



artUnite Art Show and Auction

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Art Show and Auction Brings Community and Artists Together for 50-year Old Non-Profit in Echo Park

artUnite Art Show and Auction supports Central City Action Committee and their youth programs for challenged youth in Echo Park, Westlake and nearby areas.

Fusing community and arts, artUnite raises funds for a deserving non-profit established by Latin mothers in the 70s. The mothers realized they were losing their youth to gangs and neglect of their Echo Park community. They took a stand and organized. 50 years later, their mission still resonates.

Taking place from November 17 to 18, artUnite begins with an online auction and ends Thursday, November 18, with a live event from 6-9 PM. Neighborhood gallery Tropico de Nopal Gallery Art-Space in Echo Park hosts the event bridging citizens, artists, young people, activists and volunteers in a celebration of life and survival.

According to 87-year old CCAC Director Maryanne Hayashi:

"Over the last 3 years, artUnite has become an important addition to our annual budget. Not only are we helping kids to succeed in life, but we're helping their families get through challenging times. The event also raises awareness of what we do in the community. Sometimes you get so busy with the day-to-day that you wonder if the community remembers you. I mean, it's been 50 years! We've gone through some generations here. For myself, I've

been here for 40 years as a director. It's gratifying that for one night you see the community come together for the kids and the organization. It's only one night, but it means a lot."

With over 70 art pieces and artists, artUnite has managed to raise \$15,000 for CCAC over the last 2 years. Well-established names such as Frank Romero, Margaret Garcia, Shepard Fairey and Gronk co-mingle with lesser-known names that may be starting their journey. In its own chaotic way, the show and auction creates an eclectic selection of art. "We have pieces worth thousands of dollars, but we also have pieces that anyone can acquire for a couple hundred dollars," says artUnite organizer Joe Cloninger. "It's a giving environment, but really, we want people to enjoy the art and celebrate whether they have money or not."

And the celebration will be safe. artUnite will be enforcing the new city COVID vaccine mandate for events. Vaccine IDs will be required. Masks required.

Don't have the big bucks to bid on art? That's fine. artUnite has created a raffle offering a grand prize of a 2-night stay in a beautiful Lake Gregory mountain house along with generous meal certificates from local favorites Casita del Campo Mexican Restaurant and Masa of Echo Park, one of the best outside-of-Chicago, Chicago-style pizzas in the city. DJ Yukicito will be spinning latin electronica out on the spacious patio.

For more information about the artUnite Art Show and Auction, please visit:
<https://www.artUnite.org>

About artUnite:

Art show and auction takes place from November 17-18, 2021 at the Tropico de Nopal Gallery Art-Space in Echo Park, Los Angeles. The online auction begins November 17 and culminates in a live event on Thursday, November 18, from 6-9 PM.