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MEDIA CONTACT: Bob Bogard, 760.322.4814; bbogard@psmuseum.org

## Palm Springs Art Museum's Western Art Council Presents BRAVO! A Night at the "Old West" Opera House

## Friday, January 21, 5-9 p.m.

January 6, 2011 (Palm Springs, CA) -- The Western Art Council of the Palm Springs Art Museum will present an evening of Western theater and entertainment at *BRAVO! A Night at the "Old West" Opera House* on Friday, January 21 in the museum's Annenberg Theater. This lively evening will feature Western-themed musical and dance performances from the worlds of opera, Broadway and classic movies, and long-time Western Art Council board member and museum Trustee Jean Carrus will be honored at the event. Following the performance, guests will be treated to an elegant Western-inspired meal catered by Le Vallauris. Tickets for the performance only are \$50 and tickets for the performance and dinner are \$200 and can be purchased by calling 760.322.4888 or emailing ngaudreau@psmuseum.org.

The centerpiece of the evening will be a performance of the riveting one-act opera *The Face on the Barroom Floor* by Henry Mollicone. This rarely-performed work is set in the wild West of the late 1800's and tells the story of an artist ruined by love. After losing his beloved Madeline to another man, the artist turns to drink and enters a bar to tell his story to the bartender and to the assembled crowd, and begins sketching Madeline's face on the floor of the bar but tragically dies before he completes it. The work will be performed by the Los Angeles-based OperaWorks, under the leadership of founder and artistic director Ann Baltz. Following the performance of *The Face on the Barroom Floor*, Live It Up! Song & Dance Company will round-out the evening with their interpretations of selections from popular Western-themed Broadway shows including *Oklahoma!*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Paint Your Wagon*, and many more.



The event is an annual fundraiser for the Western Art Council, which raises money to support the acquisition of Western art for the museum and will honor Jean C. Carrus (pictured at left) for her commitment to the museum and the community. Ms. Carrus served as chairman of the council from 2005-2008 and continues to serve on its board. She is also a member of the museum's Board of Trustees and serves on other museum council boards. In addition to her tireless work at the museum, Ms. Carrus serves on numerous other boards in the Coachella Valley including the College of the Desert and the Opera Guild.

## About the Western Art Council

The Western Art Council promotes and fosters interest in Western and Native American Art at the Palm Springs Art Museum. Its view of western art comprises traditional to modern and contemporary as it relates to the West and California. Since 1984 the council has organized a series of programs and events, in support of western art exhibitions, educational programs and the acquisition of art for the permanent collection.

## About the Palm Springs Art Museum

Located downtown in an architecturally-significant building, the Palm Springs Art Museum features compelling exhibitions and a robust permanent collection of modern, contemporary, Native American, Western and Mesoamerican and glass art in 28 spacious galleries and in its two outdoor sculpture gardens. The museum offers educational lectures, films and an assortment of programs and art workshops for all ages. The museum's Annenberg Theater features outstanding musical performances. The 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. with free admission from 4 – 8 p.m. sponsored by the City of Palm Springs. Admission is free to members; youths 12 and under and active-duty military and their families. Regular admission is \$12.50 for adults; \$10.50 for seniors 62 and over; and \$5 for adult students. For more information, call 760.322.4800 or visit www.psmuseum.org.

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