

PRESS RELEASE

The Shield of Athena's 17th Annual Art Auction

<u>November 09, 2010</u>- Chairperson, Sophie Grégoire Trudeau, would like to thank all of the supporters and 400 guests that attended the Shield of Athena's 17th Annual Art Auction that took place on Sunday November 7, 2010 at Marché Bonsecours. Over \$100 000 was raised for the organization's support, intervention and prevention services for victims of family violence.

33 local and international artists participated in the event, including Katerina Mertikas, whose works has been purchased by celebrities Roger Moore and Julio Iglesias. A very successful silent auction was also made possible through wonderful items and gift certificates donated by Mrs. Laureen Harper, wife of Canadian Prime Minster Stephen Harper, Victoria Park Medispa, the Montreal Impact, the Montreal Alouettes, the Montreal Candadiens and leading Montreal retailers, restaurants, spas, jewelers etc.....

This year's **recognition award** went to **John and Linda Ciolfi from Suzy Shier**, loyal and long-standing supporters of the Shield of Athena. With ongoing donations of new clothing, Suzy Shier is one of the leaders of community support in the fashion industry, taking an active and generous role to directly benefit women and children victims of abuse.

There was also a heartrending display of works done by children who have been exposed to domestic violence. The pieces are an artistic testimony to the sad and frightful reality of the children who have stayed at the Shield's shelter or received services at it centers.

In attendance were:, Orestis Kafopoulos; consul General of Greece, Marcel Tremblay; former Member in charge of citizen services of the executive committee of the City of Montreal, Mary Deros; Executive Committee Member of the city of Montreal, Fatima Houda-Pepin; First Vice-President of the National Assembly, Joan Frazier, senator and Michel Faure, Isabella Federigi, Director CJNT.

SPONSORS of the EVENT: Planête Mobile, Suzy Shier, Sir Winston Churchill Pub, Tom and Gwen Nacos, Bâton Rouge, Victoria Park, City of Montreal, Elounda, Immigration et Communautés culturelles Quebec, Pearl Eliadis, Paul Kamateros C.A, Kounadis Perreault Avocat, Madisons New York Grill & Bar, Omnitrans, Philoptochos Chapters, Ste Rose-Honda, Tzanet Odyssey Group, Urgel Bourgie

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Founded in 1991, the Shield of Athena Family Services is a non-profit community organization with an extensive network of services that includes: Montreal and Laval centers, a shelter for women and their children, and a multilingual public awareness and community outreach program.