

# **First Annual The Dog Art Challenge for Charity**

## **Why. .The Inspiration**

The Bellyrub Klub introduced The Chicago Pets Directory to Van Gogh, a French Bulldog who, like his namesake, is missing his left ear. One look at Van Gogh and the Challenge was born!

## **What is the Dog Art Challenge for Charity?**

The Dog Art Challenge for Charity is a combination of artistic creativity and philanthropy celebrating the love of pets. First, pet artists, with perhaps a bit of help from their parents, create their masterpieces. After a period of display, the artwork is auctioned with proceeds benefiting the pet charity chosen by the artist. The goal is to raise as much money for as many pet charities as possible.

## **Who can enter?**

Any pet! Just create a masterpiece (at least 60% of the work must be done by the pet) and complete an entry form before 3/1/2009. Entries received after 2/1/2009 will be in the Silent Auction.

## **When is the Gala Auction?**

The culmination of the Challenge is a 2-day Gala Auction on Friday and Saturday, March 20 & 21, 2009, during the Chicagoland Family Pet Expo at Arlington Racetrack. A reception on Friday evening will be followed by a live auction of a selection of the artwork. Remaining works will be part of a day-long silent auction during the Expo on Saturday.

## **Where can I see the artwork?**

During December 2008 and January 2009, artwork will be on display at businesses in the community. Please let us know if your business would like to host a work. Also, a complete catalog of the auction will be available mid-February at [www.chicagopetsdir.com/dogartchallenge.html](http://www.chicagopetsdir.com/dogartchallenge.html).

## **How can I help?**

First, start creating and submit a masterpiece. Then, spread the word and encourage others to do the same. Lastly, bid generously at the auction!

## **What Pet Charities Need to Know**

If you are contacted to be a beneficiary of the auction, please work with the donor regarding tax consequences, etc.