



Media only: Mandy Young (202) 633-8529

Feb. 11, 2009

Media Web site: <http://americanart.si.edu/pr>

Media Advisory

WHAT: ARTrageous, annual museum benefit

WHEN: Thursday, Feb. 26

7:30 – 11 p.m.

WHERE: Smithsonian American Art Museum
Eighth and F streets N.W.

The Smithsonian American Art Museum will hold its annual benefit, ARTrageous, Thursday, Feb. 26, from 7:30 to 11 p.m. Guests will have an opportunity to meet American artists, savor a buffet dinner reception and wine and spirits from Occasions Caterers, dance to live music by Blues Alley Jazz and mingle in the museum's stunning Kogod Courtyard with decor and lighting by Tim Reber of Fandango Productions. The evening will also present the chance to preview the museum's exhibition, "1934: A New Deal for Artists," which opens to the public Friday, Feb. 27.

ARTrageous, in its fourth year, celebrates Dorothy Lichtenstein, Jeffrey and Julie Loria, and Sam Rose and Julie Walters, whose generous contributions made possible the museum's recent acquisition of Roy Lichtenstein's "Modern Head," an outdoor sculpture currently on view at the corner of Ninth and F streets N.W. Mayor Adrian M. Fenty and First Lady Michelle Fenty of Washington, D.C., are the evening's honorary patrons.

Tickets for the benefit cost \$125 and can be purchased online at americanart.si.edu/support/benefit or by calling (202) 633-4550. Museum members receive a 20 percent discount. Revenue from ARTrageous ticket sales supports educational programs at the museum and its Renwick Gallery, ranging from artist talks and concerts to family days and film series.

Social media who will cover the event should RSVP to Mandy Young at YoungAK@si.edu by Wednesday, Feb. 25. All members of the press will be asked to sign in and must have a staff escort while in the museum's galleries.

The Smithsonian American Art Museum is located at Eighth and F streets N.W., above the Gallery Place/Chinatown Metrorail station. Hours are 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, except Dec. 25. Admission is free. Smithsonian information: (202) 633-1000 or TTY (202) 633-5285. Museum information (recorded): (202) 633-7970. Web site: americanart.si.edu.

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