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Art of the Lowcountry Gala

St. Simons Island, GA, February 9, 2023 -- Glynn Visual Arts, a community art center nestled in the magnificent Lowcountry setting of St. Simons Island, has been inspiring and enriching the local community to pursue the passion for visual arts since its beginning in 1953.

To commemorate the 70th Anniversary, GVA would like to celebrate the wonderful artists, contributors, and supporters via a yearlong line up of activities and exhibitions designed to inspire artists of all ages throughout our community.

The Art of the Lowcountry fundraiser gala will be the highlight of the year's celebrations. It will be held on March 4, 2023 at the A.W. Jones Heritage Center. GVA expects about 150 guests to join in the evening festivities that will include a live jazz performance by the Phil Morrison Trio, live portraiture by a multi-media artist, sculptor and GVA Board Member Kevin Pullen, and a performance abstract painting created during the event by prolific painter and muralist, Megan Torello.

We are honored to welcome Honorary Chair, Betty Oliver, PhD, local artist and longtime champion of Glynn Visual Arts, as well as Griffin Lotson, Gullah Geechee historian, storyteller and folklorist, as special guests at the gala. Mr. Lotson will present remarks on the impact and importance of visual arts in culture and history in our Georgia Lowcountry.

Master basket weaver, Yvonne Grovner of Sapelo Island, a 2020 recipient of the Governor's Award for the Arts and Humanities, has graciously loaned her Moses Sweetgrass Basket for display at the gala. This basket was featured in President Barack Obama's second inaugural parade as a tribute to Gullah Geechee Lowcountry culture. Her granddaughter, who is now 13, used this Moses basket as her first bed. Alongside this masterpiece is a specially commissioned sweetgrass basket up for auction at the event to support GVA. Furthermore, guests will be able to participate in both live and silent auctions of fine art from renowned artists, Lowcountry excursions, golf packages, photo portraits, fine art, and more.

The gala will be catered by Three Little Birds and, besides the wine and beer service available, GVA is excited to offer a VIP Premium Bar that comes with a keepsake glass. Contribute \$70 to GVA and have access to the VIP Premium Bar all evening.

For more information about GVA and to purchase tickets to the Art of the Lowcountry Gala, please visit <u>https://glynnvisualarts.org/gala</u>.