



"Enriching Our Communities Through Advancement of the Arts"

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ALLIED ARTS TO HOST "POP ARTINI"

Annual event gathers young professionals for premier arts fundraiser

Oklahoma City, Okla. (March 29, 2011) – Catalyst, Allied Arts' young professionals group, is gearing up for this year's ARTini fundraiser to raise money for the arts in Central Oklahoma. The event aims to gather approximately 500 people for martini tastings and appetizers from 12 of Central Oklahoma's most popular restaurants.

Held at the Oklahoma City Farmers Public Market on April 9 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m., ARTini will also include live entertainment from the band HOOK, raffle prizes and a silent art auction featuring original work by local artists. All proceeds benefit Allied Arts and its 20 member agencies.

Participating restaurants will create and serve original martini recipes with the goal of winning the "Best ARTini" award chosen by local celebrity judges or the "People's Choice" award voted on by ARTini guests. New this year, there will also be awards for creativity and use of this year's theme, "POP ARTini!", which can be conveyed in fun ways through drink names, table decorations or staff costumes.

The featured restaurants participating in the event are 105degrees, 1492 New World Latin Cuisine, Deep Fork Grill, Iguana Mexican Grill, Ludivine, Museum Café, Pachinko Parlor, Paseo Grill, Picasso Café, Prohibition Room and Trattoria Il Centro.

Local artist and former NBA star Desmond Mason will also be participating in the event as a celebrity judge and a featured artist. Mason will be painting live at the event, and his painting will be one of the items up for bid in the ARTini art auction.

ARTini tickets are \$65 dollars in advance and \$75 at the door. To purchase tickets, visit www.AlliedArtini.com, call Allied Arts at (405) 278-8944 or stop by the Allied Arts office at 1015 N. Broadway, Suite 200.

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About Allied Arts

As Oklahoma's only United Arts Fund, Allied Arts works to broaden support for the arts by raising financial support for the arts and related organizations, encouraging participation and attendance, advocating arts education, and promoting excellence in the arts and arts management. Founded in 1971, the organization has raised more than \$43 million to advance the arts in Central Oklahoma.

Allied Arts' member agencies include:

- Ambassadors' Concert Choir
- Arts Council of Oklahoma City
- Canterbury Choral Society
- Carpenter Square Theatre
- Cimarron Opera
- City Arts Center
- Guy Fraser Harrison Academy
- Individual Artists of Oklahoma
- Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma
- Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art
- Metropolitan School of Dance
- Oklahoma Children's Theatre
- Oklahoma City Ballet
- OK City Chorus
- Oklahoma City Museum of Art
- Oklahoma City Philharmonic
- Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park
- Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition
- Prairie Dance Theatre
- Science Museum Oklahoma

For more information, contact Allied Arts at 405-278-8944 or visit www.alliedartsokc.com.

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