years later, he entered Syracuse University as an art major, graduating in 1959. After five years working in commercial art, he gravitated into self-employment as a painter. Forty-five years later, Hall and son Hall II formed a partnership in an international art business, New York Art Collection/Two Generations of American Art. Both men have traveled the world in search of better ways to serve the demand for their art and educational programs. In his new book, "They Called Me the Brush-Slinger / The Business of Art," released in January 2012, Hall discusses his 45-year venture in self-employment as an artist. Learn more about Hall on his website, [www.hallgroat.com](http://www.hallgroat.com).

**HALL GROAT II**, professor of fine and media arts at Broome Community College, teaches foundation courses in painting, drawing, color theory, and computer graphics. Groat has a bachelor of arts in art history, with a minor in studio art, from Binghamton University, and attended graduate and certificate programs at Buffalo State College, Syracuse University, and Savannah College of Art and Design. He also attended summer sessions at Chautauqua School of Art, Chautauqua, N.Y., and Vermont Studio Center in Johnson, Vt. He also earned a master of fine arts degree in painting and drawing from City University of New York at Brooklyn. Groat has had one-person exhibitions at Everson Museum of Art, Roberson Museum of Art, Finger Lakes Community College, Cazenovia College, Jasper Rand Art Museum, Le Moyne College, Wadsworth Athenaeum Museum of Art, and Washington and Jefferson College and has participated in dozens of group shows throughout the United States. In 2004, Groat was included in the Roberson Museum Center's exhibition, "The Cosmos and Chaos: a Cultural Paradox," with artists Lucian Freud, Eric Fischl, Jerome Witkin and other contemporary artists. His work is included in international private and public collections, including those of Michael Douglas and Catherine Zeta Jones, Clear Channel Communications, Bristol-Myers Squibb, Cellular One, House and Garden, LTD., Sheraton Hotel Corporation, Binghamton University, Everson Museum of Art, Munson-Williams Proctor Institute of Art, The State University of New York system, Roberson Museum and Science Center and Washington Jefferson College.

**JEANNE HOLSTEIN** has been the Middle School art teacher at Manlius Pebble Hill for 18 years. She studied painting in Sienna, Italy and received her B.A. from The University of Buffalo. She has a M.S. in art education from Syracuse University and is an elected member of The New York State Academy for Teaching and Learning. Jeanne is primarily a watercolor artist, but also enjoys using handmade paper in her paintings. Her most recent inspiration comes from her frequent trips to the beautiful Caribbean island of St. John. She has contributed many paintings to charity auctions throughout Upstate New York and is very pleased to be part of The MPH Artists' Invitational this year.

**MARGIE HUGHTO**, beginning with her early studies at Cranbrook Academy of Art, has examined ceramics in a non-traditional format, finding her métier in the slab or wall-mural format. Former Everson curator Peter Doroshenko called Margie "a unique and paradoxical artist." Her work is characterized by shifts in color, shape, and style. It includes references to landscape and to painterly and natural abstraction. Her works are alternatively monumental and intimate in scale, mute and garish in color, objectively descriptive and purely abstract in subject matter; her glaze application can be flat and

smooth or thickly built up. Having received an undergraduate degree in art education from SUNY Buffalo and an M.F.A. in ceramics from Cranbrook, in 1971 she joined the faculty of Syracuse University where she continues to teach ceramics. In recent years, Hughto has undertaken a number of public-space commissions, including large-scale ceramic installations for the New York City and Buffalo subway systems. Her work has been exhibited internationally and is counted in the collections of major American corporations and museums. She also was a 2001 recipient of a Tiffany Grant. Margie just completed 12 murals at the Ground Zero site in New York City and will have an assortment of work on display as part of the new Syracuse Central Transfer Hub in June. Margie will be opening her studio to the public on May 19, 20, 26 and 27 for a show to include unique objects and art for the home and garden, in addition to beautiful jewelry, hand-made cards and paper art inspired by the summer landscape.

**DRAYON JONES '60C**, a Fayetteville, N.Y. resident, is an active member of the Cazenovia Watercolor Society, participates in local shows, including Saint Davids and The Dark Isle at Lorenzo and teaches various workshops. Recently, he became a Signature Member of Watercolor West, a nationally recognized watercolor society. He has studied under Nicora Gangi, a nationally award-winning pastel artist. Gangi says "Drayton Jones' sensitive style of expression, through the medium of watercolor , poetically captures the drama of natural light on his subject matter, whether it be the soft rolling hills of Central New York or the tranquil beauty of our surrounding lakes." Jones also received acclaim by Syracuse Post-Standard writer, Katherine Rushworth, who declared in a June 2007 article, "One of the highlights in the show was discovering the work of Drayton Jones. His style is reminiscent of the great American watercolorist John Marin, but Jones is crisper and less abstract in his approach." Ms. Rushworth called his work "fluid, bold and "daring."

**ALEX KOZIARA** is a scenic and lighting designer for theatre, opera, dance, and corporate communications. With an international career spanning 30 years, recent designs include two operas for The Maggio Musicale Opera in Florence, Italy and regional productions for Syracuse Opera, Syracuse Stage, Syracuse Drama, Merry Go Round Playhouse, and the Gifford Family Theatre. He holds an M.F.A from SUNY Purchase and is a professor of theatre design and technology at Syracuse University. Alex has been appointed to Syracuse University in Florence, teaching courses in scenography for opera and figure drawing. He created and presently teaches a summer interdisciplinary course entitled, "The Lighting of the Piazza; The Magic of Light in Italy," which investigates the concept of light in Italy through art history, photography, sketching and painting. For the past 11 years, he has taught a course in stagecraft at MPH, in addition to coordinating the technical direction and design for the Upper School musicals, dance concerts and other events.

**PETER SCOTT MACIULEWICZ** resides in the Finger Lakes Region of Upstate New York. He is the son of fine artist Casimir T. Maciulewicz. Being raised in an artistic environment, Peter enjoyed painting as a youth and young adult, but chose to focus his creativity on music, specifically playing jazz bass. He attended Boston's famed Berklee College of Music, and has performed and recorded professionally since 1974. In 2000,

Peter turned his attention back to painting, picking up his brushes to create work that has been described by critics as vibrant and emotive. His work often draws energy and imagery from his love for music. In the design world, Peter is internationally known as the President/ Owner of Mack Studios in Auburn, NY. The company creates displays and retail environments for clients ranging from museums to Fortune 500 companies.

**DAVID MACDONALD** is a professor emeritus of art at Syracuse University, where he has taught since 1971. He received his M.F.A. from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. His creative work spans the entire ceramic spectrum, from earthenware to stoneware and porcelain. His artistic production encompasses utilitarian vessel forms, as well as large sculptural forms. His work is greatly influenced by the celebration of his African heritage, and he is most widely known for his large, intricately carved stoneware plates and platters. David's work is represented in many private and public collections throughout the U.S., including the Everson, the American Crafts Museum, the Afro-American Museum, and the Studio Museum. David was represented in the prestigious national traveling exhibition, "Uncommon Beauty in Common Objects: The Legacy of African American Craft Art," which ended its national tour at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. David has been a featured artist on HGTV's program "Modern Masters" and recently received The National Council on Education in the Ceramic Arts' "Excellence in Teaching Award" in 2010.

**ANTONIA NICOLETTI-EATON '02** graduated from Syracuse University, College of Visual and Performing Arts in 2008 with a B.S. in drama and art history with concentration in ceramics, fiber, languages, and literature. She is currently living in Buffalo, N.Y. with her five cats and is working on her M.A. in comparative literature at The University of Buffalo. She is also a member of the editorial board for the Theory@Buffalo academic journal to be published later this year. In addition to her studies, she has started her own business, Maiden's Fancy Adornments, which is a collection of unique fiber-work, knit, crochet, and woven; kiln-formed glass jewelry and tableware. She is the sole designer and fabricator of each piece and is currently being represented by the Szozda Gallery in Syracuse, N.Y. Gestures Gallery in Rocky River, Ohio, and Penello Gallery in Cleveland, Ohio. Her work has also been shown in Cleveland at the Beachwood Community Center and at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel. Most recently she participated in the Plowshares Craftsfair at Nottingham High School. Her work in fused-glass installations with Streets of Manhattan Studio can be seen at many locations in the greater Cleveland area, including The YWCA, Dante's Restaurant, Ginko Sushi Bar, Lake Hospital, VNA of Hospice, Antonio's Restaurant and Akron Children's Hospital. She has also donated artwork to many organizations including Rainbow Babies Children's Hospital, PBS, Rocky River Junior Women's Club, The Leukemia Foundation, and The American Red Cross.

Artist's Statement: "I am extremely fascinated by the elegance of pattern that surrounds us in the natural world. The vibrancy of color and line as well as the complexity and representation of these things in everything we make and experience is, I find, intrinsically valuable. The materials I use whether glass, fiber, or ceramic are all naturally occurring materials. The correlation of these natural materials to the process of creating - regardless of the finished object is extremely important to me as a student of

life and artist. The shapes, colors and patterns in my work, while not iconic per se, reference the physical and emotional ties we have with the natural world, as well as the history and relationship we share.”

**MARY PADGETT** paints pastels that are distinctive for her use of color. She is a signature member of the Pastel Society of America and has been featured in American Artist magazine. Her paintings are in numerous private and public collections, including Towers Perrin, Takasago International, and the Long Island Jewish Medical Center. She has participated in numerous local and national group and one-person exhibits, with an upcoming solo show opening in May 2012 at The Smithy Pioneer Gallery in Cooperstown. She is represented by The Gallery of CNY in Cazenovia. Mary was educated at Boston University and Syracuse University. She teaches locally and conducts plein air painting programs abroad. For information on her June 2012 workshop in Spain, go to [www.marypadgett.com](http://www.marypadgett.com).

**COL. ROBERT PRATT '67HQ**, a Manlius native, has a B.S. from Syracuse University and a M.A. from Georgetown University. He retired from the Army a lieutenant colonel in 1994. His passion for painting and drawing began about nine years ago, following a love of photography dating back 40 years. Some of his photographs were published, particularly in Army publications in the 1980s. Most of Bob's paintings are landscapes. His drawing has centered on portraiture, including commissioned portraits. Two of his Civil War portraits were published in June 2009.

**LINDA SALTER** is a nationally recognized and published artist/ craftsperson working in fine gold and silver cloisonné enamel and other mediums. Her forms and images reflect the physical and spiritual realms of imagination, expressed in precious metal and glass. Her works and commissions are included in many private collections in the U.S. and abroad, including the Royal Collection in the Netherlands. She operates a production pottery studio during the summer at her home near Georgetown, N.Y. and teaches metalworking, enameling, pottery, and drawing courses at MPH.

**WILLIAM SCHU II** is a general surgeon with Central New York Surgical Physicians. Bill earned his B.A. from Hamilton College and his M.D. from SUNY Buffalo. He did his medical and surgical training, as well as research, at Upstate Medical University. Outside his demanding career, Bill will fill the hours creating his watercolors. Bill, his wife Deborah, and their two children, Rebekah, Class of 2010, and William, Class of 2011, live in Lafayette, N.Y.

**PAM STEELE** is internationally known for her large-scale metal and enameled glass wall pieces, which have been exhibited, commissioned, and purchased for numerous private and public collections, including I.B.M., Xerox, Lucent Technology, and Hyatt Hotels. Her experimental techniques in enameling, combined with unique metal patinas, make her pieces both painterly and sculptural. The metal compositions deal with direct manipulation of space by cutting up the metal image and reconstructing it sectionally, emitting a technological and architectural presence. The circles and triangles she creates have an elegant, spiritual quality. Her HEART series gives new form to the iconic symbol

of love in copper and fired glass. The most recent TEXT pieces display common words with altered context. Her work has been published in The Guild Sourcebook, The Artful Home, and Who's Who in the East. She received a B.F.A. from Syracuse University and a M.F.A. from Cranbrook Academy of Art. She has been an art instructor at Syracuse University, Cazenovia College, Queens College, Manlius Pebble Hill School, and the Everson Museum of Art. Her work may be seen on her web page, [www.pamsteelestudio.com](http://www.pamsteelestudio.com).

**TASH TASKALE** is well-known nationally and internationally for his work. He studied art history and archeology at the University of Strasbourg in France and completed an independent study with sculpture professor Rodger Mack at Syracuse University. His work has been shown in Taiwan, Turkey, Japan, Italy, Mexico, and locally at The Everson Museum of Art, Downtown Art Project in Ithaca, and Onondaga Community College. For more information and photos of Tash's work, visit [www.taskale.com](http://www.taskale.com).

**YOLANDA TOOLEY** is a seasoned photographer and has participated in many local and regional juried exhibitions and one-person shows. She has recently exhibited at the 40th Celebration of the Arts, St. David's Episcopal Church. In 2009, she showed at the Delavan Center in Syracuse as part of Stone Canoe 3, a Journal of Arts and Ideas from Upstate New York. She has also shown in Alexandria, Va. as part of the National League of American Penwomen Biennial. She won Grand Prize/Purchase at the Vineyard juried art show in Syracuse and has exhibited at the Eliza Pritzker Gallery in Highland, N.Y. A frequent award-winner, she also participated in a juried members show at the Womanmade Gallery in Chicago, Ill. Her work has also been seen at the Schweinfurth Memorial Art Center, The Gallery at Stanley Theater, The Art Association of Oswego, and The New York State Fair and has been featured on WCNY's Art Invitational. In 2009, Yolanda was featured in several publications, including, "The Comstock Review," "The Eye of Language," and "Happy Birthday Mr. Lincoln." Since 2004, Yolanda has served as a juror and show curator of The Regional Scholastics Art Awards of Central New York and has served in this capacity for many other shows in the past 20 years. The Szozda Gallery at 501 West Fayette St., Syracuse (formerly the Delavan Gallery) currently shows Yolanda's work. Her gelatin silver prints are entirely conceived, developed, enlarged, hand-colored, and framed by the artist.

**DEBORAH DOUGHERTY WESTER** is a painter and Cazenovia resident. She studied fine arts at St. Michael's College in Vermont, attended classes at The Art Students League in New York City and has completed many workshops. Recently, she was apprenticed for ten years with master painter Genevieve Redmond. Deborah has had many solo and group shows, been represented in galleries, and is a member of various art societies. She has work displayed at 9 Albany Street, Cazenovia, the Empire Brewing Company in Armory Square, Syracuse, Cazenovia Artisan's, and CNY Gallery in Cazenovia. "I am fascinated with nature and the serenity in rural life. The sweeping landscapes, with their rolling hills and pastoral farms, offer tranquil settings to capture. I see cows grazing, corn and oat fields, a variety of cloud formations and idyllic lakes. I feel compelled to express my surroundings, saddened to see a soulful way of life fade."

## Silent Auction Rules

1. Each item in the silent auction has a bid sheet attached to the table nearby. Persons desiring to bid may do so by writing their name and the amount on the bid sheet. If you prefer anonymity when bidding, please request a bid number at the registration desk.
2. The opening bid on each item must be equal to or exceed the *minimum bid* indicated on each sheet. Each new bid must be written on the next available blank line on the bid sheet. Each increase in bid must equal or exceed the *minimum raise* stated in order to constitute a valid bid. Bids will be disqualified if minimum bids and/or raises are not met.
3. Only an auction official may nullify a bid.
4. Do not remove bid sheets from the table.
5. The silent auction tables will be open for bidding at 5:30 p.m. for Patron ticket holders, with general admission at 7:00 p.m. Bidding will close at approximately 9:45 p.m. There will be an announcement when bidding closes.
6. The closing valid bid, circled by the auction official, constitutes the winning bid.
7. In the event of a dispute, the auction official shall determine the winning bidder. In the event that two bidders are in the process of bidding on the same item at closing, the official may conduct a “mini” live auction between those bidders to determine the winner.
8. Payment must be made before leaving the gala and auction items must be removed from the premises the evening of March 30, 2012. We accept cash, VISA, Mastercard, American Express, and personal checks.
9. All sales are final and no exchange or refund will be honored.

## Silent Auction Items

### **#101 Artists' Invitational Piece by Antonia Nicoletti-Eaton '02**

"Moo-tinis and Cheese, Please!" is a set of four black and white kiln-formed martini glasses and corresponding slumped hors d'oeuvres tray.

*Value: \$500*

### **#102 Artists' Invitational Piece by Peter Maciulewicz**

"Winter Sky 3" is an acrylic wall piece measuring 53" x 73".

*Value: \$5,000*

### **#103 Artists' Invitational Piece by William Church**

A handmade steel coffee table with a removable upholstered top.

*Value: \$1,000*

### **#104 Artists' Invitational Piece by Deborah Wester**

Measuring 12" x 16" this is an oil on canvas entitled, "CNY Holsteins."

*Value: \$650*

### **#105 Artists' Invitational Piece by Hall Groat Sr.**

"Snow Trail" depicts tall fir trees in cascades of snow. The artist was inspired by cross country skiing around Green Lakes State Park. In deep greens, white and grays with soft blues and touches of reds and orange, this was painted in an expressionistic style.

Measuring 30" x 20", it is an acrylic on archival board, framed in simple natural wood.

*Value: \$800*

### **#106 Artists' Invitational Piece by Hall Groat II**

"Stream to Raquette Lake, Adirondacks," by Hall Groat II, depicts a luminous autumn day and includes vivid colors, ranging from warm yellows to cool blue-grays. The framed piece measures 18" x 21" and is painted in oil on stretched canvas. The classic plein air gold leaf wooden frame has a beautifully distressed, antiqued gold leaf finish, rounded inner lip and broad profile that make this natural wood frame both simple and bold.

*Value: \$750*

### **#107 Artists' Invitational Piece by Jeanne Holstein**

A watercolor collage inspired by the artist's snorkeling trips to Water Lemon Key in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Framed, it measures 22" x 30".

*Value: \$350*

### **#108 Artists' Invitational Piece by Margie Hughto**

A nature-inspired ceramic wall piece.

*Value: TBD*

**#109 Artists' Invitational Piece by David MacDonald**

Part of the MacDonald's "Quilt Series," this stoneware plate is approximately 18" in diameter.

*Value: \$600*

**#110 Artists' Invitational Piece by Wendy Blanck**

A black and white fused glass piece entitled, "Linear Chaos."

*Value: TBD*

**#111 Artists' Invitational Piece by Linda Salter**

A fine silver and gold cloisonné enamel pendant on fine silver, set in sterling silver, with a handmade chain.

*Value: \$950*

**#112 Artists' Invitational Piece by Karen Bakke**

Proceeds from this piece will benefit the Baxter F. Ball Memorial Fund.

*Value: TBD*

**#113 Artists' Invitational Piece by Yolanda Tooley**

Entitled "Spring Birch Trees 2," this is a unique archival image from film on Epson's finest fiber based exhibition paper. It measures 23" x 31".

*Value: \$650*

**#114 Artists' Invitational Piece by Mary Padgett**

The artist's brother supplied these oranges from his Arizona backyard. Aptly titled "Arizona Oranges #2" (second in a series of three), this pastel painting captures the light and heat of the southwest and measures 18" x 24", framed. (Perfect for the SU fan too! Go Orange!)

*Value: \$1,000*

**#115 Artists' Invitational Piece by Pam Steele**

Entitled "I Am the Round Sun," this is a copper and enameled glass wall piece measuring 12" x 12".

*Value: \$250*

**#116 Artists' Invitational Piece by Col. Robert Pratt**

This painting is a depiction of an idyllic spot near Rhinecliff, N.Y., where an estate and grounds were reflected on the water in autumn.

*Value: \$350*

**#117 Artists' Invitational Piece by Tash Taskale**

A handmade titanium ring.

*Value: \$150*

**#118 Artists' Invitational Piece by William Schu**

An original watercolor entitled, "Winter Farm."

*Value: \$700*

**#119 Artists' Invitational Piece by Pam Steele**

"Memory," measuring 12" x 12", was created with copper, brass, and enameled glass.

*Value: \$250*

**#120 Artists' Invitational Piece by Drayton Jones '60C**

"MPH" is an original watercolor depicting our School using warm tones. It is matted and framed and measures 18" x 23".

*Value: \$400*

**#121 Artists' Invitational Piece by Alex Koziara**

"A Chorus" Line is a matted, signed, and framed print measuring 20" x 26". This graphic design is from MPH's Fall 2011 Upper School Musical, "A Chorus Line."

*Value: \$250*

**#122 & 123 Artists' Invitational Piece by Mrs. Lester's and Mrs. DiMento's Second Grade Class**

Each Second Grade class has created a handled serving tray. Complementing a fictional piece in their study of the solar system, students called on their imaginations to draw and color an alien creature. Their finished drawings, each signed by the student artist, is mounted under the glass of the trays, each of which measures 19" x 19".

*Item #123 is black and was created by Mrs. Lester's class*

*Item #123 is white and was created by Mrs. DiMento's class*

*Value: Priceless!*

**#124 Artists' Invitational Piece by The MPH 6th Grade Class**

The Sixth Grade class, with assistance from Mrs. Holstein, has created 38 black and white fused glass tiles that surround two mirrors, each measuring 24" x 36".

*Value: Priceless!*