



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 29, 2007**

**“The Greatest Treasure Hunt in Charleston History”**

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, McLeod Plantation, on James Island, was the perfect setting for a spectacular kick-off party held by **The Charleston Artist Guild** for **“The Hunt for Charleston’s Treasures”** a multi-day event that will take place during the Spoleto 2008 timeframe.

Guests, many never having been to McLeod Plantation, were excited to step back in time upon entering the historic plantation house. Within the house, they were entertained by Chamber Music Charleston while actively bidding on “treasures” donated by local merchants and artists for a silent auction. Amidst the majestic oak trees, gourmet hors d’oeuvres were served by Granville’s Restaurant while jazz performed by the Simon Harding Trio filled the air.

Guests who attended the party will receive a treasure map, a work of art in itself, which will steer them through Charleston visiting local merchants seeking “answers” to pre-determined “clues” .The hunt will end at the **Charleston Artist Guild Gallery** with a drawing for– what else! – priceless treasures.

Those interested in becoming treasure hunters as well may participate in **“The Hunt for Charleston’s Treasures”** by purchasing the treasure map that will be on sale starting in January 2008 for \$10.00 each at the **Charleston Artist Guild Gallery**.

Proceeds from the successful silent auction and map selling events will benefit the **Charleston Artist Guild** and its many scholarship and community outreach programs aimed at making art part of the lives of children, the elderly, and the financially and physically disadvantaged. The High School Artistic Merit Awards and Annual Scholarship competition, which is held at the Gaillard Auditorium, is open to all high school students in the tri-county area. Throughout the year, the guild members can be found at Charleston area senior citizens centers, St Matthew’s Summer Readiness program, and Pattison’s Academy Summer Camp. The guild is proud to bring their Art for Alzheimer’s program to local homes for the elderly.

The gallery is open Monday through Saturday 10 am to 5 pm and is located at 6 North Atlantic Wharf off East Bay Street and across from a convenient parking lot.

Contact: Robert G. Ingram, Executive Director 843-722-2454, or the guild gallery 843-722-2425

**Charleston Artist Guild/a non-profit organization**

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