



**ART from the ashes Exhibition
Texas Forestry Museum
Opens
October 6th
Lufkin, TX**

(September 21st, 2012) - **ART from the ashes (AFTA)**, in proud partnership with **Art.Science.Gallery.** and support from **Big Medium**, continue their fundraising efforts for the Lost Pines Recovery Team's restoration work in the Lost Pines Region of Bastrop County. The ART from the ashes exhibition at the **Texas Forestry Museum** slated to open Saturday October 6th will remain up through November 30th. It is the third incarnation of AFTA's Texas fundraising initiatives during 2012, following benefit exhibitions in April in Austin, TX and June in Bastrop, TX.

This new installation of artwork created by Texas based artists and ART from the ashes, incorporates reclaimed materials from fire sites in Bastrop, TX. The exhibit features select works from previous Texas exhibitions, several new works and a unique art-science exhibit exploring creative ways in which fire ecology has been depicted in art through the ages. Proceeds will support the restoration efforts of the Lost Pines Recovery Team. Event programming on October 6th will include "Art + Fire Ecology" a lecture and panel discussion led by Dr. Hayley Gillespie (Ecologist, Artist) with special guests Greg Creacy (Regional Natural Resource Coordinator, Texas Parks & Wildlife), Roxanne Hernandez (former Lost Pines Recovery Team Coordinator, Artist) and James Sowell-Fire (Management Officer, Angelina National Forest).

Texas Forestry Museum Director Carol Riggs says, "ART from the Ashes is an dynamic exhibition built on exciting ideas. Through adversity we can always find hope. These pieces, reflecting the trauma and turmoil of the 2011 Bastrop area fires, inspire us to look beyond the tragedy of the events and focus on the future. The Texas Forestry Museum is very pleased to be able to offer an East Texas venue for this show."

Texas in Flames, an exhibit that highlights the devastating effect of wildfires, opens at the Texas Forestry Museum October 6th. It is the story of the 2011 fires presented in context of the history of prevention, detection and suppression of wildfires in the state. The Bearing Fire and the Bastrop/Lost Pines fires serve as a focal point for the story. Photographs and statistics comparing causes, damage and control of these conflagrations illustrate two examples of the multitude of wildfire incidents in the historic 2011 fire season.

This exhibit is possible thanks to a contribution from the Trinity Neches Forest Landowner Association.

Contributing artists include: Leon Alesi, Stella Alesi, Billy Beasty, Debra Broz, Laura Dugan, Joy Feuer, Brooke Gassiot, Hayley Gillespie, Leah Godfrey, Jesse Hartman, Roxanne Hernandez, Peggy Jo Hilburn, Shea Little, Peter Mangan, Revi Meicler, Paul Meyer, Aaron Michalovic, Marjorie Moore, Kandra Niagra, Karol Rice, Rebecca Roberts, Barbara Samuelson, Nina Savill, Andrew Shapter, Russell Smith, Jessica Stone, W. Tucker, Kenny Trice, Wendy Wight, Jon Windham, Michael Yates

Special thanks to ART from the ashes exhibition sponsors Lufkin Kiwanis Club and Lufkin Rotary Club for their support.

ART from the ashes Exhibition

October 6th - November 20th

Texas Forestry Museum

1905 Atkinson Dr.

Lufkin, TX

Exhibition Hours: Mon. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Opening Reception:

Saturday October 6th, 3 - 5 p.m.

Art Exhibition, Art+Fire Ecology panel discussion & children's activities

refreshments provided courtesy of H-E-B

For more information about ART from the ashes and to find out how to contribute to the AFTA Lost Pines Recovery Fund, visit www.artfromtheashes.org

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About ART from the ashes:

ART from the ashes (AFTA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to support communities devastated by natural disaster through the creation of art. In the spirit of "Support. Inspire. Create. Renew.", artists create one-of-a-kind works of art utilizing materials reclaimed from disaster site locations, which are then exhibited in a benefit exhibition. Proceeds support the effected community to aid in their recovery process. In the wake of devastation and destruction, these works of art symbolize one's ability to renew, rebuild and persevere. AFTA's inspiration stems from the desire to help heal and reconnect communities as they face challenges and hardship in the aftermath of disaster. The efforts of ART from the ashes are supported by contributing artists, volunteers, sponsors and donations.

www.artfromtheashes.org

About the Texas Forestry Museum:

The Texas Forestry Museum is a private non-profit organization. No admission is charged. Funds for educational programs, exhibits and general operations are generated through membership in the museum's Society, through contributions and grants, and through fundraisers such as the Annual Fund Drive. The Texas Forestry Museum is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday except on major holidays. Visit the museum at 1905 Atkinson Drive in Lufkin, or at the website: www.treetexas.com

About ART. Science. Gallery:

Art.Science.Gallery., LLC is one of the nation's first science-art galleries and will also serve as a science communication training center and (soon-to-be) event space in Austin, Texas. The mission of Art.Science.Gallery. is to provide a friendly environment to make science more accessible to the public through science-related visual arts exhibitions, foster the careers of emerging and established artist-scientists (and scientist-artists) and to provide professional development opportunities for scientists to become more engaging public communicators. www.artsciencegallery.com

About Big Medium:

Big Medium is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization based in Austin, TX, dedicated to supporting visual arts and artists in Texas by exhibiting innovative artists in the Big Medium gallery and project space; offering affordable studio spaces; and organizing programs such as the annual East Studio Tour, the Texas Biennial, and now the West Austin Studio Tour. www.bigmedium.org

About Lost Pines Recovery Team:

The LPRT is composed of local, state and federal agencies with comprehensive knowledge of the Lost Pines ecosystem. The LPRT's objectives are to, access the condition of the area's natural resources; develop Best Management Practices (BMP's) to address resource issues; share this information with private property owners; and, assist private property owners by providing technical assistance and resources for financial assistance to implement BMP's on their property.