THE RICHARD & JANINE HOLCOMB PRIVATE ART COLLECTION

benefitting
El Ranchito de los Ninos
Your purchase from this collection - more than 125 works, including originals, serigraphs, lithographs and giclées by RC Gorman, JD Challenger, Frank Howell, John Nieto, Malcolm Furlow, Charles Collins, Robert Redbird, Farrell Cockrum and other artists as well as an extensive selection of Native American pottery - will directly benefit El Ranchito de los Ninos, a loving and caring children’s home dedicated to keeping siblings together.

THE COLLECTION

Richard & Janine Holcomb have been collecting fine art since 2003, primarily Native American works by renowned New Mexico artists. As supporters of El Ranchito de los Ninos since 2004, Richard and Janine wanted to put their vast art collection “to work” for El Ranchito by donating 100% of the net proceeds to the children’s home.

THE BENEFICIARY

Located in Los Lunas, New Mexico, El Ranchito de los Ninos is a non-profit children’s home dedicated to keeping siblings together long term or permanently. The children who live at El Ranchito have been separated from their families as a result of such issues as physical or sexual abuse, drug use, incarceration and abandonment. The home serves as an alternative to the foster care system, which often separates siblings, providing a loving, caring environment in which children grow, learn and excel physically, mentally, socially and emotionally.

THE VENUE

The son of a talented artist and a philanthropist who cares deeply for the well-being of all, Dr. Harvey White did not hesitate when asked if he would use his expansive office display space for this event, for which El Ranchito and the Holcombs are most grateful. Dr. White’s practice is focused on treating the entire cardiovascular system, the vessels of which carry the very life-force of our being to every part of our body - the “vessel” that each of us needs to live, love, and pursue happiness each day.
JD CHALLENGER
1951 -

With his Choctaw heritage, passion for art and an irrepressible creative fire, JD Challenger has emerged as one of the most notable and collected artists in the Southwest.

Born in Oklahoma, JD eventually relocated to Taos, where he became a successful landscape artist, yet his passion was to sketch and paint Native Americans. Fearful of offending a people he so deeply respected, JD kept his Native American works in the background until an event that changed his life.

Upon witnessing a Ghost Dance re-enactment, he knew the knowledge and experiences of the Native American people needed to be preserved... THEIR history... THEIR stories. With a holy man's blessing and affirmation from his many Native American friends, JD has dedicated his life to that endeavor, using intense color, intricate detail and powerful imagery to create masterful, meaningful and memorable works of art in honor of a people close to his heart.

Richard and Janine first met JD in 2004 and treasure their strong friendship and lasting relationship with JD and his wife Denise as well as other artists and Native Americans they met through that relationship.

One of those relationships is Randolph Scott, a Native American who has become Richard and Janine’s “fourth son.” He is depicted in an original painting in their collection titled “Lakota Sun.”

Colorful and yet humble by nature, the soft-spoken JD takes no credit for his remarkable artistic talents. He says, “I look at it as ‘not me doing it.’ I’m just the instrument. The Creator, the brush, the paint and then me.”

EAGLE HAWK VISION  I  Original
40X40 Acrylic on Canvas  I  $27,500

LAKOTA SUN  I  Original
40X40 Acrylic on Canvas  I  $23,500

MEDICINE WHEEL  I  Original
48x60 Acrylic on Canvas  I  $60,000
UNKNOWN TITLE  |  Original
30x30 Acrylic on Board  |  $9,500

THE RIVER STILL FLOWS  |  Lithograph
22x28  |  $1,250

BLACK WOLF  |  Original
24x24  |  Artist Proof  |  $4,250

LEGEND KEEPER  |  Artist Proof Giclée on Canvas
18x18  |  $475

RED MOON  |  Lithograph
22x22  |  Limited Edition Artist Proof  |  12 of 80
37x38 Framed  |  $1,650

YELLOW KNIFE  |  Artist Proof Giclée on Canvas
18x18  |  $475

EARTH SONG  |  Limited Edition Giclée on Canvas
38x38  |  1 of 10 SE  |  $3,250

LAKOTA SUN
Artist Proof  Giclée on Canvas
18x18  |  $475
Perhaps the most revered Native American artist, RC Gorman is noted for his simple lines, fluid forms and vibrant colors. With drawings, paintings, sculptures and ceramics which typically reflect Native American women, RC has been dubbed the “Picasso of American Indian artists.”

Born in Chinle, Arizona and growing up in a traditional Navajo hogan, RC began drawing at the age of 3, encouraged by his grandmother who filled his heart and mind with appreciation for Navajo legends and ancestral heritage. While tending sheep with his aunts, he would draw in the sand and mud and on rocks, and he used mud to make sculptures.

Inspired to become a full-time artist by a teacher, RC entered the US Navy after high school and later studied art at Northern Arizona University... Mexico City College... and San Francisco State University.

In 1968, RC moved from California to Taos, New Mexico where he opened the Navajo Gallery, the first Native American-owned art gallery. His career is notable on many fronts, including the fact that, in 1973, he was the only living artist whose work was shown in the “Masterworks from the Museum of the American Indian” exhibition held at Metropolitan Museum in New York, with one of his pieces selected for the cover of the exhibit’s catalog.

After his death in 2005, then New Mexico governor Bill Richardson ordered flags flown at half-staff in RC’s honor. He was a remarkable artist whose works will live on in perpetuity.

**RECLINING WOMAN – ORIGINAL PASTEL**
30x17 | 49.5x37 framed | $11,000

**RED MOON – ORIGINAL PASTEL**
30x17 | 44X38 Framed | $10,500
GALA I | Lithograph 10 of 75  
24x30 | 37.5x43.5 Framed | $4,750

GALA II | Lithograph 10 of 75  
24x30 | 37.5x43.5 Framed | $4,750

PESHLAKAI’S CONCHO | Lithograph 10 of 75  
33.25x24 | 48.5x40 Framed | $4,750

TWILIGHT | Lithograph 10 of 75  
19x25 | 31x36 Framed | $2,150

STRIPED BLANKET  
Signed Jardiniere  
14x18 | $3,200

SOUTHWEST WOMAN  
Signed Jardiniere  
14x18 | $2,500

RED CONCHO | Lithograph 175 OF 299  
11x14 | 20x18 Framed | Signed Book | $1,950

VIEW AT EVENT
FRANK HOWELL
1937 - 1997

Noted for his inspiring fusion of the physical and spiritual, Frank Howell is a famous, highly-collected Southwest artist whose captivating works are known world-wide. Fine lines, earthy colors, intriguing subject matter and a magical blend of traditional and contemporary elements create a sense of past, present and future in his works, with the goal of depicting the dignity of his subjects.

Born in Sioux City, Iowa, Frank served in the US Marine Corps and then studied art and writing at the University of Northern Iowa, with a focus on ceramics and jewelry. After college, he turned his attention fully to writing, finally returning to art years later thanks to a motivating force from within that RC felt was the key to his success as an artist.

After teaching art at the high school and college level for 11 years, RC decided it was time to focus fully on his art. He moved to Colorado, opened Breckenridge Gallery and devoted his life to his love of painting, sculpting and printmaking. Eventually, he lived in Taos and opened the Howell Gallery in Santa Fe.

In 1975, Frank’s series of drawings titled “Past Winds” brought him notoriety as these works were viewed in galleries, museums and universities throughout the United States. Over his lifetime, Frank held over thirty one-man shows and was profiled on TV and radio and in newspapers and magazines.

Today, Frank Howell’s works are treasured and collected across the country and around the world.

LAKOTA WOMAN  |  Lithograph  31 of 45
24X23  |  41X39.5 Framed  |  $6,500

FIRE ECHOES  |  Lithograph  114 OF 140
20X36  |  43X27 Framed  |  $5,250

RAVEN SONGS  |  Lithograph, Trial Proof
1Q3.5X8  |  28.5x23  |  Framed  |  $5,500
JOHN NIETO
1936 - 2018

One of America’s most recognized contemporary artists, John Nieto combines bold strokes and intense colors to create works of great detail and depth. His vibrant colors, distinctive style and Native American and wildlife subject matter have made his paintings prized with collectors all over the world.

Born in Denver, Colorado, John earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Southern Methodist University in 1959. Later, when visiting Paris, he was introduced to the 1920’s French Fauvist movement, which dramatically influenced his work from that point on. The brilliant Fauves colors inspired him and gave him “permission” to use the bold colors he already was using intuitively.

While John produced lithographs, etchings, silk-screen prints, bronze sculptures and pastel and charcoal drawings throughout his lifetime, the majority of his works are paintings that reflect his Mescalero-Apache and Hispanic heritage as well as indigenous wildlife. One of his most notable paintings was “Delegate to the White House,” a painting he presented to President Reagan in the Oval Office and which hung throughout the President’s term, later included in the Presidential Library. Shows have included the Salon d’ Autumn at the Grand Palais in Paris, a one-man show at the Axis Gallery in Tokyo, and annual exhibitions in Santa Fe and Jackson, Wyoming.

In 1981, John participated by invitation in the "Salon d'Autumn" at the Grand Palais, Paris, France, and in 1989 he mounted a one-man show at the Axis Gallery in Tokyo, Japan. Each summer he has an annual exhibition in Santa Fe, NM, at Ventana Fine Art, and Altamira Fine Art Gallery in Jackson Hole, WY. John received the New Mexico Governor’s Award for Achievement in the Arts in 1994 and has served on the Advisory Boards for both the Wheelwright Museum and the Native American Preparatory School. He is represented in the New Mexico Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fe, and calls New Mexico his ancestral home.
With works in collections all over the world, Charles Collins’ paintings and sculptures deliver more than the eye first sees. Many paintings are profoundly spiritual, with layers of hidden imagery enhanced by techniques that enrich colors and augment the reflection of light.

The most-awarded artist in the history of the Taos Fall Arts Festival, Charles is also the only sculptor to win the festival’s "Best of Show" honor. He is recognized by the Taos Millicent Rogers Museum as a Taos master, and former New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson proclaimed Aug. 6 as Charles Collins Day in New Mexico ad infinitum.

The primary focus of Charles’ works is the interconnectedness of all peoples, with Native Americans and historical figures often his subject matter. His inspiration is rooted in his dreams and his extensive reading, including the ancient teachings of Christ. Visitors to his Charles Collins Gallery in Taos often comment on the power of love they feel exuding from his paintings.

Charles begins his paintings with a charcoal drawing. He then adds a thin terra green or burnt umber glaze which serves as base for light to reflect from. He covers the base with an under painting, followed by a series of over paintings... up to 30 glazes in all. "You can’t hurry it," he said. "The light bounces off the undertones, illuminating every layer as it bounces back to the eye," he explains. "Color has become light."

"A firm believer in meeting his gallery guests, Charles can be found more often than not in the gallery ready to learn about their interests and talk about his works. But it doesn’t stop there. Charles is always ready to share information about other artists and is well known for his encouragement of other artists through God in the Arts Foundation, which evolved out of a desire to encourage anyone who "believes that all life is like petals on the same flower."
MALCOM FURLOW
1946 -

A living legend in the Southwest and critically acclaimed throughout the world, Malcolm Furlow’s accolades include the Silver Award from the Sorbonne and the highly-coveted Gold Award from the Luxembourg Museum in Paris. Vibrant colors and broad, bold strokes are hallmarks of his contemporary paintings. A documentary titled Life and Art of Malcom Furlow refers to him as a “Renaissance Man.”

Malcolm credits his ability to produce powerful Native American imagery to his DNA rather than personal experiences. His Choctaw grandfather was “taken” to a Christian school, had his braids cut off and was frequently beat for speaking his native language. And as a young boy in Louisiana, Malcolm witnessed Indian hangings in his own neighborhood. Late one night, his father packed up the family and moved to Dallas for safety. Malcolm never met his Choctaw relatives and was told to never speak of his ancestral heritage.

Malcom started drawing and painting at the age of six but when an art professor at the University of Texas disapproved of his style, Malcom turned to music. For 18 years, he played the sax, bass and guitar, including backup for the Beach Boys and Lou Rawls. He left his music career to construct models for movie sets at Walt Disney Studios. It wasn’t until he heard the words of scholar Joseph Campbell, “Follow Your Bliss,” that he knew it was time to return to his love of painting.

By 2007, Malcolm had sold out over 50 solo shows. His works continue to be included in exhibitions and private collections around the world, including the U.S. Embassies of Morocco, Belgium and Beijing; the White House; CEO Magazine; The Smithsonian; Mobil Oil; Arnold Schwarzenegger; Presidents George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, and George W. Bush; Senator Hillary Clinton; Bernadette Peters and many others.

A resident of Taos, New Mexico, Malcom continues to use his bold colors to passionately share his ancestry.
Born in Montana into the Blackfeet Nation, Farrell Cockrum ("See-It-Tan", meaning Front Saddle), Farrell has been deeply committed to his people and his work since childhood. His profound need to create is driven by respect for ancient traditions and his beliefs in the Creator.

He specializes in contemporary, colorful clay sculptures, primarily animals and Native American people, and paintings rich with texture, color and unique subject matter, including Geronimo’s Cadillac, honored Native American warriors, and Napi (Old Man) who is integral to the Blackfeet creation story as well many life lessons for the Blackfeet people.

Farrell began his artistic career in the 1980’s by studying fine arts at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe. The diversity of art and artists in Santa Fe proved to be an inspiring setting for him, helping guide him on an artistic journey that has evolved but has never wavered from his unrelenting passion to share his rich Blackfeet heritage.

A self-proclaimed Contemporary Native Modernist, Farrell’s expressive paintings are wildly unique, powerful and memorable. Farrell resides in New Mexico, choosing to remain for its never-ending source of inspiration and beauty.
VELOY VIGIL
1931-1997

Celebrated for his strong use of colorful abstract shapes, Veloy shows both motion and emotion in his paintings. He was a recipient of the Winslow Homer award in 1969, Purchase Award/Colorado Springs Fine Arts in 1964, the Heard Museum Avery Memorial Award in 1976 and the National Watercolor Society Ann Award in 1969.

Born in Denver, Colorado during the Depression to his mother of Pueblo Indian descent and his father of Spanish descent, Veloy grew up on a farm near Greeley, Colorado. His interest in art sparked in high school and continued after serving in the US Marine Corps. With the help of the G.I. Bill, he attended the Denver Art Academy and the Colorado Institute of Art. After graduating, he painted for a greeting card company. Once he began to enter and win national competitions, his work became well known and highly collectible.

Veloy's paintings can be defined as abstract expressionism with a flowing style, perhaps credited to the fact that he often painted to music. The man is gone, but his works and style live on, first through his art and secondly through the art of his two sons. Veloy's work was featured in the Veloy Vigil Fine Arts Gallery this year... a testament to the lasting value of and continued demand for his paintings.

While represented by only two paintings in the Holcomb art collection, both were treasured by Richard and Janine, holding a position of prominence in their production studio, which also served as a non-public art gallery.
DENISE CHALLENGER
1952 -

As soft spoken as her husband, JD Challenger, and even more reserved, Denise spent years thinking about doing her own paintings. Once she finally took a brush in hand, the results were remarkable.

Richard and Janine loved her style, particularly her ability to use minimal lines to create such poignant statements on canvas. Her subject is the female form, which she brings to life with a style all her own, yet reflective of the minimal-line style of RC Gorman.

The Holcomb’s bought every one of Denise’s works, with two of them remaining in their home today.

ROBERT REDBIRD
1939-2016

Raised by his grandparents in Oklahoma, Robert showed an interest in art at the age of 8 and sold his first painting at the age of 16. In high school, he joined an art club and later studied art in Santa Fe. While comfortable using a variety of mediums, he most often used his well-honed airbrush techniques to depict the legends, stories, culture and history of the Kiowa people as passed down to him by his grandfather and his wife’s grandfather.

Richard and Janine first met Robert in 2007. The two Redbird paintings in this collection were painted for them based on specific requests for a corn maiden and a blanket-wrapped Native American holding a feather.
JANINE HOLCOMB

Art and music have been inseparable with Janine since childhood. A prolific song writer and one who often had a pen or brush in hand as a child, Janine is not complete without creative expression in her life. Her favorite subjects are horses, wildlife and flowers.

While her work life has made it difficult to spend much time painting, Janine has managed to do several paintings for friends & family. When Richard went to Arizona for a guys’ golf getaway, Janine painted a contemporary “Twin Warriors” as a birthday gift for Richard. She painted a similar style for their office and “grapes” for the office dining area. All three are available in this El Ranchito fundraiser.

TWIN WARRIORS  |  ORIGINAL OIL
60x72  |  $7,250

FEATHERED KACHINA MASK  |  ORIGINAL OIL
36x48  |  $2,500

DYANNE STRONGBOW

Having worked as a commercial artist in Austin, Texas, Dyanne found her true calling when she began painting Texas landscapes, which ultimately led her to expressing the symbols and culture of her Choctaw heritage through her paintings, which are shown in major galleries throughout the United States. She now resides in Albuquerque.

With a delicate balance between shadowy forms and negative space, Dyanne’s paintings exude a sense of unity between Native American culture and the world surrounding it. Her beautifully blended and subdued colors leave one with a sense of mystic wonder.

Dyanne’s talents extend to working as an illustrator, having illustrated the children’s book Big Moon Tortilla.

UNKNOWN TITLE  |  ORIGINAL WATERCOLOR
16X20  |  30x34 Framed  |  $900
ACOMA POTTERY

Known and collected worldwide, Acoma pottery is not only beautiful but is also rich with history and cultural significance. Exquisite workmanship and attention to detail are core to each potter’s work, with each having his or her own distinctive style. One of these potters, Terrance Chino, is a close personal friend of Richard and Janine, thus the many “Terrance” pots in their collection. Terrence’s significant other, Frances Vallo, now passed, was also a dear friend and talented artist who is also represented in this collection.

The clay for Acoma pottery is dug from the hills surrounding the pueblo. Paint colors are sourced from local minerals and plant life. The clay is mixed, often with ground pottery shards to help temper the clay. Pots are coiled by hand, scraped smooth, covered with slip and then painted. Artists chew the yucca plant to isolate a fiber strong and thin enough to paint very fine lines, with each individual design on each pot having meaning, such as rain, lightening or mountains. The finished pot is then fired in an horno.

The finished pottery is strong, stunningly beautiful and a true statement of the amazing talents and techniques of a people whose ancestors date back to the 1100’s. When you look at these pots, consider the mathematical genius it takes to make such geometrically-perfect patterns. One can only marvel!
FRANCES VALLO
6” | $600

B. ASCENSIO
11” | $500

B. ASCENSIO
6” | $400

FRANKLIN PETERS
5.5” | $850

ANCIENT POT
6” | $2,000

ANCIENT BOWL
$1,700

FRANKLIN PETERS
6”” | $1,400

E. ANTONIO
5” | $200

JICARILLA SEED POT
4” | $400

M. DAVIS, LAGUNA
5.5 | $300

R. JUANICO
3” | $350

M. RAY
4” | $400

DAWN ANTELOPE, TAOS
4.5” | $300

LOVATO, SANTO DOM.
13” | $425

DORA ANTONIO
8” | $450

LOVATO, SANTO DOM.
8” | $350

LOVATO, SANTO DOM.
4” | $400

NORMA JEAN ORTIZ
7” | $175

M. DAVIS, LAGUNA
5.5 | $300

ADDITIONAL
Richard and Janine have collected a number of Kachinas and storytellers over the past twenty years, adding to a collection Richard started many years earlier.

While not a traditional Kachina carved from cottonwood root, the Molly Heizer kachina has been one of their favorites, as are their story tellers, each of which has a story of its own.

Their favorite carver, Wally Grover, is from First Mesa in Arizona, one of their favorite destinations. Wally’s carvings are exceptional in both composition and workmanship.

The only Kachina Richard and Janine purchased from Acoma is unusual - a female carrying a water jug. They were told the long draught Acoma was experiencing at the time would end once the kachina had a home. Heavy rains fell two days later.

Each of the kachinas, story tellers and figures are captivating works of art made by some of the most talented artisans in the world... and are true treasures.

In addition to the items shown in this brochure, several others will be included at the event.

MOLLY HEIZER, KACHINA
17” l $2,800

AARON FRED. KACHINA (RARE)
10” l $3,000

A. JOHN, WOLF KACHINA
11” l $900

FRED CHAPELLA, EOTOTO KACHINA
8” l $450