



THE PHOENIX SOCIETY'S

world burn congress

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Interesting Stories and Feature Article Ideas from World Burn Congress

Opening Ceremonies: Thursday, Oct. 2, 9 a.m.

Join Insurance Commissioner Jim Long, Mayor Charles Meeker, firefighters and members of the North Carolina Unified Honor Guard, North Carolina Unified Pipes and Drum Band, and attendees for the opening ceremonies of the 2008 World Burn Congress.

Portrait by Artist Doug Auld: "Back From Iraq"

Douglas Auld's Portrait "Back From Iraq" (oil 50"x60") depicts Corporal J R Martinez, a burn survivor. It has been submitted to the Smithsonian's Outwin Boochever Portrait competition for 2009. His portrait titled "Shayla" was accepted as one of 50 finalists from more than 5,000 entries and was the first portrait of a burn survivor ever shown in the Smithsonian's National Portrait Gallery.

In the artist's own words: "I have always felt the face is the most powerful primal visual subject. Our acceptance or rejection of our face can greatly determine our life course and the course of others. Within this, I am interested in how hard-wired we are to beauty, symmetry, and how much wiggle room there is regarding an evolution in thought. Can the unseen qualities such as courage, strength, integrity and kindness alter our perception of beauty? I am not interested in injuries or wounds for the shock associated. I am interested in society's difficulty in accepting the altered face. Through Art and the painting of these images, the viewer is able to see light, color, brushstroke and beauty while being eased into an unfamiliar subject. The scorn and rejection of these people is tragic. Art, through the contemplation of these large scale paintings, can help expand these boundaries. The viewer can stare without feeling inappropriate or offending while seeing the grace and beauty in the paintings themselves. As these paintings become more absorbed into to public's consciousness, I believe an evolution in the acceptance of our differences can occur."

"As for my subject J.R. Martinez, it goes without saying that he is a remarkable young man who has chosen to take a tragic, life-altering event and channel it into an enlightening, life fulfilling calling. By volunteering to be a subject for my painting, he has taken a stand for himself as well as others who have had disfiguring injuries or who are physically different from the norm. He demonstrates strength, character and human fragility, which ultimately connects us all."

J.R. Martinez is available for interviews on Wednesday, Oct. 1 and Thursday, Oct. 2.

2-2-2-2-2

Creative Cosmetics Class for Burn Survivors • Media Escorts Required

Burn survivors with facial burns learn how to enhance their appearance with Barbara Kammerer Quayle's creative make-up techniques. Ms. Quayle's honest and practical advice shows burn survivors how to effectively conceal scars, even skin tones and brow and lip lines. A truly inspiring workshop! **Workshop times: Thursday, Oct. 2, from 11:15 – 5 p.m. and Friday, Oct. 3, from 1 – 4 p.m.**

World Burn Congress Blog

For the first time, World Burn Congress will provide the opportunity for attendees to share their experience with others both at the conference and beyond through a special blog site. Bloggers will provide a firsthand, unfiltered view into what survivors, families, firefighters and others experience while preparing for and attending the WBC, particularly those attending for the first time. Visit the blog at <http://worldburncongress.wordpress.com/>

Love Found at World Burn Congress

Retired Chapel Hill Fire Department Battalion Chief Bill Minton first attended the World Burn Congress in Cleveland, Ohio in September 2003. Despite his reluctance, he was sent to learn what Chapel Hill Firefighters could do to help support a WBC in the Triangle area the following year. It was in the lobby of the host hotel where he met Polly Dickson, an Assistant Nurse Manager with the North Carolina Jaycee Burn. Polly was also there with a group of employees from the Jaycee Burn Center to learn how they could support the next WBC. The two grew close as Polly helped Bill deal with a number of issues he had been facing for years regarding the challenges burn survivors face after they have been injured. They began dating upon returning to Chapel Hill and were married by the Burn Center's chaplain on April 3, 2004.