

Phyllis Washington Antiques Raises Funds For Art Museum's Educational Programming for Children



Phyllis Washington Antiques, Maison Felice (right), presenting donation check to Lisa Vossler Smith, Deputy Director Palm Springs Art Museum, in the amount of \$10,200 raised during the recent “Chihuly on Chihuly” fundraising event.

Media Note: This picture is available for reprint; please contact the Art Museum for a higher resolution image.

March XX, 2008 – Palm Springs, CA - The Palm Springs Art Museum was presented today with a check for \$10,200 by Phyllis Washington Antiques, known as Maison Felice, as a donation to support the Art Museum's educational programming for children. Phyllis Washington Antiques, one of the most well known antique and fine furnishing galleries in Southern California, raised the funds at a recent event called “Chihuly on Chihuly.”

At the event, approximately two hundred attendees listened to internationally renowned artist Dale Chihuly as he recounted tales about his work around the world and showed videos of some of his breathtaking and elaborate art installations. Several Chihuly pieces, provided by Imago Galleries who represent the artist, were on display during the reception. Following Chihuly's presentation, attendees participated in an auction of items from: Phyllis Washington Antiques, Escada, and an original Chihuly donated by Chihuly Studios. The entire proceeds were given directly to the Art Museum to support educational programming. The guests mingled with the artist, purchased signed books and marveled at the newly redesigned interior of Phyllis Washington Antiques and its collection of 18th and 19th century Art Deco furnishings while partaking in the delectable food and drink.

“We are extremely honored that Mrs. Washington selected the Art Museum's educational programming as the recipient for this very generous donation,” commented Steve Nash, Executive Director of the Palm Springs Art Museum. “We are encouraged by organizations like this who utilize their clientele base to help raise funds for area non profit organizations. We hope there will be future collaborations between the Art Museum and Phyllis Washington Antiques.”

If other area businesses would like to sponsor fundraising activities such as the “Chihuly on Chihuly” event to help raise money for the Art Museum, they may coordinate these programs with the Art Museum's Director of Development, Scott Schroeder, at 760.322.4807.

Phyllis Washington Antiques, Maison Felice specializes in 18th and 19th century and Art Deco antique furniture and decorative accessories. Its founder, Phyllis Washington, formerly an elementary school teacher has continued her love of teaching creating the *Style de Vie* lecture series at Maison Felice presenting experts in interior design, architecture, gardens and decorative

arts. Proceeds from the lectures are donated to local charities. Her passion for learning and collecting antique furniture and books has resulted in the impressive gallery on El Paseo in Palm Desert. They can be contacted at 760.862.0021.

Palm Springs Art Museum, located downtown in an architecturally-significant E. Stewart Williams-designed building, the Palm Springs Art Museum features exciting exhibitions of contemporary, Native American, Western and Pre-Columbian art in spacious galleries. It features two sculpture gardens, stimulating lectures and educational programs for all ages, and offers diverse performances at its Annenberg Theater. The Art Museum is open six days a week; Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Thursday from 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free to members; \$12.50 for adults; \$10.50 for seniors 62 and over; \$5 for students and active-duty military with I.D. and free for youths 17 and under. For more information, call 760.332.4800 or visit www.psmuseum.org.