



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Nancy Turrell nturrell@martinarts.org 772-287-6676 or Event Chair Pam Hoke
hotsummer@martinarts.org 772-919-2244

1st Hot Summer Arts event serving up the sizzle.

STUART, FL – July 5, 2010, **The Arts Council, Harbour Bay Plaza** and **Subaru of Stuart** successfully served up cultural sizzle at the inaugural “Hot Summer Arts” event at Harbour Bay Plaza July 1st. Surprising numbers of people arrived to drink in this unique mesh of the arts and community. Sax Artist Ron McCode and Guitarist John Lang serenaded the crowd as they strolled through the indoor exhibits and the courtyard which showcased original artwork. A nice cool breeze carried the jazzy tunes of Ron McCode, and artists Shawna Scarpitti and Pam Hoke worked live on pieces while intrigued onlookers of all ages observed. Signed copies of Featured Fine Art Photographer Kevin Boldenow were shared with friends, and the buzz that something different and exciting had definitely arrived in Stuart this summer rang through the conversations.

Guests also had the opportunity to absorb the **Tykes and Teens** exhibit of artwork created by children in therapy and even grab their copy of this year’s Art for Living Calendar from **Helping People Succeed**, while learning about the significant impact both of these non-profit organizations have on our community. Visitors embraced the potent economical and societal artwork presented by UCF Student Artist, Ashley Baldwin, the rarely exhibited sultry nude paintings by Fran Siebe, and fresh sculptures and glass art by Rob Riffard. There was a surprising presence of a delightful variety of local known artists with their latest work such as Carol Kepp, Linda Schoppmeyer, Barbara Lapham, Sally Eckman Roberts and Diane Jettinghoff – with special guests from the North Palm Beach area, Ronna Card and Joan Patterson.

The next event, August 5th, will serve up even more sizzle with some amazing developments as the event is attracting a new group of exceptional and open-minded talent and professionals. August's show will be dishing up even more sizzle with known fish artist, Brian Sylvester visiting from Costa Rica, with even more rarely exhibited nude paintings by Fran Siebe to be exhibited in the courtyard. Fresh new door prizes from generous local businesses will be awarded when guests take the Hot Summer Art Tour sheet to each exhibit. In addition, a raffle to benefit the Arts Council will feature grand prize of opening night tickets with limousine ride to "Burn the Floor" November 16th at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, and each event raffle prize of exotic rum and hand-painted martini glasses. Ron McCode will once again stroll through the courtyard and soothe the crowd with his cool sax tunes, and John Lang will dish up his tunes for guests at the Prawnbroker's beautiful patio bar.

Chaired by Arts Council member artists Pam Hoke and Shawna Scarpitti, this intimate cultural event is limited to only 20 Juried Artisans and 10 Sponsor Booths. The first event is now closed for applications, yet there are still openings for August and September. South Florida artists, fine crafters, local businesses and non-profits are encouraged to apply soon to claim their spots by visiting www.martinarts.org or e-mailing hotsummer@martinarts.org.

The Arts Council Inc. serving Stuart and Martin County is a 501(c)3 non-profit membership organization that supports the arts and artists. Revenues from events benefit both the artists and the Arts Council. The Arts Council and the Court House Cultural Center Gallery are located at 80 E. Ocean Boulevard, Stuart, Florida. For information visit the Arts Council website at www.martinarts.org or call 772-287-6676.

###

PHOTOS ATTACHED:

Ed Vossen, of Subaru of Stuart with Co-Chair Artists Shawna Scarpitti and Pam Hoke, and Arts Council Director Nancy Turrell.

Sax Artist Ron McCode serenades the crowd as they absorb the fresh art through the Harbour Bay Plaza courtyard.