



Bay Area Glass Institute  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** (*High-resolution images available on request. Go to [www.bagi.org](http://www.bagi.org) to view images of 2010 Auction artist participants.*)

***The Bay Area Glass Institute (BAGI) Presents...***

***~ THE NINTH ANNUAL 2010 GREAT GLASS AUCTION & PREVIEW ~  
Annual Benefit Supports Emerging Glass Artists, Aspiring Students and Public Glass Art Education***

**SAVE-THE-DATES!**

**PREVIEW: Friday, February 5, 2010 / 6:00-9:00 pm  
Fourth Street Summit Ballroom, San Jose**

**AUCTION: Saturday, February 6, 2010 | 5:30-10:00 pm  
Fourth Street Summit Ballroom, San Jose**

**SAN JOSE, Calif. – November 18, 2009** – Come join Bay Area glass lovers, artists, collectors, and patrons as they bid on nearly one hundred pieces of exquisite fine art glass donated by well-known local, national and international artists at The Bay Area Glass Institute's (BAGI) ***Ninth Annual 2010 Great Glass Auction***, on Saturday, February 6, 2010 from 5:30-10:00 p.m., at the Fourth Street Summit Ballroom, in San Jose, California. This exciting benefit auction and crucial fundraiser is instrumental in ensuring that BAGI keep costs down for its ongoing public education programs and Visiting Artist Program. Funds raised at the Auction will provide one-quarter of BAGI's 2010 budget, helping to fund the Visiting Artists Series, support a San Jose State University scholarship for a student to attend each of BAGI's Visiting Artist Series master classes, and defray part of the studio's continuing operations. This magical evening features silent and live auctions of one-of-a-kind glass art, awards to outstanding glass artists, as well as cocktails and a gourmet dinner.

In anticipation of the Auction, the ***Great Glass Auction Preview and Reception with Artists*** will be held the evening before the Auction on Friday, February 5, 2010, from 6:00-9:00 p.m. (also at the Fourth Street Summit Ballroom). The Preview and Reception are free and open to the public. Patrons and the public alike may view the entire set of silent and live auction works and interact with artists. Due to its overwhelming success last year, the public will again be able to take part in BAGI's Second Annual "Glass & Goblet Grab" event. Attendees can spontaneously grab and purchase unique drinking glasses and goblets created by local glass art students. 100% of the proceeds will help support Bay Area glass art education programs including California College of the Arts, Palo Alto High School and San Jose State University. Tax-deductible tickets for the ***Ninth Annual 2010 Great Glass Auction*** range in price from \$150-\$500. Admission to the ***Great Glass Auction Preview and Reception with Artists*** is free; advance reservations are required for the auction. For more information, contact Chris Moore at 408.993.2244 or studio@bagi.org.

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## **RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING ARTISTS**

A highlight of the Auction evening will be the announcement of the prestigious Saxe Fellowship Award for outstanding craftsmanship and achievement in glass chosen in a juried competition, as well as the People's Choice Award, selected by auction attendees, that honors the best piece contributed by a local artist.

## **2010 GLASS ARTISTS AND AUCTION JURY**

Local and nationally known glass artists confirmed thus far to participate in the 2010 auction include: Mark Abildgaard, Annieglass, Sara Beckton, Melissa and Keith Bispo, Terri Bromberg, Bonnie Brown, Douglass Brown, Larry Cazes, Elin Christopherson, Kevin Chong, Shirley Cook, Lionel Chapital, John De Wit, Kathleen Elliot, Rudy Faulkner, Shaun Griffiths, Ilona Lindsay, Susan Longini, Chris Moore, Elizabeth Ryland Mears, Mark Murai, Jeff Owen, David Patchen, Marc Petrovic, Deva Priya, Richard Royal, Toland Sand, Chuck Savoie, Jon Scally, Jonathon Schmuck, Treg Silkwood, Rich Small, Randy Strong, Demi Theofanous, Tom Upchurch, and Connie Walsworth. Visit the BAGI website at [www.bagi.org](http://www.bagi.org) to view the latest artist updates.

The Saxe Fellowship jurors this year are: Maureen Littleton, director of the Washington D.C.-based Maurine Littleton Gallery; Micaela Van Zwoll, founder and director of the San Francisco-based Micaela Gallery; and, world renowned collector Dorothy Saxe of San Francisco, California. Prior to the Auction, Micaela Van Zwoll will also present a lecture, "Connections, Culture, Collecting ... A Contemporary View of Buying Art," at the Community School of Music and Art's Finn Center on Friday, January 8, 2010, from 6:00-8:30 p.m. The event is free, but seats are limited. To RSVP please contact Chris Moore at BAGI, 408-993-2244 or [studio@bagi.org](mailto:studio@bagi.org).

"Each year the Great Glass Auction celebrates the beauty and diversity of fine glass art and provides guests with a truly unique opportunity to build and add to their own collections. Even in the current economic situation, the community wants to support BAGI's mission of providing continued artistic and educational growth to artists, patrons and the general public." said auction co-chair, Steven Aldrich. "We all look forward to a wonderful event, the results of which will help BAGI continue to provide outstanding artistic and educational programs to the entire community," he added.

## **ABOUT THE BAY AREA GLASS INSTITUTE**

The mission of the Bay Area Glass Institute (BAGI) is to make the celebration of glass art accessible to all and provide continued artistic and educational growth to artists, patrons and the community. BAGI is the only public access glass-working facility in the Santa Clara County. A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, BAGI is funded in part by the City of San Jose and the Arts Council Silicon Valley. We educate the public about glass art by teaching a variety of glass-working classes, offering tours of our facility, bringing in internationally renowned as well as local guest artists to conduct free demonstrations & lectures. BAGI's two signature events are the *Great Glass Pumpkin Patch*<sup>®</sup> and the *Annual Great Glass Auction*. BAGI is located at 401 E. Taylor Street, Suite 115, San Jose, CA 95112. Phone: 408.993.2244; Email: [studio@bagi.org](mailto:studio@bagi.org); Web: [www.bagi.org](http://www.bagi.org).

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