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For Immediate Release

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Young at Art. Big at Heart.

ArtCenter Manatee celebrates our young artists and their work at a KidsArt Camp Closing Reception

BRADENTON, Fla. August 1, 2014 – “Miss Carla? We want to sell our paintings and give the money to charity. We want to sell them for \$.50 each, except for the ones with glitter. Those would be \$1.00 each.”

So began the conversation that led to the idea of an auction of children’s artwork at ArtCenter Manatee’s Closing Reception of the KidsArt Summer Camp Exhibit on **August 8** from **5-7pm**.

The budding artists? They are Julia, Kiara and Sloan, and they presented the idea to Miss Carla with contagious enthusiasm. Originally a group of four, one artist bowed out when she thought she would like to give the money to help her grandmother.

The charities? The artists selected ArtCenter Manatee (Thank you) and The Salvation Army.

Miss Carla? She’s the Executive Director of ArtCenter Manatee and her door, and ears, are always open to new ideas.

Like many projects, it started small. Three young girls with three paintings and a desire to have fun, make friends, paint and help others. Then the idea blossomed and they are now thinking they would like to sell 50 paintings. Well, that may be too many but we love their ambition and generous hearts.

The auctioneer? Marianne Barneby, civic figure, ArtCenter Manatee Board member and an extraordinary auctioneer.

We hope you’ll join us as we celebrate the end of the KidsArt Summer Camp and view all the delightful and creative artwork now on display at the ArtCenter in our three galleries. There will be refreshments for the kids, surprise servers, and of course, you’ll get a chance to meet three young ladies with very big hearts.

Hope to see you there. Oh, and bring some money for our very special art auction. Glitter extra.

About ArtCenter Manatee

ArtCenter Manatee is the winner of the 2013-2014 Reader’s Choice Award for Best Art Gallery from the Herald Tribune and 2014 People’s Choice Award from the Bradenton Herald. Located in downtown Bradenton, Florida, ArtCenter Manatee is the premier center for art, art education and unique gifts in Manatee County. The nearly 10,000 sq. ft. building in downtown Bradenton features three galleries, five classrooms, an Artists’ Market gift shop and an art library featuring over 3,000 art volumes.

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