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MEDIA CONTACT: Mary Curtis

Public Relations Manager

U.S. Antique Shows

239.330.3832

mary.curtis@usantiqueshows.com

Antiques Young Guns U.S.A. Announces Antiques Young Gun of the Year

NEW YORK (Nov. 18, 2015) – Antiques Young Guns U.S.A. named Margaret Schwartz, owner of The Summer House the inaugural Antiques Young Gun of the Year this past weekend at a press conference at the Pier Antique Show. The award recognized Schwartz for her stellar contributions working as a young professional in the antiques industry. Tom Johnson, founder, president and CEO of Ruby Lane presented the award.

“Thank you to U.S. Antique Shows and the judging panel for selecting me as the 2015 Antiques Young Gun of the Year in the USA,” says Schwartz. “This means so much to me both personally and professionally and I am truly honored by this award. I look forward to an exciting year getting to know other young guns and growing the program.”

Schwartz began her career working at Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, which played a key role in inspiring and developing her passion for the home décor business. After four years, she left to open her own shop, The Summer House. Schwartz applies her signature styles and passion for home design to hand pick today’s best finds: upholstered furniture, fashionable jewelry, eye-catching lighting, exquisite rugs, fine art, and more.

Schwartz received a prize package valued at \$10,000. The prizes, with significant contributions from the Antiques Young Guns’ industry partners, vary from complimentary booth space at U.S. Antique Shows events to free educational opportunities to advance trade knowledge.

Johnson also presented Bradbury Ketelhut, owner of Alpen Art & Antiques with the 2015 Ruby Lane Outstanding Achievement Award.

“It’s exciting to be involved in an organization that is promoting the art and antiques industry and collecting to the next generation. Having grown up in the business, I have witnessed firsthand the changes in it. The online, brick and mortar, and show communities need to focus on strategic partnerships, in order to maximize capturing the attention of and growing the young collector base that will form the future of the business,” says Ketelhut.

Ketelhut started out dealing in early American furniture at the age of 18 with his dad, Robert Ketelhut. By his mid-20's, he became President of The Englishman Fine Art & Antiques operating galleries in Vail, Naples, Atlanta, and London, which he continued for 12 years. Today, Ketelhut is focused on building new galleries in Vail and Aspen and developing a strong online presence.

Rachel Hoffman, certified antiques appraiser and doll specialist at Turn of the Century Antiques and Geoffrey Walsky, owner of Fairfield Co. Antique and Design Center were also recognized at the press conference. They were named the two runners up for the Antiques Young Gun of the Year award.

Antiques Young Guns U.S.A. currently has more than 20 members and ten industry partners since the program's launch this past March. In the last nine months, Antiques Young Guns has published their own website and merchandise gallery for members, set up multiple social media platforms, organized their first networking event, and provided multiple opportunities for its members' onsite at U.S. Antique Shows' nationally recognized events.

For more information and details on joining the program, visit AntiquesYoungGunsUSA.com.

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About U.S. Antique Shows & Antiques Young Guns U.S.A.

U.S. Antique Shows formed a strategic alliance with Antiques Young Guns U.K. to bring the incredibly successful program to the United States. Antiques Young Guns U.S.A. promotes growth, education and exposure to those in the trade, 39 years old or younger, to a national audience of antiques enthusiasts. The program offers many member benefits, including online exposure through the Antiques Young Guns marketplace, several buying and selling events throughout the year, recognition in numerous trade and national publications, and much more.

U.S. Antique Shows, producer of the industry's most anticipated events, serves the unique needs of the antique and antique jewelry marketplace with shows in Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, Miami Beach, and New York. The group's events offer a broad range of antiques as well as antique, vintage and estate jewelry and watches, and annually draws more than 50,000 consumers and 3,000 dealers from 28 countries worldwide.

For more information on Antiques Young Guns U.S.A., visit AntiquesYoungGunsUSA.com, like us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/AntiquesYoungGuns](https://www.facebook.com/AntiquesYoungGuns), follow us on Twitter and Instagram: [@AYG_USA](https://www.instagram.com/AYG_USA). Check out our blog at youngguns.usantiqueshow.com/blog/.

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