

THE ART OF GIVING BACK
Local artists support arts education at
Arts Umbrella's 25th annual Splash fundraiser

Vancouver, BC – On October 13, 2007 Arts Umbrella will celebrate its 25th year of Splash — presented by TELUS — Vancouver's pre-eminent art auction and a key fundraising event for arts education. Over the past 25 years, the event has raised millions of dollars and enabled thousands of students to participate in visual, performing and media arts programs.

This year Anselmo Swan, a local artist praised for his realistic paintings and still-life etchings of inanimate objects, is one of the many artists helping Arts Umbrella inspire kids for life by generously donating artwork to the Annual Art Auction & Gala Evening. Swan began his formal art education at the age of 16 at Arts Umbrella. "My time at Arts Umbrella had a very positive effect on me and my career as a visual artist," said Swan. "I believe that contributing to Splash, even in a small way, will help to ensure that the school can continue to inspire kids and provide them with excellent instruction in different creative disciplines."

Swan is joined this year by a diverse group of over 100 established and emerging artists who have created original works to be auctioned off to raise money for Arts Umbrella programs. Gordon Smith, Ross Penhall, Gathie Falk, David Robinson and Paul Wong are just a few of the names that make up this year's list of participating artists.

"As we celebrate the 25th year of Splash we celebrate the generosity of the hundreds of artists, volunteers, and sponsors who have helped to make Splash a reality, and more importantly a success, year after year," said Arts Umbrella executive director Lucille Pacey. "Arts education has helped so many children build their confidence and their level of creativity. Thousands of children have benefited since the start of Splash."

Building on the success of last year's partnership, TELUS has signed on once again as the Presenting Sponsor of the event. "TELUS recognizes the importance of learning through the arts, and we believe in fostering a creative culture that enriches young lives. 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 Pamela McDonald, TELUS senior director, Community Affairs, and Arts Umbrella Board Member.

About Arts Umbrella

Located on Granville Island in Vancouver, Arts Umbrella is Canada's pre-eminent arts institute for young people, ages 2 to 19. While thousands of children participate in our tuition-based programs each year, we reach thousands more in their neighbourhoods through free programs, bringing the arts to kids who otherwise would not be able to participate.

For more information on Arts Umbrella and Splash 2007, please visit www.artsumbrella.com.

About TELUS

TELUS is a leading national telecommunications company in Canada, with \$8.9 billion of annual revenue and 10.9 million customer connections including 5.3 million wireless subscribers, 4.5 million wireline network access lines and 1.1 million Internet subscribers. TELUS provides a wide range of communications products and services including data, Internet protocol (IP), voice, entertainment and video. Committed to being Canada's premier corporate citizen, we give where we live. Since 2000, TELUS and our team members have contributed more than \$91 million to charitable and non-profit organizations and volunteered more than 1.7 million hours of service to local communities. Eight TELUS Community Boards across Canada lead our local philanthropic initiatives. For more information about TELUS, please visit telus.com.

For more information, please contact:

Tamara Slomka
Marketing & Communications Coordinator
(604) 681-5268 ext 249
tslomka@artsumbrella.com