

September 29, 2008

GIVING BACK GETS HIP The Art of Splash 2008

Vancouver, BC – Splash 2008 is attracting the next generation of art collectors by offering works from young, new, popular artists in the Vancouver art scene. Arts Umbrella's signature fundraiser and one of the hottest charitable art events in the city, the Splash art auction, presented by TELUS, will be held Saturday, October 4th at Performance Works on Granville Island.

In response to the growing community of young art collectors in Metro Vancouver, Splash continues to represent a wide range of mediums and established artists, and this year, is proud to include some hot artists who are quickly gaining prominence with collectors and galleries.

New artists to Splash this year include Derek von Essen, Robert Davidson, Lawrence Paul Yuxweluptun, Chris Jordan, Luc Bernard, Suzanne Northcott, and Kinichi Shigeno. New works from Tanya Slingsby, Christian Nicolay, Gordon Smith, Ross Penhall, Lawrence Hislop and Andre Petterson, and will be among 86 diverse, original pieces to be auctioned in support of Arts Umbrella programs.

"At the heart of Splash is a huge group of artists, volunteers, guests and staff who work together and give generously because we know the power of arts education," said Arts Umbrella president & CEO Lucille Pacey. "We believe that all children should have access to its lifelong benefits. Arts Umbrella can provide free programs in under-served neighbourhoods only through the generosity of our sponsors, the community and events such as Splash."

For the third year, TELUS has supported Splash as the presenting sponsor. "Giving children an opportunity to learn through the arts fosters a creative culture that enriches all our lives," said Pamela McDonald, TELUS senior director, Community Affairs, and Arts Umbrella board member. "At TELUS, we give where we live and that's why we are honoured to support Arts Umbrella in its unwavering commitment to inspire kids in our community for life," said

Art mixes with music this year at Splash as The Beat 94.5 joins the event with host Jonny Staub. After the auction closes, the real party begins with music by DJ Reign.

Tickets are \$256 (the average cost of supplies for two visual arts classes at Arts Umbrella) and are available by calling 604-681-5268, ext. 345 or emailing splashtickets@artsumbrella.com.

About Arts Umbrella

Located on Granville Island in Vancouver, Arts Umbrella is a non-profit centre for arts education for young people, ages 2 to 19. While thousands of children participate in Arts Umbrella's tuition-based programs each year, they reach thousands more in under-served neighbourhoods through free programs, bringing the arts to kids who otherwise would not be able to participate.

About TELUS

TELUS (TSX: T, T.A; NYSE: TU) is a leading national telecommunications company in Canada, with \$9.4 billion of annual revenue and 11.4 million customer connections including 5.8 million wireless subscribers, 4.3 million wireline network access lines and 1.2 million Internet subscribers. TELUS provides a wide range of communications products and services including data, Internet protocol (IP), voice, entertainment and video. In support of our philosophy to give where we live, TELUS, our team members and alumni have contributed \$113 million to charitable and not-for-profit organizations and volunteered more than 2.1 million hours of service to local communities since 2000. Nine TELUS Community Boards across Canada lead our local philanthropic initiatives. For more information about TELUS, please visit telus.com.

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