

## PRESS RELEASE

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### LOCAL ARTISTS HELP NEWTOWN HEAL

*Rockford, IL - April 19, 2013* – From the Heart of Rockford – Art for Healing, is hosting an art show on Saturday, April 27, 2013 at Rockford College – Regents Hall. All are invited to “see the artwork, enjoy the music and help Newtown heal.”

From the Heart of Rockford –Art for Healing is a grass roots organization that strives to bring together the vibrant talent and the spirit of generosity that springs from the Rockford community to make a positive impact in the wake of the events that cut short the lives of twenty six innocent students and their teachers this past December at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut.

The purpose of the event is not only to raise money but more importantly, to donate to the Newtown School District the very thing that is at the heart of our own community—our art. Our intention is to donate twenty six pieces of our finest Rockford area art to the community of Newtown.

The show will feature the work of twenty six of the Rockford-area’s best artists. Attendees will be able to purchase the sponsorship of one or more pieces of artwork, which will then be donated to the community of Newtown, Ct. Each piece of artwork at the show will be paired with a Rockford-area student artist piece.

The sponsor of each piece will be recognized as the donor on a nameplate that will accompany the donated piece to Newtown. In celebration of their generous gift, the donors will be presented with the student artwork which had been partnered with their sponsored piece or pieces.

Piano music for the art show will be provided by Michael Campa, a student of the Music Academy in Rockford, followed by a live choral performance by the Elysian Voices.

Forty percent of the proceeds generated from the sale of the art will be donated to benefit Healing Newtown, an arm of the Newtown Cultural Arts Commission and a partner with the Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut, while 50% will be donated to Ceasefire Rockford. The artists will be given 10% of the art sales proceeds. All profits generated from door donations and a raffle during the event will be split 50/50 between Healing Newtown and Ceasefire.

Rockford Mayor Larry Morrissey expressed his appreciation of the group’s efforts during the April 11, 2013 City Council meeting during which he hailed their work as “an example of the healing spirit that allows us to move forward during times of tragedy.”

This event is partially funded by a grant from The Rockford Area Arts Council, as well as by the generous contributions of: Rockford College, The Law Office of Christine Garner, The Music Academy in Rockford, Wallblank, Greg Lang Design, and Elysian Voices.

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