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Port Royal Jewelers showcases student-inspired jewelry at Guadalupe Center's Fire & Ice

BY: GSMA

One student's message of hope for a better future will be on full display during the live auction at Guadalupe Center's signature fundraiser, "Fire & Ice: Igniting the Flame of Learning," on Wednesday, Jan. 14 at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort in Naples.

As the inspiration for William Boyajian of Port Royal Jewelers "Orchid Bee" ring, Elizabeth Cornelio's passionate essay reflecting the impact the center has made in her life was transformed into a platinum and 18k yellow gold ring set with a rainbow of diamonds – pink, rose, white and purple – with pink sapphire accents. It also features a white-, green- and yellow-diamond bee.

"The Guadalupe Center has helped transform and impact the lives of so many children and families in our community," said Boyajian. "Seeing firsthand the determination, hopes and dreams of these wonderful children inspired me to create a piece that would tell their story in a unique and beautiful way.

"Elizabeth Cornelio's essay was the driving force behind the concept of the Orchid Bee ring. In the center of the ring is an Orchid flower, which symbolizes all that the program has provided to Elizabeth – education, hope, joy. Above the flower is an Orchid Bee, which symbolizes the busy work of the young children of the Guadalupe Center. The hard working Orchid Bee flies from flower to flower, enriching the diversity and opportunity of the future of our community," added Boyajian.

Crafted by hand, the one-of-a-kind piece took four months to create.

Additional live auction lots will whisk winning bidders to fine dining in New York City, Napa Valley wine tastings and aboard a river cruiser in France. One will keep them right at home with a gourmet dinner for 10 created by former White House Presidential Chef Walter Scheib.

Evening festivities also include live musical entertainment, a gourmet dinner and the opportunity to make on-the-spot donations for college scholarships during “Jump Up.” The event begins with a cocktail reception and a meet-and-greet with high school students enrolled in Guadalupe Center’s Tutor Corps program.

Money raised from the auction and event benefit the Guadalupe Center’s early childhood education, after-school and the Tutor Corps programs. The center provides education, mentoring and social enrichment programs for more than 1,000 Immokalee children.

For more information about the Guadalupe Center and its signature event, visit www.GuadalupeCenter.org or call 239-657-7124.

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