February 14, 2012

Artists will create spectacular works of art in the blink of an eye during the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center's annual ArtBLINK Gala 2012 at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 25, 2012, in The Kirklin Clinic, 2000 Sixth Ave. South.

Nineteen local artists will work with a variety of media to create masterpieces in 90 minutes that can be purchased during the silent auction to benefit high-priority cancer research and patient/family services.

Participating artists are Thomas Andrew, Ahmad Austin, Xander Booker, David Boyd Jr., Joan Curtis, Vicki Denaburg, Randy Gachet, Karen Graffeo, Lila Graves, Bethanne Hill, Darius Hill, Mila Hirsch, Carol Misner, David Nichols, Linda Ellen Price, Ashley Terrell, Dirk Walker, Paul Ware and Jamie Wilson.

The event also will feature a cocktail dinner provided by Kathy G & Company and dancing to the sounds of Big Daddy's New Band. Admission is $150 per individual; learn more and make reservations at www.uab.edu/artblink or call 205-934-1603. Dress is black-tie optional. Valet and deck parking are available for guests.

“The cancer center thrives on the generosity of the community, and we want to encourage people to join the fight against a disease that touches us all,” says Edward Partridge, M.D., director of the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center. “This support enables us to conduct cutting-edge research to provide the highest quality of cancer care to our patients, while making strides in prevention, detection, treatment and survivorship.”

This 27th gala also honors Richard A. Elkus, M.D., and James P. Hayes Jr. The Elkus family is leading an effort to establish the Richard Elkus, M.D., Eminent Scholars Program for Gastrointestinal Oncology Research at UAB to promote innovative research and develop new therapies and early-detection methods. The Hayes family is leading an effort to establish the James P. Hayes Jr., Endowed Chair in Gastrointestinal Oncology at UAB in his memory. Hayes was a member of the Advisory Board, serving as its president from 1994-96.

Sponsors include UAB; UAB Health System; UA Health Services Foundation; Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP; Burr & Forman LLP; Cobbs, Allen & Hall; EBSCO Industries Inc.; General Machinery; Hot and Hot Fish Club; Jefferson Iron & Metal Brokerage; Medical Properties Trust Inc.; O’Neal Industries; Protective Life Corporation; and Williams Blackstock Architects.

The UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center is among the 40 cancer centers in the nation to meet the stringent criteria for the National Cancer Institute's comprehensive designation. The center is a leader in groundbreaking research, reducing cancer disparities and leading-edge patient care.