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**Creative Arts Center Hosts 2016 Blue Plate Special to Celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on  
April 30<sup>th</sup>**

*Signature Fundraising Event Auctions Exclusive Plates Designed by Notable Texas Artists*

**Dallas, TX (April 2016)** – Celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Creative Arts Center of Dallas (CAC) is hosting its signature fundraising event, the Blue Plate Special, on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> with Honorary Co-Chairs Patricia B. Meadows and Gail Sachson. The popular fundraiser features a silent auction of ceramic plates designed by notable local artists as well as CAC instructors and students. Funds raised from the Blue Plate Special support the Center’s mission and outreach programming. The celebratory evening will feature cocktails, dining, live entertainment and a chance for guests to bid on one-of-a-kind plates and platters which are paired with other silent auction donations, such as tickets to artistic events, restaurant gift certificates, hotel stays and other fantastic items. This year’s event will be held at 7 for Parties on Turtle Creek Drive in the Dallas Design District from 7p.m. – 10:30p.m. The 2016 Blue Plate Special is chaired by board members Todd C. Hedrick and Nancy Woolfolk, with Lynn Armstrong serving as a support chair.

Driven by the belief that artistic development strengthens communities, Creative Arts Center nurtures a community where people of all ages discover and develop their artistic vision through arts education and transformational outreach. This vital mission is generously funded year-round through donor and member support, as well as CAC’s signature fundraiser, the Blue Plate Special. The event was popular more than 10 years ago but did not continue as there was no staff then to support an event on this scale. “Artists and CAC supporters continually asked us to bring the event back so we did in 2014,” says event chair and CAC board member Todd C. Hedrick. “Dozens of notable Texas artists have lent their time and talents to create original plates up for auction this year including Bernaba Fitzgerald, Pamela Nelson and Brad Oldham. Individual tickets and sponsorship packages for this memorable event can be purchased on the CAC website at <http://creativeartscenter.org/support-cac/blue-plate-special>.

**About Creative Arts Center of Dallas**

For fifty years, the Creative Arts Center has welcomed all people across North Texas to center themselves with authentic and enriching experiences—discovering, developing and expressing their creativity. Founded by influential Texas artist Octavio Medellin, CAC’s mission is to gather eager thinkers, curious leaders, dormant masters, and seekers ranging from complete beginners to working artists to have a place to facilitate the exploration of materials and ideas, getting their hands dirty along the way. Now offering as many as 500 classes annually two-acre campus four miles east of downtown Dallas, the Center boasts a family of acclaimed instructors working with students of all skill levels and goals to exchange ideas, share techniques, and explore new creative avenues in the disciplines of ceramics, clay sculpture, drawing, blown and fused glass, jewelry, metal sculpture, mixed media, mosaic, painting, photography, printmaking, stone sculpture and even creative writing. The organization proudly provides scholarships and outreach to underserved and at-risk area children and teens. Come find your place and “center yourself” at Creative Arts Center of Dallas. <http://www.creativeartscenter.org>

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