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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**THE ARTS FUND TO EXHIBIT
ARTISTS AS MENTORS
MASTER TEACHERS FROM THE ARTS FUND'S TEEN ARTS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM
APRIL 2-MAY 15, 2010**

March 20, 2010- The Arts Fund will present a group show of works by past and present Teen Arts Mentorship Instructors. The exhibition will be on view from **April 2-May 15, 2010**, and a reception for the artists will be held on **Friday, April 2, 2010 from 5:30-7:30 pm** at the The Arts Fund Gallery, located at 205C Santa Barbara Street. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 1-5 pm.

As a preview to The Arts Fund's annual Teen Arts Mentorship Group Exhibition, *ARTISTS AS MENTORS* will showcase the works of six mentor instructors. The exhibit will include photography, drawing, painting, bronze sculpture, and assemblage works by master artists **Nell Campbell, Colin Gray, Pamela Larsson-Toscher, Nevin Littlehale, Rafael Perea de la Cabada, and Ron Roberston**. According to Executive Director, Nina Dunbar, "The strength of The Teen Arts Mentorship program is defined by the influence of these artists as teachers and role models. This show is an example of their wealth of talent as artists outside of the classroom."

For 16 years, The Arts Fund Teen Arts Mentorship Program has enabled talented high school students to work in a small group with a master artist. Students admitted into the program work under the guidance of professionals in groups of no more than ten to produce portfolio-quality work and explore career opportunities in the arts. At the conclusion of the program, artwork produced in the mentorships is exhibited at The Arts Fund Gallery. This year's mentorship scenarios include: Figure Drawing taught by Colin Gray; Basic Bronze Casting taught by Nevin Littlehale; Traditional Still Life Painting taught by Pamela Larsson-Toscher; Black and White Photography taught by Nell Campbell. The Teen Arts Mentorship Group Exhibition will be on view from May 21 through July 16, 2010.

For more information about the *Artist As Mentors* Exhibition or the Teen Arts Mentorship Program, please visit The Arts Fund's website, www.artsfundsb.org, or call (805) 965-7321.

Organization Background:

The Arts Fund (www.artsfundsb.org) was established in 1983 with a mission to create, fund and administer programs and projects that foster the arts for the people of Santa Barbara County, to act as a catalyst maximizing the effectiveness of arts resources, and to nurture collaborative relationships amongst arts organizations.

The Arts Fund is best known as the sponsor of the annual Individual Artist Awards (IAA), a juried competition open to local artists, and the Teen Arts Mentorship Program, which, for over a decade, has paired promising young artists with professional master artists in a workshop setting. In 2001, The Arts Fund opened its own gallery, located at the corner of Yanonali and Santa Barbara Streets. Gallery sales and private donations are an important and essential source of funding for the organization so please visit **www.artsfundsb.org** to learn more about supporting the arts in Santa Barbara. The Arts Fund gallery is open Tuesday – Saturday from 1-5 pm or by appointment.

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