



### **Contact**

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## **VENICE ARTS CELEBRATES ITS 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY With a Gala Event at Bigfoot Entertainment**

Venice, CA (October 26, 2010) – Venice Arts will celebrate its 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a fundraising gala on **November 6, 2010** at Bigfoot Entertainment in Venice. This innovative organization ignites imagination and creativity through high-quality, media-based arts education programs for low-income youth.

In this year's gala, Venice Arts honors angels who have shown continuous support for the organization: **Russell Baer** of Russell Baer Photography; **Robert Feist**, owner of the media company Ravenswork and co-founder of the Venice Media District; and photographers **Jasmine and Mark Swope**. Speaking of his active involvement with Venice Arts for the past five years teaching documentary photography to teens, Russell states: "This work with the students has shown me so much about myself as well as the knowledge and abilities these kids have. I see gratification on their faces and it always brings a sense of accomplishment to me."

The evening will include both silent and live auctions featuring over 60 photographs by world-renowned photographers and Venice Arts' students, a week in beautiful Cabo, and a session with celebrity photographer Russell Baer. The winning ticket of Venice Arts' raffle will be drawn, and the lucky winners will receive an iPod Touch or two round-trip tickets on Southwest Airlines.

The evening also includes a wide selection of hors d'oeuvres and refreshments from local Venice restaurants and businesses, an entertaining program, and the opportunity to support Venice Arts. For more information, please contact [elysa@venice-arts.org](mailto:elysa@venice-arts.org) or 310.578.1745.

### **About Venice Arts**

Founded in 1993, Venice Arts is an award-winning, nonprofit organization based in Los Angeles. Offering programs in documentary photography, filmmaking, and digital media, Venice Arts primarily targets low-income youth in order to expand their sense of possibility through accessible media. For more information, visit [www.venice-arts.org](http://www.venice-arts.org).



Mother and Child: Sandra Marino, Age 17, from Picturing Health, Southern Kern, CA, 2010

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