

**For Immediate Release**

**Valspar Automotive Paints a Brighter Future for Artists4Education and CREF**

**Minneapolis, Minn.** (October 15, 2015) Valspar Automotive is bringing its brand family of quality performance coatings and products together with the creative talents of top custom artists to the Las Vegas SEMA (Specialty Equipment Marketing Association) automotive specialty products trade show Nov. 3-6 to raise money through Artists4Education and help fund the Collision Repair Education Foundation (CREF).

Artists including Ryan Evans of Count's Kustoms and The History Channel's *Counting Cars*, Josh Culver of Culver's Customs, Ron 'Flea' Fleenor, John Wargo of The Custom Shop, Nub of NubGrafix, Jon Kosmoski of House of Kolor, KC Mathieu of KC's Paint Shop, Jason Jewett of Red House Custom Paint and more are offering their time and creative skills by painting and donating items to be auctioned off during the SEMA show. The funds received will go directly to benefiting CREF, which gives future technicians the proper education and training for a successful collision repair career.

"This is the very heart of what we love about how car and motorcycle culture and art come together – the unleashed creativity, and generosity, is simply mind blowing!" said Laura Yerkey, Marketing Director, Americas, at Valspar Automotive.

By purchasing the auction items, at the SEMA trade show or online, fans of these artists have a chance to own a unique piece of American history. Monetary donations are being accepted on the Artists4Education website, [www.artists4education.org](http://www.artists4education.org). Great art and a great cause come together in Artists4Education. To view many of the items as they are painted live during the SEMA trade show, visit Valspar Automotive booths #10851, #10655, and #23513.

[About Valspar](#)

Valspar® Refinish is a market leader for premium-quality, low-cost automotive-refinish paints and coatings. Its goal is for every customer served to be more-than-impressed with every paint

job, every vehicle, every time—and for your shop to be consistently profitable. For more information, go to [www.valsparauto.com](http://www.valsparauto.com).

#### About Artist4Education

Artists 4 Education was created to raise awareness and money to ensure that future Automotive Collision Repair technicians are highly trained and prepared for a rewarding career. It does this by engaging the skills of the industry's expert artists from across the country to share their talents by creating one-of-a-kind auction pieces of which all proceeds go directly to the Collision Repair Education Foundation. For more information, go to [www.artists4education.org](http://www.artists4education.org).

#### About Collision Repair Education Foundation

Collision Repair Education Foundation is a philanthropic organization committed to awarding substantial annual support, both to students and to collision training programs. It partners with industry donors to fill the funding gap that hinders the collision industry and in its first year, CREF provided more than \$1.7 million in grants for collision education. The Foundation is also committed to promoting the collision industry as an excellent career in one of the last real “hands-on” trades in existence—a time-honored trade that offers challenging work requiring skill and aptitude in a field offering growth and opportunity. For more information, go to [www.collisioneducationfoundation.org](http://www.collisioneducationfoundation.org).

#### About SEMA

SEMA, the Specialty Equipment Market Association founded in 1963, represents the \$33.4 billion specialty automotive industry of 6,814 member-companies. It is the authoritative source for research, data, trends and market growth information for the specialty auto parts industry. The industry provides appearance, performance, comfort, convenience and technology products for passenger and recreational vehicles. For more information, contact SEMA at 909-610-2030, or visit [www.sema.org](http://www.sema.org) or [www.enjoythedrive.com](http://www.enjoythedrive.com).

#### ***About The Valspar Corporation***

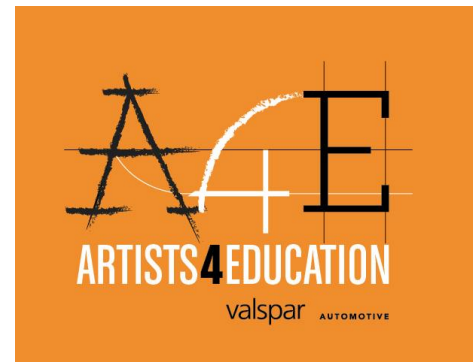
*The Valspar Corporation (NYSE: VAL) is a global leader in the paint and coatings industry. Since 1806, Valspar has been dedicated to bringing customers the latest innovations, the finest quality and the best customer service in the coatings industry. For more information, visit [www.valsparglobal.com](http://www.valsparglobal.com).*

### About the SEMA Show

The SEMA Show is a trade show produced by the Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA), a nonprofit trade association founded in 1963. Since the first SEMA Show debuted in 1967, the annual event has served as the leading venue bringing together manufacturers and buyers within the automotive specialty equipment industry. Products featured at the SEMA Show include those that enhance the styling, functionality, comfort, convenience and safety of cars and trucks. Additional details are available at [www.SEMAShow.com](http://www.SEMAShow.com) or 909-396-0289.

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