

CHILDREN'S ARTWORK HELPS RAISE AUTISM AWARENESS AT AUCTION

For Immediate Release

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Pablo Picasso once said that all children are artists. This is certainly true of the students attending the **Shining Through Centre**. Five framed pieces of art produced by children with Autism attending the centre helped to raise \$25,000 at the annual TD Securities Employees Charity Auction. This week, the centre was presented with the cheque. Monies raised will go towards year round programming.

"We certainly had high expectations that the students' artwork would be sought after by collectors and we are overwhelmed by the outstanding response," said David Clement, Executive Director at the Shining Through Centre. "This is a great accomplishment for our students to be proud of and to celebrate."

This was the first year Shining Through participated in the auction. The charity auction is TD Securities' annual employee fund raising event. TD Securities employees participate by obtaining, donating and purchasing auction items through their cash donations, and by managing all aspects of the event. This year the objective was to raise \$250,000 for children's charities, a goal that was greatly exceeded with proceeds totaling approximately \$450,000.

About Shining Through Centre:

The Shining Through Centre was founded in 2001 to provide an intensive and comprehensive educational program for children with Autism. Located in an historic home in Woodbridge, Shining Through Centre is regarded as one of the premier sites in Ontario for support for children with Autism. The program is based on scientifically validated procedures of Applied Behavioural Analysis (ABA), offered through one-on-one instruction for each child.

For more information on the Shining Through Centre, please visit www.shiningthrough.ca

David Clement, Executive Director at the Shining Through Centre, is available for interviews.

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