

Derby Day is on Its Way!

by Kathi Williams
Coastal Illustrated



Lithograph print by
Laura Maguire

The Art

The charcoal drawing featured on this edition's cover was created to express the "theme" of Derby Day 2008 by local artist and Sea Island resident Laura Frances Maguire. Missy Capone says that when you look at Laura's drawing, it "just captures the energy of the day." This is not the first time that Maguire has provided art for Derby Day. In 2005, her work (seen on left) was also featured as the event's theme and limited edition lithograph prints of that drawing were given to sponsors of the event as gifts. Missy says that Laura is remarkably generous and has donated works for the Derby Day auctions in the past, as well.

Laura is a New York native who received her Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art from Marymount Manhattan College and a Masters in Fine Art in Sculpture from The Graduate School of Figurative Art of the New York Academy of Art, where she received the Andy Warhol Tuition Scholarship.

In 2004, one of Laura's works was honored and recognized in the World Trade Center Site Memorial Competition by The Lower Manhattan Development Corporation. In 2005, she had the honor of having one of her drawings placed at College Station in the George Bush Presidential Library.

Laura is currently affiliated with Left Bank Art Gallery and has a studio on St. Simons Island. Her work is many private and public collections on Sea Island and throughout the United States.

Thanks to the generous support of members of the community and corporate sponsors, there is no shortage of exciting items up for grabs this year. Attendees will find numerous packages put together that will appeal to all. Some of the bigger items include a "surprise package" donated by H&H; a "pub party package" where you can celebrate the arrival of your new pool table with a party in your home for you and some of your closest friends; and a spectacular group fishing trip. There are many pieces of original artwork available. Missy contributes a special item of her own each year: a puppy that she has rescued and trained who is now ready for a permanent home. There is something for everyone in this wide array of special auction items and packages; buy your Derby Day ticket so you can make your choice!

The Students

While the Derby Day festivities are guaranteed to make for an entertaining afternoon, it is important to remember that the true focus of the event is the students. All proceeds generated from the event will support Frederica Academy's financial aid program for students in need. Currently 18% of the Academy's 425 students receive assistance. If sufficient funds are raised for scholarships, the money will be applied to other priority concerns on campus, including professional development for teachers and athletic programs.

Academy students have made their own contributions to make Derby Day special. Students were asked to create an original drawing within a horseshoe and three of these drawings were selected as art for a T-shirt. Students can purchase the T-shirts and wear them on Fridays

Can't make it to Louisville for this year's Kentucky Derby? Join friends from Frederica Academy as the magic of Churchill Downs is recreated on St. Simons Island on Saturday, May 3, 2008!

The Event

Frederica Academy's Derby Day fundraiser has been a St. Simons tradition since 2001. Each year, the event is held on the first Saturday in May to coincide with the Kentucky Derby.

Considered a highlight of Coastal Georgia's spring social calendar, Derby Day attracts hundreds of people each year as well as many generous event sponsors. This year's event is co-chaired by Elizabeth Brunson, Missy Capone and Carla Cate and promises to be a fun-filled event for all who attend. The event is not limited to those affiliated with Frederica Academy and everyone is invited to come out and enjoy themselves on this exciting day. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Proceeds from Derby Day support scholarship programs at Frederica Academy.

This year's Derby Day festivities will take place at the Sea Island Retreat Clubhouse. While people enjoyed having the event outdoors at the Sea Island Stables



2008 Derby Day Chairs from left,
Elizabeth Brunson, Missy Capone
and Carla Cate

last year, Missy Capone says that Retreat is a wonderful venue, with fewer distractions and is much more partygoer friendly when it comes to weather and bugs. Derby Day 2008 promises an entertaining afternoon of spectacular horse-racing, exciting live and silent auctions, delicious southern fare and a traditional mint julep or two. The annual Parade of Hats is a sight to behold.

Tickets are \$100 and may be purchased by contacting the Office of Advancement at 912-638-9981 extension 102 or emailing derbyday@fredericaacademy.org. Sponsorship packages are still available as well. Provide your support for Frederica Academy today and help build bright futures for local youth.

The Auctions

Last year, the silent auction was available on-line so people could visit the website and place their bids. This year, bidders do not have that opportunity. Missy Capone explains that while last year's method was successful, they have chosen to keep the silent auction as part of the events happening "on-site". She said that she thinks there is a different dynamic and energy that is captured when people can see and touch the items when they place their bids.

leading up to Derby Day. In addition, students have participated in class projects on which interested individuals can bid during the day's live and silent auctions.

Missy Capone says that "when the students are able to contribute to Derby Day in these ways, they feel more involved."

Derby Day is a perfect way for members of the community and the Frederica Academy family to show their support for the students. Come out on May 3 and join in the fun! **H**

Gentlemen,
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