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East Hampton is Backdrop to United Cerebral Palsy Artists Exhibit

East Hampton, August 2009 – The East Hampton home of philanthropists Mrs. Georgia and Dr. Gerald Curatola served as backdrop for “Celebrating the Creative Spirit,” a reception, exhibit, and silent auction of original pieces of art created by artists with disabilities, who attend day programs at United Cerebral Palsy of Suffolk and United Cerebral Palsy New York City. In all, 26 works of art, four poems and an independent film were displayed. The art sold for a combined total of \$6,800. Most of the artists were on hand to discuss their techniques and how they have personally benefited from the creative arts programs at UCP.

The arts, a vital component to UCP’s day programs, provide an opportunity for participants to explore a variety of media. Many artists begin with little or no previous exposure. The UCP art programs foster and nurture the creative process, enabling each artist and poet to develop hidden talents and open a world of self-discovery and expression. Each artist is compensated for the work sold at auction. Any additional funds raised directly support these exceptional programs.

“We are grateful to Dr. and Mrs. Curatola for opening their East Hampton home as a venue for our artists to share an impressive body of work with the East End community. Seeing the pride exhibited by our participants and their families at this event is a wonderful experience. The artists also enjoy socializing, as they mingle with guests and are recognized for their creative achievements,” said Stephen Friedman, President/CEO of UCP Suffolk.

Additional paintings and drawings by these, and other UCP artists *remain* available for purchase. Please contact UCP Suffolk @ 631-232-0015.

About United Cerebral Palsy

UCP Suffolk, based in Hauppauge, NY, annually assists almost 4,000 children and adults with a range of disabilities and their families. Services include but are not limited to, job training and placement, physical therapy, individual and family support, as well as early intervention, preschool, school age, adult day and residential programs for children and adults. UCP also operates a comprehensive fully accessible Health Center. Of the program participants, 35% have cerebral palsy, while 65% have other developmental and acquired disabilities. For more information, visit www.ucp-suffolk.org.

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