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CHILDREN'S CHARITY MOVES TO ITS NEW HOME

Move to NTC Promenade Makes Creative Use of Former Naval Housing Site

SAN DIEGO – Feb. 1, 2007 – San Diego-based A Reason To Survive, or ARTS, announced today it has opened the Pat D'Arrigo ARTS Center, a 7000-square foot space located at the NTC Promenade in Pt.Loma. The Center will offer free in-house programs, classes, camps, workshops, exhibits, and performances for San Diego children who are facing adversity.

The Center is named after the late mother of executive director and founder Matt D'Arrigo and is designed to be a safe environment for children to come after school, on the weekends, and during the summer to learn about the arts. The goal of D'Arrigo is to help the children express themselves in positive, creative ways, thereby helping them to cope with their challenges.

“Opening the ARTS Center is a major milestone for us,” said D'Arrigo. “Not only am I seeing a personal dream fulfilled, but I am able to offer a unique and extraordinary resource to more of San Diego's children,” he said.

At the new Center, regional artists musicians, poets, writers, dancers, and actors will offer a broad palette of classes. The Center has a fully equipped music room, a media arts room with 20 computers, a ceramic and sculpture studio, a performance space for dance, drama and music, and a multipurpose space for drawing painting, printmaking, and mixed media.

The Center will also host the Children's Gallery, a 625-square-foot space dedicated to exhibiting and selling original artwork and merchandise created by the children. Staffed by youth, a percentage of the gallery sales will go to the children and a percentage will go to support the ARTS programs.

ARTS offers a therapeutic medium to children and families experiencing adversity and partners to provide arts programs to such organizations as Ronald McDonald House Charities, San Diego Center for Children, Children's Hospital, San Diego Hospice, Camp Pendleton, as well as the greater community. Through imaginative expression, ARTS strives to improve the well-being and quality of life, fostering healing and hope. Those who would like to donate to ARTS can visit www.artsurvive.org or call 619.297.ARTS (2787).

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