The 3\textsuperscript{rd} Annual Artists-4-Autism Auction
Saturday, September 11, 2010
Embassy Suites in Albuquerque
4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

- Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability in the nation affecting approximately one in 110 births. Just ten years ago the ratio was 1 in 10,000.
- In New Mexico, roughly 300 children were born in 2009 with this disability.
- Autism is a neurobiological disorder that is most often identified in young children as a difficulty in communication or personal interactions.
- It is a disability that costs the nation more than $90 billion per year, with costs expected to double over the next decade.
- In New Mexico, the Center for Development & Disability (CDD) is one of the few places in the state able to give a medical diagnosis of Autism.
- In addition to meeting the needs of children and their families, the CDD Autism Programs also conducts the majority of trainings throughout the state for early childhood providers, teachers, pediatricians and other health care providers on how to work and communicate with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASDs).
  - More than 700 in-person trainings are conducted throughout the year.
  - More than 24 telehealth trainings and consultations are conducted for rural areas.
- The need is great and growing. To meet this gap, the CDD has undertaken a campaign to build a new facility to enhance its services to New Mexico’s children and families. Many of these families have to pay out-of-pocket for the therapies needed for their child/children.
- The campaign began in 2008 with the first Artists-4-Autism event. New Mexico artists, community members, business and political leaders, philanthropists, and families and friends have gathered to support the Autism Center at the CDD.
- Quotes from family members:
  - \textit{I received caring gifts from the Center: diagnosis and understanding of what I need to do and what I can do for my child with Autism.}
  - \textit{We take for granted how easy these things [learning nursery rhymes] should come to all children. It is so frustrating and some days are extremely difficult. With the help of my family and friends, I know we will get through this together.}

You are invited to invest in the children of New Mexico by supporting this event in any number of ways:
- As a corporate sponsor
- By donating a live or silent auction item
- Attend the event
  - $75.00 general admission tickets
  - $125.00 VIP ticket which includes a pre-reception with the artists
If you have any questions or wish to learn more about Autism Spectrum Disorders, the Autism Center or other services of the Center for Development & Disability, please contact Rita Crozier at rcrozier@salud.unm.edu or by phone at 505.272.1913.