

Loren and Craig DeRoy to be honored as “Citizens of the Year”

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Palos Verdes Peninsula Rotary Club, is thrilled to announce the 2011 “Citizens of the Year”, Loren and Craig DeRoy. The DeRoys will be honored for their philanthropic work at a gala dinner on Friday, October 21 at Trump National Golf Club.

Long-time Peninsula residents, the DeRoys have been involved in numerous nonprofit organizations both here and abroad. Currently **President of the Board of Trustees for the Palos Verdes Art Center**, Loren’s support of the Art Center includes writing an award winning curriculum for **Art at Your Fingertips**, soliciting grants and developing an arts-based therapeutic program for local hospitals.

Loren is equally supportive of land conservancy and sustainability issues. Her work with the **Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy** spans more than a decade. Several of the key projects she has spearheaded include the development of the White Point Nature Preserve and the transformation of the former Nike Missile site into a public park and nature preserve.

As co-Founder of the **Visual Arts Booster Club at Peninsula High School**, Loren has provided a platform for fine arts education at the secondary school level. She has also served on local government commissions, for both Rolling Hills and Rolling Hills Estates.

As a businessman, entrepreneur and attorney, Craig is a leader in worldwide initiatives focusing on securing land rights for the poor and improving financial literacy. His involvement with the **Clinton Global Initiative** led to the founding of **Medeem US** and **Medeem Ghana Ltd.**, social impact enterprises committed to bringing legal empowerment to the world’s poor, through programs to formalize and document land rights. In addition to published articles, Craig’s photographs have appeared in several children’s books.

Tying together their focus on global land rights with their commitment to the local community, the DeRoys recently established the **Medeem Institute at Marymount College in Rancho Palos Verdes**. This exciting partnership with Marymount College expands research, field work and service opportunities for Marymount students and faculty in Global Studies, Business and other programs at the college.

“The Palos Verdes Peninsula Rotary Club is pleased to partner with the Chamber of Commerce to honor the Loren and Craig as “Citizens of the Year”, said David Rowe, President of the PVP Rotary Club. “Their leadership and work in the philanthropic arena is an inspiration to our community.”

For information regarding the Citizen of the Year event on October 21 (including tickets, tribute book ads and silent auction donations), please contact the Chamber at 310-377-8111 or debby@palosverdeschamber.com