

June 22, 2009

SOUTHSHORE ARTS COUNCIL GAINS SIGNIFICANT SUPPORT FOR UPCOMING PROGRAMS



SouthShore Arts Council President Pete Smith gratefully accepted a check for \$25,000 last week from Robert Mohr of the Community Association of Greater Sun City Center as Jan Falcione of the Mary & Martha House, along with Brian Hahn, Manager of the new Sherwin Williams Paint Store in Ruskin and Bruce Marsh, SSAC Board member and coordinator of this year's mural painting project, looked on.

The grant will underwrite several ambitious projects planned by the Arts Council involving arts-minded members of the entire community in projects scheduled for early fall.

The major portion of the funds, \$15,000, is earmarked for the creation of a large mural that will be painted on the exterior of the Mary & Martha House on Shell Point Road in Ruskin. Paint will be donated by the Sherwin Williams Corporation. This will be the second in a series of exterior art projects to enhance a huge space in downtown Ruskin. Last year's mural called "Head, Heart and Hands" and celebrating the 100th anniversary of Ruskin, stretches across a wall measuring 100' x 18' donated by the owners of the old Clark Furniture store behind the Post Office.

Other recipients of the grant will be art students from five area high schools who will compete in a juried art show that will be exhibited in the gallery of the SouthShore Regional Library in November-December of this year.

Once again, the Arts Council will be offering various art classes free to everyone in the community during the second BIG DRAW. The remaining funds will enable the group to bring programs in disciplines other than the visual arts – music, drama, literature, dance, and film, to the South Shore,

The SouthShore Arts Council is presently meeting to develop the final details for these community programs which will be announced shortly.

You can become an active participant in these and other programs offered by the Council by joining the group. Information from Pete Smith 813-215- 6535.