

# \$100,000 work donated to kids

Submitted by  
Susan Swartz

2002 Winter Olympic Games artist and the games' "First Olympic Environmental Artist" Susan Swartz donated her original painting "Olympic Grace" to a nonprofit auction recently.

The painting sold for an impressive \$100,000 to a silent bidder. In 2006 in Turin, Ms. Swartz was asked to create a painting that would symbolize the spirit of the host country. The painting was signed by almost 100 competing Olympic Athletes.

"It is a wonderful opportunity for me ... to combine my love of painting with the love of sport and the Olympics... knowing my painting will positively impact children and communities. It's an honor for me," said Swartz.

International humanitarian organization, Right To Play hosted its first live and silent auction, Auction of Hope, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates in early September at which some of the world's rarest sporting memorabilia was auctioned. All proceeds raised through the Auction of Hope were donated to Right To Play.

In the auction's live segment, 19 select packages were auctioned. The second silent segment was made up of sports memorabilia donated by some of the best sportsmen and sports-lovers in the world. Items



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUSAN SWARTZ

**Park City's Susan Swartz is well known for her oil paintings of aspen trees. One of her works was auctioned off for charity for \$100,000.**

included and all expense paid trip to the 2009 NBA finals, a visit to the British Open and breakfast at Wimbledon with the starts, a Maradona signed Argentine jersey, an official England rugby shirt signed by the entire 2003 World Cup winning squad, a Peles autographed 1960 jersey and more.

Auction of Hope was organized under the patronage of the Office of Her Royal Highness Princess Bint Al Hussein and the Dubai Sports Council. She is

the wife of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, VP of the United Arab Emirates, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai.

Right To Play uses sport and play programs to improve health, build life skills, and foster peace for children and communities affected by war, poverty and disease. It has projects in more than 20 countries. Top athletes from more than 40 countries volunteer their support as Athlete Ambassadors.