



## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### SPRING FOR THE ARTS RAISES RECORD SETTING AMOUNT

Jacksonville, FL – Cathedral Arts raised a record \$360,000 at its 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring for the Arts benefit, a whopping increase of 18 percent over last year. “We are so grateful for the broad outpouring of support, especially during these challenging economic times,” remarked Kimberly Hyatt, Executive Director. “Our collective success with this event will help mitigate the effects of other funding cutbacks and will allow us to continue to serve over 1,200 youth with our afterschool programming next year.”

Attendance also set a record with 500 guests. The event took place Friday evening, March 20 at the Deerwood Club. Honorary Chairs Joan and Preston Haskell presented Joannie and Russell Newton with the Guardians of the Arts Award for their work to safeguard and advance the arts along the First Coast.

#### About Cathedral Arts

Over 1,200 students are enrolled in Cathedral Arts’ afterschool classes this school year. Our mission is to enrich the quality of life in Northeast Florida through unleashing the creative spirit of young people. By providing access to instruction in the visual and performing arts, we empower underserved school-aged children to succeed in all areas of their lives.

Today, CAP has grown to become the largest provider of FREE, ongoing and standards-based instruction in the visual and performing arts for public school students in Duval County. The Cathedral Arts Project is funded in part by the Ounce of Prevention Fund of Florida, The City of Jacksonville, Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville, the State of Florida, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

For further information, contact Melanie Messer, Director of Community Relations, at (904) 281-5599, ext. 18.

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