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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**The Art Effect Announces An Interactive Extravaganza
Virtual Gala, Art Show, and Auction**

Poughkeepsie, NY: On Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7:00 pm, The Art Effect will host an innovative online [Art After Dark Gala](#) honoring Todd Poteet and Sad'e Sharas. Leading up to the interactive extravaganza, The Alumni Art Show at The Poughkeepsie Trolley Barn as well as the Alumni Art Auction showcase artwork created by alumni of the Art Effect and its pre-merger organizations — Mill Street Loft and Children's Media Project/Spark Media Project. Proceeds from the event provide significant support for arts education and youth development, and kick off The Art Effect's exciting new alumni network.

[The Art After Dark Virtual Gala](#) features a creative "Choose Your Own Adventure" experience produced by The Art Effect's apprentice production company Forge Media. With your ticket, immerse yourself into unique, youth produced films that navigate you through stories, conversations with old friends, new faces, and entertaining experiences filled with music, drinks, artwork, and lots of laughs. As your adventure ends, we invite you to join us live for a captivating award presentation and conclusion to our virtual event.

If you so choose to savor the full "gala" experience, Art After Dark pairs perfectly with a cheese and charcuterie box filled with seasonal and local meats, produce, nuts, crackers, and cheese artfully curated by Simply Gourmet, a bottle of Millbrook Vineyard wine, and local chocolate from Oliver Kita. Vegetarian options are available.

Currently on view at the Trolley Barn in downtown Poughkeepsie and online, the Art Effect's Alumni Exhibition presents a diverse collection of paintings, sculptures, photographs, digital media, and drawings that bring attention to the critical bond alumni serve between the classroom and studios and the creative world. After starting their creative journeys here in Poughkeepsie, these artists have studied in some of the best art schools in the country, and have built meaningful careers in the arts. The show is open from now until November 21, 2020 on Wednesdays-Fridays from 12pm-3pm and Saturdays from 12-4pm. The Poughkeepsie Trolley Barn, 489 Main Street, Poughkeepsie. It is free and open to the public.

Additionally, the [Alumni Art Auction](#) offers an array of alumni artwork and services including a sketchbook filled with over 25 years of artwork created by Todd Poteet, ceramics, paintings, prints, and services created by The Art Effect's diverse and talented alumni. The online auction is open for bidding now until November 21, 2020.

<https://www.32auctions.com/ArtAfterDark>

Tickets to the event can be purchased online at <https://feelthearteffect.org/art-after-dark-2020>. Individual tickets are \$40, ticket including hors d'oeuvres box for pickup or delivery within a 10 mile radius costs \$95, and a couples ticket with food for two is \$145. Event sponsorships are available and are a unique way to support The Art Effect and Art After Dark. Please contact Angela at 845-471-7477 or visit <https://tinyurl.com/yyv5ytra> for information on sponsorships.

For more information about Art after Dark and the honorees, [visit us online](#).

Sponsorship information can be found [here](#).

About The Art Effect: The Art Effect empowers youth to develop their artistic voice to shape their futures and bring about positive social change. We help youth in the Hudson Valley explore, experience, and excel in the arts, introducing them to visual arts and media, giving them the opportunity to develop real skills in these fields, and guiding them towards achieving their academic and career goals. We believe that the arts have the power to create a more vibrant, caring, and sustainable world led by a generation of youth who value creative thinking, diverse voices, and stronger connections between all people. More information at feelthearteffect.org or [@feelthearteffect](#)

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AFTER DARK



