

Hyde Park Art Center Annual Gala

Saturday, September 28, 2013
7:00 pm – 11:00 pm

**Honoring: Barbara Crane, and
Eric and Cheryl McKissack**

**HYDE PARK ART CENTER
5020 South Cornell Ave
Chicago, IL 60615**



2012 gala honoree Martin Nesbitt bids on a unique art experience at Hyde Park Art Center's 2012 annual gala. Courtesy of Jason Smith.

Hyde Park Art Center's Annual Gala honors artist Barbara Crane and arts supporters Eric and Cheryl McKissack

Chicago (August, 2013) — For nearly 75 years the Hyde Park Art Center has been advancing contemporary visual art in Chicago by connecting artists and communities in unexpected ways. The Art Center's annual gala provides an opportunity to celebrate the organization's work while highlighting exemplary people who have made tremendous contributions to Chicago's cultural community. The Hyde Park Art Center's 2013 gala will honor artist Barbara Crane, along with business leaders and arts supporters Eric and Cheryl McKissack. The event's honorary Chair is Michelle T. Boone, Commissioner of the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, with Co-chairs Jillisa Brittan, Greg Thompson, and Jason Saul. The gala will take place on September 28, 2013 from 7-11pm at the Hyde Park Art Center, located at 5020 South Cornell Avenue in Chicago.

In keeping with the Hyde Park Art Center's unique and bold personality, the organization's annual gala is a distinctive and fun event. This year's gala will feature artist-run screenprinting by Chicago artist Oli Watt, and a performance of karaoke croonings by artist Alex Rauch. The Art Center's annual gala raises over \$200,000 for the nonprofit organization, which makes contemporary art approachable by providing opportunities for people from diverse communities to interact with art and artists. As an open forum for exploring the artistic process, the Art Center fosters creativity through dynamic art-centered interactions, including exhibitions, artist talks, free public events, studio art classes, professional development opportunities for artists, and arts education outreach.

Each of the 2013 gala honorees shares the Art Center's commitment to contemporary art in Chicago. Born in Chicago, artist **Barbara Crane** is a highly accomplished and internationally recognized photographer, renowned for her experimental and abstract photography. She has remained at the forefront of her field in Chicago and worldwide throughout her extensive career, which includes seven retrospectives, over 90 solo exhibitions, and more than 200 group shows.

Eric T. McKissack is a Co-Founder and Portfolio Manager of the Mid-Cap Value Product for Channing Capital Management, LLC. Prior to joining the firm, he was Vice-Chairman and Co-Chief Investment Officer at Ariel Capital Management, a Chicago-based investment management firm specializing in equities, with more than \$10 billion in assets under management in 2003.

Cheryl Mayberry McKissack is a Lecturer of Entrepreneurship at the Kellogg School of Management, and teaches the Entrepreneurial Selling classes. She is the founder, President, and CEO of Nia Enterprises, LLC, a Chicago-based research and marketing services firm founded in January 2000. Prior to founding Nia Enterprises, Ms. Mayberry McKissack enjoyed a successful 23-year corporate career in technology.

Along with being two of Chicago's well-recognized business leaders, the McKissacks are among the city's most dedicated arts advocates, actively supporting art and culture in the city as avid art collectors, and also through their involvement with several nonprofit institutions, including the Shedd Aquarium, Urban Gateways, the Renaissance Society, and the Art Institute of Chicago, to name just a few.

The Hyde Park Art Center's 12th Annual Gala will be held on September 28, 2013 from 7-11pm at the Hyde Park Art Center, 5020 S. Cornell, Chicago, IL 60615. For ticket information, please contact Development Associate Alex Myagkova at 773.324.5520 x1016. More information about the event can be found at <http://www.hydeparkart.org/support/annual-gala>.

Hyde Park Art Center is a unique resource that advances contemporary visual art in Chicago by connecting artists and communities in unexpected ways. The Art Center is funded in part by: Alphawood Foundation; Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts; a City Arts III grant from the City of Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events; Field Foundation of Illinois; Harpo Foundation; Harper Court Arts Council; Illinois Arts Council, a state agency; The Irving Harris Foundation; The Joyce Foundation; Leo S. Guthman Fund; Lloyd A. Fry Foundation; MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at Prince; Polk Bros. Foundation; Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust; and the generosity of people like you.