



Sandy Hook Arts Center for Kids

**For Immediate Release: April 2013**

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**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
**Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**Bear Givers and the S.H.A.C.K. present: "Visions of Tomorrow"  
A Children's Art Exhibit to Benefit the Children of Sandy Hook**

After the horrific tragedy at Sandy Hook Elementary School back in December 2012, classmates of the Newtown High School Class of '87 decided to form a children's arts center to help children, victims, families and survivors heal through the arts. "The S.H.A.C.K." was established, which stands for *Sandy Hook Arts Center for Kids*. Bear Givers is proudly partnering with the S.H.A.C.K. to present "Visions of Tomorrow", an art exhibit featuring artwork created by the children of Sandy Hook. All of the proceeds from the sale of all artwork will benefit the S.H.A.C.K., assisting them with their mission of providing a safe haven for the children and families of the Sandy Hook Community.

As part of the event, a selection of artwork by celebrities and guest artists produced specifically for the exhibition will be on display, with 100% of the sale proceeds going to benefit the S.H.A.C.K. Some of the paintings hanging alongside the children's artwork will be from well-known personalities such as Edie Falco and Regis Philbin, celebrity artists such as Jack Armstrong, and congressmen such as Senator Joe Lieberman and Representative Peter Roskam.

During the event, guests can view the artwork while enjoying food and refreshments. Some of the young artists will also be on hand to interact with attendees and enjoy the celebration in their honor. Radio 104.1 WMRQ will be broadcasting live, and live music will be provided by Guy Tino with special guest Alison Kellogg.

"We are very proud to host this empowering event for the S.H.A.C.K and we are extremely grateful to Richard and Mary Fink and family, and Koch Industries, Inc., for their support with making this event possible," says Joseph Sprung, founder of Bear Givers.

**Who:** The S.H.A.C.K, Bear Givers, the children of the Sandy Hook Community

**What:** A benefit art auction for the S.H.A.C.K.

**Where:** The S.H.A.C.K, 100 Church Hill Road, #104, Sandy Hook, CT. 06482

**When:** Sunday April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2013 from 3:00pm – 7:00pm

Bear Givers is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing joy to the lives of children and adults with the symbolic gift of a loveable Teddy Bear. Bear Givers believes that the altruism of some can exponentially affect the lives of many. Its programs facilitate an environment where "givers" are empowered by bringing joy to others and enabling young people with special needs to feel the satisfaction of being able to give back to others.

[www.beargivers.org](http://www.beargivers.org)

The Sandy Hook Arts Center for Kids, The S.H.A.C.K., is a nonprofit organization founded by Wendy Leahy Mitchell, Newtown High School Class of '87 and her fellow alumni who wanted to do something to bring healing through the arts to the town after the tragic events of December 14, 2012. The mission of the S.H.A.C.K. is to provide a safe haven for the children of the Sandy Hook and Newtown community to come to heal through the arts and explore various art forms while expressing themselves artistically in a nurturing environment. Here they can experience the benefits of art therapy, music therapy, pet therapy and other creative mediums such as music, art, theatre, dance and more. Our educational and therapeutic programs are taught by board certified and licensed professional therapists. [www.sandyhookartscenter.org](http://www.sandyhookartscenter.org)