



**Heart Happening, benefiting the Lotus House Women's Shelter
Friday, October 22, 2010, at the Margulies Art Warehouse**

Dear Friends,

For the sixth year in a row, the Martin Z. Margulies Foundation and Sundari Foundation have co-sponsored an extraordinary art event – this year called **Heart Happening** - at the Margulies Art Warehouse in Miami, with all proceeds benefiting the Lotus House serving women and children in need. The 2009 Hope Blossoms - Art Happening hosted last year included over 40 artists, musicians, dancers, and performance artists from New York to LA, as well as an amazing art auction of over 100 works, and was a resounding success attended by more than 800 participants, receiving both critical acclaim and unprecedented media attention focused on the special needs of homeless women and children and the unique ways in which Lotus House addresses those needs.

This year, with virtually every form of artistic medium represented, the 2010 *Heart Happening* will be an art “happening” like no other, including lively performance art, a live auction by Sotheby’s and silent auction, and chef’s tastings from Miami’s finest, filling the entire 45,000 ft warehouse and spilling out onto the street – both literally and figuratively – where so many of our homeless are forced to survive if we do not provide the support, tools and resources needed to build a better way of life. We are asking the artists invited to participate in this event to create spontaneous, “live works of art” that explore our heart based themes and engage the audience on every level. How do we see with our hearts? What do we hear with our hearts? How do we speak and act from our hearts? These are the questions we are asking the artists, dancers, musicians, performers and - audience – to answer and explore. These are the questions all of us must ask in times that compel us to find new answers to the question of how we can truly make a difference for so many in need. Join us in pioneering an art happening that is heart based, celebrating our shared humanity, our “oneness,” and the power of coming together through heart to bring an end to homelessness.

We invite you to participate in this very special event by joining the Sponsor/Host Committee of *Heart Happening*. In addition to tremendous media exposure and tickets to the main event, our Sponsors and Host Committee will enjoy a special VIP champagne reception and “live” art auction of significant art works by internationally recognized artists, to be conducted by Sotheby’s of New York in the Warehouse, immediately preceding the opening of the performance art and silent auction components of the *Heart Happening* event. Sponsorships are available at the following levels: Pink Lotus \$50,000 - the universal symbol of compassion and namesake of the Lotus House; Yellow Lotus \$25,000 - offering joy and comfort to all; Purple Lotus \$10,000 - a symbol of enlightened consciousness; Green Lotus \$5,000 - divining peace on earth; and Blue Lotus \$2,500 - providing hope for those in need. Benefits are described on the attached sheet to be returned to us. Your support truly makes a difference for women and children in need in our community. Please give generously in these difficult times so that others might have the hope for a better way of life.

The Sundari Foundation, Inc. operates the Lotus House as a free, holistic shelter and resource center for homeless women and children in the heart of one of the poorest neighborhoods in Miami, itself one of the poorest large cities in the United States. With programming ranging from counseling and job training to art, creative writing and yoga, Lotus House is not a typical shelter, but a sanctuary where the minds, bodies, hearts and spirits of women and children in need are supported, nurtured, uplifted and afforded an opportunity to learn and grow on every level. Women and children are offered free housing for up to a year, with wrap-around support services and access to a wide range of resources that educate, empower and uplift.

Lotus House has sheltered over 400 women and children since opening its doors and is the proud mother to over 40 newborns through its special maternity program, with more on the way! It has been our mission from the very beginning to create a holistic prototype that truly inspires a change in the way in which shelters address the needs of our homeless. We are planting the seeds of change in Lotus House - which has received national and international attention for the creative ways in which art is incorporated in our programming. In all that we do, we seek to raise public awareness in ways that allow us to see beyond stereotypes, replacing judgments, labels and blame with support, tools and resources. We hope you will join us!

Because we want to publicize our Host Committee and Sponsors well in advance, please let us know if you will be participating as soon as possible by filling out the sponsorship form. Please feel free to call us 305-365-2478 with any questions or for additional information. Thank you so much for caring!

