



June 21, 2010

Florida Council on Arts and Culture  
Division of Cultural Affairs  
R.A. Gray Bldg, 3rd Floor  
500 South Bronough Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

It is with great pleasure that I endorse Mr. Alan S. Maltz for the 2011 Florida Artists Hall of Fame.

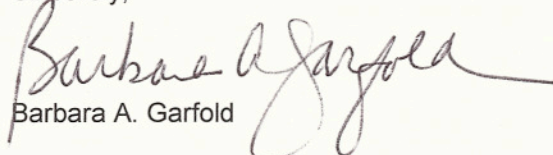
I met Alan Maltz approximately one year ago, on June 26, 2009. I was introduced to Alan by a mutual friend when he was in Southwest Florida promoting his fourth and latest coffee table book with amazing images exclusively from Lee County, Florida, *Visions of Beauty, Fort Myers, Sanibel and beyond...* I knew immediately that I had met a very special man. We sat together for a couple of hours pouring over the proofs of the images that he had taken for the book that was soon to be published. This wasn't just photography, with his unique style and technique I became aware of the beauty and tranquility of the area as I had never seen it before. I realized that day that photography and capturing the essence of nature was his passion, a passion for which he lives every day of his life and hopes to share with everyone who will take a few moments to sit quietly and take in the world through his eyes and his camera lens. His exceptional use of light and color produce images that are both spiritual and inspirational.

Realizing that his images and the emotions they evoke were something very special I purchased several pieces of his artwork for my office. In the months that followed, our relationship grew from a business partnership to a friendship. I quickly learned that in addition to his passion for photography, he also is one of the most generous individuals I know. His donations of artwork for the benefit of charitable organizations, local, state and national, are beyond compare. Whether a donation to help raise money for needy children at Christmas time in the small town of Fort Myers Beach, FL, philanthropic support of organizations such as the Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) or donations to benefit the American Heart Association, a request is all that is needed for Alan to give generously from his heart. Most recently I was fortunate enough to be invited to attend the dedication of the Eugene M. & Christine E. Lynn Cancer Institute Waiting Areas in Boca Raton, FL where Alan donated a total of 13 large fine art pieces.

Alan's immense contribution to the State of Florida tourism is especially personal for me as I am the owner of a seasonal vacation rental company in Southwest Florida. Alan's work with VISIT FLORIDA, various Visitor and Convention Bureaus and Chambers of Commerce throughout Florida has been used to increase visitor awareness of our beautiful state as a premier vacation destination. His fine art Limited Edition works on permanent exhibition in the Southwest Florida International Airport as well as the images wrapped around the traveling Sanibel-Captiva Chamber of Commerce R.V. are just two examples that capture the majestic nature of our area to the delight of visitors and locals alike.

I highly recommend Mr. Alan S. Maltz as an inductee into the 2011 Florida Artists Hall of Fame. His contributions to the promotion of our great state and his generous philanthropic donations to local, state and national beneficiaries promoting environmental awareness and providing a spiritual sanctuary make him an exceptional candidate for this prestigious honor.

Sincerely,

  
Barbara A. Garfold