



# McLean Project for the Arts

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## MPA SPRING BENEFIT 2017 SET FOR MAY 18

### McLean Project for the Arts' Signature Spring Event Provides Support for Contemporary Art Exhibitions and Art Education

**McLean, VA – April 24, 2017** – Tickets sales opened this week for McLean Project for the Arts' (MPA's) annual Spring Benefit. The May 18 event is MPA's signature spring celebration, raising critical funds to support the organization's mission to exhibit the work of mid-Atlantic region artists and educate the community about contemporary art through its art classes and MPA's award-winning ArtReach program. Dr. Dorothy Kosinski, director of The Phillips Collection, will attend as this year's Guest of Honor. Event chairs for this year's Spring Benefit are Jane A. Imperatore and Neda Yazdani.



*Spring Benefit 2017 artwork by MPA's Education Director Christina Girardi*

"Spring Benefit provides a wonderful opportunity for our community of supporters to come together and celebrate MPA's outstanding visual arts programs," said MPA Executive Director Lori Carbonneau. "The majority of our funding comes from the generosity of individual donors, so we are delighted to continue this long-standing MPA fundraising tradition."

MPA, now in its 55<sup>th</sup> year, relies on the funds raised at Spring Benefit to further its mission to bring art to the community. In the last year alone, MPA presented 14 art exhibitions representing 140 artists in its galleries, taught nearly 200 art classes and offered 19 talks by local and guest artists. MPA's award-winning ArtReach program conducted 139 gallery tours for more than 3,000 individuals, including school children, low-income seniors and adults with disabilities. The 10<sup>th</sup> annual MPAartfest—MPA's free, one-day juried art festival—welcomed 6,000 guests and represented 50 artists.

Derrick Swaak, MPA Board Chair said, "I am fully aware of the capabilities of this wonderful organization, yet I am still amazed at all MPA accomplishes. We are fortunate as a community to be the home of McLean Project for the Arts."

Spring Benefit will take place on Thursday, May 18 from 7-9pm at the home of Pat and Matthew Bullock. This year, the event will feature a silent auction of contemporary paintings in collaboration with MPA staff and teaching artists, many of whom have exhibited their work nationally as well as regionally. VIP ticket holders (Patron, Major Benefactor, Leadership Circle, and Chairman's Circle Donors) will be invited to a VIP-only reception from 6-7pm.

**When:** Thursday, May 18, 2017

**Time:** 7 to 9pm

**Price:** Individual Tickets: \$350; Sponsor levels from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

**McLean Project for the Arts Exhibits. Educates. Inspires.**

1446 Chain Bridge Road ■ McLean, Virginia 22101 ■ 703.790.1953 ■ [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org)

**Tickets:** Limited and currently on sale at <https://mpaart.org/spring-benefit-2017/>

### **About MPA**

#### **MPA Exhibits, Educates and Inspires**

McLean Project for the Arts (MPA) is one of the mid-Atlantic region's most respected contemporary visual arts organizations. MPA provides high-quality art exhibitions showcasing the work of established and emerging artists of the mid-Atlantic region, educational programs, art classes, MPAartfest, summer STEAM camp, and ArtReach, an award-winning program serving students in grades K – 12, seniors and individuals with special needs. For more information visit [www.mpaart.org](http://www.mpaart.org).

#### **About Guest of Honor, Dr. Dorothy Kosinski**

Dr. Dorothy Kosinski is the director of The Phillips Collection since 2008. Throughout her career as a curator and scholar, she has championed the open-minded, interdisciplinary, and collaborative spirit of America's first museum of modern art. Dr. Kosinski values The Phillips Collection's intimate setting, promotion of contemporary art and its education as a "piazza, a meeting place that brings people together." Dr. Kosinski has written and published widely in numerous catalogues, books and art magazines. She regularly participates in scholarly lectures and has extensive teaching experience at the university level.