

## Heritage to Auction Boy Scouts of America Masterpieces to Compensate Survivors of Childhood Sexual Abuse

*Collection includes illustrations by Norman Rockwell and J.C. Leyendecker previously on display at Medici Museum of Art*

DALLAS, Texas (August 28, 2024) – Some of the most celebrated and iconic art created for the Boy Scouts of America will begin to be auctioned in November as Heritage Auctions offers selected works from the collection of the BSA Settlement Trust, with proceeds benefitting Survivors of childhood sexual abuse while in Scouting.

Among the landmark works from the collection are masterpieces by Norman Rockwell, led by 1961's *Homecoming*, and such highlights as J.C.

Leyendecker's 1918 *Weapons for Liberty*, at right. Many of these artworks have been on display as The American Scouting Collection since October 2020 at the Medici Museum of Art in Howland,



Ohio. The exhibition made history by displaying all 65 of Rockwell's Scouting paintings for the first time under one roof.

As part of its bankruptcy plan of reorganization, BSA's artwork was transferred to the BSA Settlement Trust, an independent entity tasked with compensating over 64,000 abuse Survivors.

"Heritage is deeply grateful to have been entrusted with what is undoubtedly one of the most significant collections of Golden Age illustrations to emerge on the market in recent years," said Aviva Lehmann, Heritage's Senior Vice President of American Art. "We are honored to present this museum-caliber collection, which not only celebrates the artistry of Norman Rockwell and other luminaries of the Golden Age but also embodies the rich cultural heritage at the core of our mission as America's largest auction house. Equally important to us is the privilege of supporting the Survivors, underscoring our commitment to both the arts and social responsibility."

The Hon. Barbara J. Houser (Ret.), the Trustee overseeing the administration and distribution of funds to sexual abuse Survivors, said: "These Survivors have waited decades to be heard and acknowledged, and the sale of these works will aid us in providing a measure of justice to them. Buyers should be proud that they will be contributing to rebuilding lives and helping to right past wrongs."

As the leading auction house for Golden Age American Illustration art, Heritage will display highlights in its galleries nationwide before the auction, presenting these iconic American images to a new generation. Heritage will continue offering additional artwork from the Trust in future auctions.

The BSA Settlement Trust was created as part of BSA's Chapter 11 plan of reorganization in 2023. Its mission includes maximizing the value of the assets contributed to the Trust by BSA and others while evaluating the sexual abuse claims and delivering compensation to Survivors with valid claims. At confirmation of the plan, the Trust's compensation fund was valued at approximately \$2.5 billion. Other causes of action against third parties may increase the fund further. To date, the Trust has paid more than \$25 million to over 6,800 Survivors.

*Heritage Auctions is the largest fine art and collectibles auction house founded in the United States, and the world's largest collectibles auctioneer. Heritage maintains offices in New York, Dallas, Beverly Hills, Chicago, Palm Beach, London, Paris, Tokyo, Amsterdam, Brussels and Hong Kong.*

*Heritage also enjoys the highest Online traffic and dollar volume of any auction house on earth (source: SimilarWeb and Hiscox Report). The Internet's most popular auction-house website, HA.com, has more than 1,750,000 registered bidder-members and searchable free archives of more than 6,000,000 past auction records with prices realized, descriptions and enlargeable photos. Reproduction rights routinely granted to media for photo credit.*

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