



Fine Arts Center

COLORADO SPRINGS

Taylor Museum
Bemis School of Art
Performing Arts

30 West Dale Street
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903
tel: 719.634.5581 fax: 719.634.0570
www.csfineartscenter.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Charlie Snyder, Director of Communications
719.477.4316; csnyder@csfineartscenter.org

SEASON-OPENING GALA

The Fine Arts Center to honor Susie Burghart and Rich Tosches

COLORADO SPRINGS (August 29, 2011) – Guests will enjoy a decadent dinner, dessert and dancing with entertainment, signature cocktails and auctions in their Gala Glamorous or Black Tie attire at the Fine Arts Center's **75th Anniversary Season-Opening Gala**, honoring Susie Burghart and Rich Tosches, on Sept. 10.

This Gala celebrates a new season of theatre, classes and exhibition in the midst of 75 years of artistic tradition. Festivities begin at 5:30 p.m. The public is welcome. [Tickets are \\$150 and are available online](#) or by calling 719.634.5583. The Gala, now in its 18th year, is traditionally one of the FAC's top annual fundraising events.

"The Gala has a wonderful history at the Fine Arts Center going back over 18 years," said Sam Gappmayer, the FAC President and CEO. "In this, our 75th anniversary of the FAC, we're delighted to bring back some of the elements people have enjoyed so much over the decades. We also look forward to honoring Susie Burghart and Rich Tosches for their many contributions to our community."

Martha Marzolf chairs the Gala Committee, which consists of past FAC Gala chairs, including Mary Cobb, Chris Duffey, Lynne Fitzhugh, Mary Flemke, Sue Foerster, Jennifer George, Sally Hybl, Anita Lane, Jan McCauley, Amanda Mountain, Cathy Nolan, Mari Sinton Martinez, Betsy Sobral, Peggy Taylor, and Jacque Walsh.

"It has been a delight to have our past chairs come together to plan our 75th Anniversary gala," Marzolf said. "The night will be action packed with surprise performances, a unique auction with artsy flair, a dining experience like no other and an entertaining performance in the theatre."

Russ Wiley of Creative Gold has created a commemorative, one-of-a-kind necklace to celebrate the Fine Arts Center's 75th Anniversary that will be up for auction on Gala night. Reminiscent of the FAC Red Square logo, this inspired piece has pave rubies to resemble the red square and the middle of the square sparkles with pave diamonds. This necklace is valued at \$7,000.

Other auction items will include a one-of-a-kind experience for 10 kids ... a sleepover at the FAC for a very special "Night at the Museum;" a two-night *Mountain Adventure at the Lane Ranch* in Divide, complete with privately guided hiking tour and access to the zip lines on the property; and much, much more.

The Program

- **Signature Cocktails and Exquisite Silent Auction**
Glass Corridor
- **An Artful Gourmet Dinner**
El Pomar Gallery, exhibiting the vibrant paintings of Joellyn Duesberry
- **Presentation Honoring Susie Burghart & Rich Tosches and Live "Arts" Auction**
El Pomar Gallery
- **"Celebrity" Performance, a Lighthearted Look at the Fine Arts Center**
SaGāJi Theatre
- **Dessert and Dancing**
Amuzé at the FAC and Deco Lounge

Black Tie or Gala Glamorous Attire | Valet Parking

The Sponsors

The 75th Anniversary Season-Opening Gala is sponsored by El Pomar Foundation, The Celebrate Life Foundation, Red Noland Cadillac, Hogan Lovells, The Gazette, Stockman Kast Ryan + Company, Sherman & Howard, U.S. Bank and The Lane Family.

The Season

PERFORMING ARTS

Assassins Sept. 29 – Oct. 23
A Year with Frog and Toad Dec. 1 – 23
In the Next Room, or the vibrator play
Feb. 2 – 19
Of Mice and Men March 15 – April 1
A 2012 Multidisciplinary Project
Hairspray May 10 – June 3
Youth Repertory Theatre July 2012

MUSEUM

Katja Loher's Miniverse Sept. 10 – Dec. 4
Sandzén in Colorado Oct. 1 – Jan. 8
Fantastic Menagerie: Opens Oct. 22
Work of Jessica Freyre-Cuebas
Coalescence: Dec. 17 – Feb. 19
Photographs by Barbara Sparks
Terry Maker: Reckoning Feb. 18 – June 3
Spirit of Resilience March 17 – May 27
A 2012 Multidisciplinary Project
Honoring a Legacy: Opens April 21