



COPPER MOUNTAIN COLLEGE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

COPPER MOUNTAIN COLLEGE FOUNDATION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ART AUCTION CELEBRATES 11 YEARS

JOSHUA TREE, Ca– The Copper Mountain College Foundation’s Alumni Association Art Auction will be celebrating its 11th year on February 28th when bidders meet at 6 p.m. at the Helen Gray Education Center to raise funds for 33 CMC scholarships, the CMC Art Department and the Boys and Girls Club.

“Copper Mountain College has always had a strong relationship with our local art community and we really appreciate that they are such faithful supporters of this event,” says Jane Smith, CMC Foundation Board President. “We are also pleased that Gary Daigneault stepped up to be our auctioneer this year as we know how dedicated he is to having fun while supporting the arts. We’re already having our own fun in the form of a spirited competition as to who will be the highest bidders. Bidding is a good-natured way to enjoy ourselves, support a good cause, and go home with fabulous artwork that our family and friends can enjoy.”

Over 40 Basin artists will be represented this year including Diane Best, Tina Bluefield, Chuck Caplinger, Simi Dabah, Diana Durr, Steve Rieman, Mike Smiley, Andy Weddington and Mikal Winn. Also participating this year are Cathy Allen, Harley Baczkowski, Robert Barrus, Valerie Davis, Spelman Downer, Patricia Freter, Audrey Gillick, Rita Gisclard, Gretchen Grunt, Aura Hogue, Martha Jacobson, Shirley James, Rik Livingston, Bruce Miller, Scott Monteith, Darlene Morris, Eric Mueller, Margo Recker, Drew Reese, Tony Soares, Diane Thompson, Gloria White, Bob Whitt and Andy Woods.

“We will also be highlighting those artists who have attended CMC and are considered members of the Alumni Association,” says Syndee Slayton, the CMC Foundation’s Executive Director. “We believe that the future of CMC’s Art Department is very bright, and thanks to our Alumni Association, Simi Dabah, the Phil Dunham Memorial Fund and many individual donors, we can increase the Foundation’s support so that it is in keeping with the high profile art has within our community. We are also very appreciative of our partnership with the Arts Council, an important Basin organization that understands that art is one of our area’s premier economic engines. Their members not only support our annual Art Auction, they also partner with us to provide a series of spring art lectures covering a wide range of topics. Helping our students to become involved with our local art community is a goal of the College, the Foundation, and many of our donors.”

This year’s special guest will be Vickie Waite who will be accepting a plaque in honor of the new Terry Waite Memorial Scholarship to be awarded this Fall to a promising CMC art student. Terry, along with past CMC Art Department Professor Michael Murillo, were the original pioneers of the Art Auction and as a result of their efforts, this event has provided financial assistance to almost 400 students since its inception in 1998.

The Auction will begin at 6 p.m. and will feature live music by Condor, complimentary hors d’oeuvres and a no-host bar. There is a modest \$10 fee to bid and online pre-registration is available at the reduced price of \$9 on the Foundation’s website at www.theCMCF.org.

The CMC Foundation can be contacted by phone at 760-366-3791 ext. 4200, or by email to foundation@cmccd.edu. For more information about the event, how to donate art or to pre-register, or for information on the upcoming Spring Art Lecture Series, visit the CMCF website at www.theCMCF.org.

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