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May 14, 2007

Courthouse News & Cases

Art Auction Benefit Raises \$100,000

by Elizabeth Stull (court@brooklynagle.net), published online 05-07-2007

Brooklyn Domestic Violence Center Will Use Funds for Children's Programs
BROOKLYN — The Brooklyn-based Center Against Domestic Violence again raised more than \$100,000 at its second annual art auction and plans to use the funds for a children's summer art program.

More than 60 artists and galleries participated in the event, including Christo and Jeanne-Claude, who donated photographs of "The Gates," their famous Central Park installation. Also on display were prize-winning works by middle and high school students from Brooklyn and across the city, who competed in a recent poster contest about teen relationship violence.

"Art is an intrinsic part of CADV's program to help rebuild the lives of women and children damaged by domestic abuse," said Judith Kahan, chief executive officer of the Center Against Domestic Violence. She said the center believes in the healing power of art and its three shelters are decorated with images of strong women and children.

Celebrity photographer Patrick McMullan was honorary chair of the event, titled "Drawing the Line Against Domestic Violence." He and event co-chairs Tamar Hirschl and Robert Curcio also contributed pieces to the auction. Participating art galleries were Bonni Benrubi Gallery, Buia Gallery, Caren Golden Fine Art, Collectors Circle Inc., curcioprojects, Frederieke Taylor Gallery, Kathleen Cullen Fine Art, New Art Center, The Proposition, Sara Tecchia Roma New York and Sloan Fine Art.

Art works included a wide range of styles and media, including photography, mixed media, prints, etchings and lithographs, drawings, sculpture, painting and installation art.

The top selling piece was "Madeline #11" by Roz Dimon, a drawing on paper of a woman reclining that was composed on her computer. Dimon is chief creative officer of the web design company RDA. Her interactive web site www.artstory.com, enables viewers to "recreate" her artwork by selecting words and phrases. "Madeline #11" sold for \$1,300.

The auction proceeds will be used to support a children's art program at Camp Excel, a summer camp for children in the domestic violence shelters. The program will be named for philanthropist Agnes Varis, the leading sponsor of the auction. Any remaining funds may be used for the CADV's in-school Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (RAPP).

— Elizabeth Stull

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Grand prize winners in the CADV/Verizon Wireless poster contest, from left to right. Front row: Y. Ryaboy, N. Akhter, Y. Jimenez. Back row: D. Samberg; J. Corbett; S. Tulgoganov; H. Gaston; I. Bruno; and J. Kahan. Photos courtesy of the Center against Domestic Violence

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Counting the minutes until I can go to a Nets game right here in Brooklyn and visit an avant-garde piece of architecture, at the same time!