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John Nimmo
UNH Child Study and Development Center

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Media Contact:  John Nimmo  
603-862-2834  
UNH Child Study & Development Center

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For more information contact Tracy Gagnon at 603-862-2835 or tracy.gagnon@unh.edu

DURHAM, N.H. - The University of New Hampshire Child Study and Development Center (CSDC) will host its popular spring auction Saturday, April 5, at the Elliott Alumni Center on the UNH campus. The theme of this year's event, "Color Our World," highlights UNH's diversity mission and CSDC's goal of funding an artist-in residence, Richard Haynes, to create a diversity mural. University faculty, staff, CSDC alumni and community members are invited to join an evening of bargains, friendly competition, delicious tidbits and plenty of laughter. Tickets for the adult-only event, which runs from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., are $15 per person (two for $25).

The spring affair will include a silent and live auction. Appetizers, as well as beer and wine, will be served as part of the entrance ticket price. More than 150 auction items are being donated by businesses and individuals throughout the Durham and greater Seacoast area. Restaurant gift certificates, tickets to athletic events, jewelry, artwork, summer camp vouchers, crafts, memberships, and a number of surprises will be featured. Original works of art by the CSDC children also will be included.

The year's auction proceeds will fund a diversity mural created under the direction of Haynes. Haynes, associate director of admissions for diversity at UNH, will work with the children, staff, and families of CSDC to create an original piece reflecting CSDC's commitment to diversity. Tickets to the event can be purchased at the door or ordered by calling Tracy Gagnon at (603) 862-2835.

The UNH Child Study & Development Center began in 1929 as a laboratory for child development classes in the Home Economics Department. Since those early days with six children in a small campus building, CSDC has grown to be nationally recognized for its inquiry-based approach to early education and teacher training. As a center of excellence at UNH, the mission of the CSDC has three parts: providing a laboratory teaching site for hundreds of UNH students, offering opportunities for child-focused research, and providing quality early childhood education that serves as a model across the state.

Image available to download:  http://www.unh.edu/news/img/haynes/richardhaynes.jpg  
Caption:  Proceeds from UNH CSDC Color Our World Auction will support a diversity mural created under the direction of artist Richard Haynes. In 2006, Haynes collaborated with UNH undergraduates to create this mural based on the question, "What does diversity mean to