

# COLLECTORS UNIVERSE INC

## FORM DEF 14A (Proxy Statement (definitive))

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## SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

### Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the  
Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to Rule 14a-11(c) or Rule 14a-12

**COLLECTORS UNIVERSE, INC.**

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(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

N/A

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(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

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- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.
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- (1) Amount Previously Paid:
- (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
- (3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:





October 6, 2010

Dear Stockholders:

We are pleased to invite you to attend the 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Collectors Universe, Inc., which will be held on Friday, November 19, 2010 at 10:00 A.M., Pacific Time, at our principal offices, which are located at 1921 E. Alton Avenue, Santa Ana, California 92705.

We have elected to provide our stockholders with access to our proxy materials and to our Annual Report to Stockholders for our fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 (the "2010 Annual Report") over the Internet under the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules. These rules allow us to make our stockholders aware of the availability of our proxy materials by sending a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, which provides instructions for how stockholders may access the full set of proxy materials and our 2010 Annual Report through the Internet or by requesting that printed proxy materials be delivered to them by mail. We believe that this process will enable us to provide our stockholders with the proxy materials they need to make informed decisions, while lowering the costs of printing and delivering those materials and, at the same time, significantly reducing the environmental impact of our Annual Meeting.

**Your vote is important** . Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we hope you will vote as soon as possible using one of the voting methods described in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials. You will be able to vote your shares over the Internet or, if you request that printed proxy materials be mailed to you, by completing and returning, by mail, a proxy or voting instruction card. Please review the instructions with respect to your voting options described in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials that you receive by mail as well as in the accompanying Proxy Statement.

At the time you vote your shares, please also let us know if you plan to attend our Annual Meeting by indicating your plans when prompted to do if you are voting on the Internet or, if you requested to have printed proxy materials mailed to you, by marking the appropriate box on the enclosed proxy card.

Thank you for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you at our Annual Meeting.

Sincerely,

Michael J. McConnell  
*Chief Executive Officer*

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COLLECTORS UNIVERSE, INC.  
1921 E. Alton Avenue  
Santa Ana, California 92705

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To be Held on Friday, November 19, 2010

To the stockholders of Collectors Universe, Inc.:

The 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Collectors Universe, Inc. (the "Annual Meeting") will be held at our principal offices, which are located at 1921 E. Alton Avenue, Santa Ana, California 92705 on Friday, November 19, 2010, at 10:00 A.M., Pacific Time, for the following purposes:

- (1) *Election of Directors* . To elect the following seven nominees to serve as directors until our 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until their successors are elected and have qualified:

A. Clinton Allen	A. J. "Bert" Moyer
Deborah A. Farrington	Van D. Simmons
David G. Hall	Bruce A. Stevens
Michael J. McConnell	

- (2) *Ratification of the Appointment of our Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm*. To ratify the appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011; and

*Other Business* . To transact such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

Our Board of Directors recommends that you vote "FOR" the election of each of the seven director nominees listed above and "FOR" the ratification of the appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.

Additional information regarding these matters is contained in the accompanying Proxy Statement, which stockholders are urged to read. Only stockholders of record at the close of business on October 1, 2010 will be entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.

By Order of the Board of Directors

A. Clinton Allen  
*Chairman of the Board*

Santa Ana, California  
October 6, 2010

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**Your vote is very important. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we encourage you to read this Proxy Statement and submit your proxy or voting instructions as soon as possible. For specific instructions on how to vote your shares, please refer to the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials you received in the mail and the section entitled "How May I Vote?" in this Proxy Statement or, if you requested that printed proxy materials be mailed to you, to the instructions on the proxy card enclosed with those printed proxy materials. The approximate date of mailing of the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials was October 8, 2010.**

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**COLLECTORS UNIVERSE, INC.**  
**1921 E. Alton Avenue**  
**Santa Ana, California 92705**

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**PROXY STATEMENT**

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**ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD NOVEMBER 19, 2010**

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**INTRODUCTION**

This Proxy Statement is being furnished in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the Board of Directors of Collectors Universe, Inc., a Delaware corporation, for use at our 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Friday, November 19, 2010, at 10:00 A.M., Pacific Time, at our principal offices, which are located at 1921 E. Alton Avenue, Santa Ana, California 92705. This Proxy Statement will be available to our stockholders, on the internet at <https://materials.proxyvote.com/19421r>, beginning on October 8, 2010. As a matter of convenience, in this Proxy Statement we will refer to Collectors Universe, Inc. as the “Company,” “we,” “us” or “our” and our 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders as the “Annual Meeting” or the “Meeting”.

**YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT. WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND  
THE ANNUAL MEETING, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO READ THIS PROXY STATEMENT  
AND PROVIDE US WITH YOUR PROXY OR VOTING INSTRUCTIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

Some stockholders may have their shares registered in different names or hold shares in different capacities. For example, a stockholder may have some shares registered in his or her name, individually, and others in his or her capacity as a custodian for minor children or as a trustee of a trust. **If, in that event, you want *all* of your votes to be counted, please be sure to vote in each of those capacities.**

**Who May Vote at the Annual Meeting?**

The shares of the Company’s common stock, \$0.001 par value, constitute the only outstanding class of voting securities of the Company. If you were a stockholder on the records of the Company at the close of business on October 1, 2010, which is referred to herein as the Record Date, you may vote your shares at the Annual Meeting, and at any adjournments or postponements thereof, either in person or by proxy. On that day, there were 7,804,763 shares of our common stock outstanding and entitled to be voted at the Annual Meeting.

**What do I Need to Know if I Plan to Attend the Annual Meeting?**

You are entitled to attend the Annual Meeting only if you were a holder of our common stock as of the Record Date, or hold a valid proxy for the Annual Meeting. Since seating is limited, admission to the Annual Meeting will be on a first-come, first-served basis. You should be prepared to present photo identification for admittance. If you are not a stockholder of record but hold shares through a broker, bank, trustee or nominee (i.e., in “street name”), you should provide proof of your beneficial ownership of shares of our common stock as of the Record Date, such as your most recent account statement prior to the Record Date, a copy of the voting instruction card provided by your broker, bank, trustee or nominee, or similar evidence of ownership. If you do not provide photo identification or comply with the other procedures outlined above, you will not be admitted to the Annual Meeting.

Please let us know if you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, in person, (i) by marking the appropriate box on the enclosed proxy card if you requested proxy materials to be mailed to you, or (ii) if you will be voting over the Internet, by indicating your plans when prompted to do so.

## How Many Votes do I Have?

Each share is entitled to one vote (a) in the election of each of the director nominees, (b) on the proposal to ratify the appointment of Grant Thornton LLP (“Grant Thornton”) as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, and (c) on any other matter upon which a vote may properly be taken at the Annual Meeting. In the election of directors, there is no cumulative voting. As a result each stockholder will be entitled, for each share of common stock that such stockholder owned as of the Record Date, to cast one vote for a single nominee for each of the seven positions on the Board of Directors.

In order to vote, you must either designate a proxy to vote your shares on your behalf at the Annual Meeting, or attend the Annual Meeting and vote your shares in person. The Board of Directors requests your proxy so that your shares will count toward a quorum and will be voted in accordance with your voting instructions at the Annual Meeting. **Even if you designate a proxy on your behalf, you may attend the Annual Meeting and vote your shares in person, including in a manner different than as set forth in your earlier proxy. Accordingly, to ensure that your votes are counted, we encourage you to vote your shares by proxy even if you plan to attend the Meeting in person.**

## How Will the Board Vote My Proxy?

A properly executed proxy card, or properly voted proxy (in case you are voting over the Internet), received by us prior to the Annual Meeting, and not revoked, will be voted in accordance with your voting instructions as set forth on the proxy card or communicated over the Internet. If you provide no specific instruction as to how you want your shares voted, your shares will be voted “**FOR**” the election of the each of the director nominees (Proposal No. 1), and “**FOR**” the ratification of the approval of Grant Thornton as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011 (Proposal No. 2).

If any other matter is presented at the Annual Meeting upon which a vote may properly be taken, the shares represented by your proxy will be voted on such matter in accordance with the judgment of the proxy holders named in the proxy.

However, if your shares are held in a brokerage account or by a bank, trustee or nominee, please read the information below under captions “How May I Vote?” and “What if I Hold My Shares Through a Broker or Other Nominee?” regarding how your shares may be voted.

## What is the “Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials” that I Received in the Mail?

Under the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (or the “SEC”), we are furnishing proxy materials to our stockholders primarily via the Internet, instead of mailing printed copies of those materials to each stockholder. Accordingly, on October 8, 2010, we mailed to our stockholders (other than any stockholders who previously requested electronic or paper delivery) a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (or the “Availability Notice”), containing instructions on how to access our proxy materials, including our Proxy Statement and our Annual Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010, which are available at <https://materials.proxyvote.com/19421r>. The Availability Notice also instructs stockholders how to vote their shares via the Internet or by mail.

This process is designed to expedite our stockholders’ receipt of our proxy materials, decrease the cost of our Annual Meeting, and help conserve natural resources. However, if you would prefer to receive printed or e-mail copies of our proxy materials, please follow the instructions included in the Availability Notice. If you have previously elected to receive our proxy materials electronically, you will continue to receive these materials electronically unless you elect otherwise.

## How May I Vote?

*Voting by Internet*. You can vote by proxy over the Internet by following the instructions provided to you in the Availability Notice. If you hold shares in “street name,” you also may vote by proxy over the Internet by following the instructions provided in the Availability Notice or the proxy card. Internet voting is available 24 hours a day and will be accessible, until 11:59 P.M. Pacific Time on Thursday, November 18, 2010, by visiting [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com) and following the instructions. Our Internet voting procedures are designed to authenticate stockholders by using individual control numbers, which are located on the Availability Notice. **If you vote by Internet, you do not need to return your proxy card.**

*Voting by Mail* . If you request printed proxy materials to be mailed or emailed to you, you can vote by mail pursuant to the instructions provided on the proxy card. If you hold shares in “street name” and request to receive printed proxy materials by mail, you can vote by mail by following the voting instruction card provided to you by your broker, bank, trustee or nominee. In order to be effective, completed proxy cards must be received by no later than 9:00 A.M. Pacific Time on Friday, November 19, 2010. **If you vote by mail, simply mark your proxy, date and sign it, and return it in the business reply envelope provided with the Proxy Statement .**

*Voting at the Annual Meeting* . Whichever voting method you use, you may still vote at the Annual Meeting if you decide to attend in person. However, if your shares are held in “street name,” you must obtain a proxy, executed in your favor, from the holder of record to be able to vote in person at the Annual Meeting. If you sign and return your proxy card but do not give voting instructions, the shares represented by that proxy will be voted as recommended by the Board of Directors.

*Voting on Other Matters* . If other matters are properly presented at the Annual Meeting for consideration, the persons named on the proxy card will have the discretion to vote on those matters for you. As of the date this Proxy Statement was first made available to our stockholders, we did not know of any other matters to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting.

All shares that are properly voted, whether over the Internet or by mail, and not properly revoked will be voted at the Annual Meeting.

#### **What if I Hold My Shares of Common Stock Through a Broker or Other Nominee?**

If your shares are held in a brokerage account or by a nominee holder, you are deemed to hold your shares in “street name” and you are considered to be the “beneficial owner” of those shares. In that event, your brokerage firm or other nominee holder will be deemed to be the “record” owner of your shares and, as such, will have the power to cast votes on your behalf at the Annual Meeting. As a result, in order to vote your shares, you must give voting instructions to the broker or other nominee that holds your shares. Proxies that are sent to us by brokers or other nominee holders on your behalf will count toward a quorum and will be voted in accordance with the instructions that you have provided to your broker or nominee. If you fail to provide any voting instructions, then, your broker or other nominee will not have discretion to vote your shares, and your shares will not be counted, in the election of our directors. Your broker or other nominee holder will, however, have discretion to vote your shares on the proposal to ratify the appointment of Grant Thornton as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. In that event, assuming your broker or other nominee holder exercises that discretion, your shares will count as being present for quorum purposes, but will be treated as “broker non-votes” for purposes of the election of directors. See the information below under the heading “What are Broker Non-Votes and How Will They Affect the Voting at the Annual Meeting?”

#### **What is the Quorum Requirement for the Annual Meeting?**

The presence, in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting is necessary to constitute a quorum. Abstentions and broker non-votes are counted as present and entitled to vote for purposes of determining a quorum.

## **What will be the Effect of Abstentions at the Annual Meeting?**

When an eligible voter attends the Annual Meeting in person but decides not to vote on a proposal, his or her decision not to vote is called an “abstention.” Properly executed proxy cards that are marked “withhold authority” or “abstain” on any proposal will be treated as abstentions for that proposal. We will treat abstentions as follows:

- abstention shares will be treated as not voting for purposes of determining the outcome of the voting on any proposal for which the minimum vote required for approval of the proposal is a majority (or some other proportion) of the votes actually cast, and thus will have no effect on the outcome; and
- abstention shares will have the same effect as votes against a proposal if the minimum vote required for approval of the proposal is a majority (or some other proportion) of all shares outstanding and entitled to vote.

## **What are Broker Non-Votes and How Will They Affect the Voting at the Annual Meeting?**

Under rules applicable to securities brokerage firms, a broker who holds shares in “street name” for customers does not have the authority to vote those shares on any “non-routine” proposal, such as the election of directors, except in accordance with voting instructions received from the customer with respect to such proposal. On the other hand, a broker may vote a customer’s shares on certain “routine” proposals (such as the ratification of the appointment of independent registered public accountants), if the broker has transmitted proxy-soliciting materials to the beneficial owner but has not received instructions from that owner on such proposals. When a broker has not received voting instructions from its customer on a non-routine proposal submitted to a vote of the stockholders, such as the election of directors, but exercises its discretion to vote the customer’s shares by proxy on a routine proposal, the customer’s shares are deemed to be present by proxy and count toward a quorum at the stockholders meeting, but the customer’s shares cannot be voted on and, therefore, are deemed to constitute “broker non-votes” with respect to any non-routine proposal voted on at the stockholders’ meeting. We will treat broker non-votes as follows:

- broker non-votes will not be counted as present and entitled to be voted, and will not affect the outcome of the voting, on any proposal which, to be approved, will require the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority (or another specified percentage) of the shares that are present (in person or by proxy) and entitled to vote on the proposal, but broker non-votes will be counted as present for quorum purposes; and
- broker non-votes will have the same effect as a vote “against” a proposal if approval of the proposal requires the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority (or another specified percentage) of the outstanding shares.

As a result, at this year’s Annual Meeting, broker non-votes will be counted in determining whether or not a quorum is present (in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting), but will not be counted in determining and will have no effect on the outcome of the voting on the election of directors.

## **What is the Required Vote to Approve the Proposals Being Considered at the Annual Meeting?**

### *Proposal No. 1 - Election of Directors*

Our Board of Directors has adopted a majority-voting standard for uncontested director elections. This means that, in an uncontested election, for a director to be elected, he or she must receive a majority of the shares cast (that is, actually voted) in the election of directors. An “uncontested election” is an election in which the number of nominees for director is not greater than the number of directors to be elected. In a contested election, directors will be elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the shares entitled to vote in the election of directors. Shares voted as “withhold authority” for a nominee for director will count as votes cast in the election of directors, but any broker non-votes will not be counted as votes cast and, therefore, will not affect the outcome of the election of directors, whether that election is uncontested or contested.

Prior to each annual stockholders' meeting at which directors are to be elected in an uncontested election, each nominee will be required to deliver an offer of resignation to the Board. If any nominee fails to receive a majority of the votes cast in that election, the Board will have the right, in its discretion, to accept or reject that nominee's offer of resignation. If the Board accepts the resignation, it may either correspondingly reduce the authorized number of directors or appoint another person to fill the vacancy created by the resignation. If the Board decides, instead, to reject the resignation, then, the nominee would continue to serve as a director until the next annual stockholders meeting and, in that event, the Board would be required to publicly disclose the reasons why it decided to reject the resignation of the nominee.

*Proposal No. 2 - Ratification of the Appointment of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm*

The affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast, either for or against this Proposal, by stockholders entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting is required to ratify the appointment of Grant Thornton as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. Shares voted by record stockholders or by brokers or other nominee holders on this proposal will be counted. Abstentions will have the same effect as votes cast against the Proposal.

**How Can I Revoke My Proxy?**

If you are the record owner of your shares and, after you have returned your proxy, you decide to change your vote, you may do so by taking any one of the following actions:

- Sending a written notice that you are revoking your proxy addressed to: Corporate Secretary, Collectors Universe, Inc., P.O. Box 6280 Newport Beach, California 92658 and then voting again by one of the methods discussed above. To be effective, the notice of revocation must be received by the Company by no later than 7:30 A.M. Pacific Time on November 19, 2010.
- Giving us another proxy (over the Internet or by mail) at a later date than the earlier proxy you have chosen to revoke. To be effective, that later proxy must be received by the Company before the Annual Meeting commences. If you return a later proxy by mail, but you fail to date or to sign that later proxy, however, that later proxy will not be treated as a revocation of your earlier proxy and your shares will be voted in accordance with the instructions on your earlier proxy or in accordance with the recommendations of the Board of Directors (in the event you failed to specify voting instructions on that earlier proxy).
- Attending and voting in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting in a manner different than the instructions contained in your earlier proxy.

However, if your shares are held by a broker or other nominee, and you want to change the voting instructions you have previously given to the broker or nominee, you will need to contact your broker or nominee to ascertain the actions you will need to take to change your previous voting instructions.

**Who Will Bear the Cost of this Proxy Solicitation?**

The cost of soliciting proxies from stockholders will be paid by us. In addition, following the mailing of the Availability Notice, our directors, officers and regular employees may solicit proxies by mail, telephone, e-mail or in person, but will not receive any compensation from us for doing so. Brokerage firms, banks, trustees and other nominees holding shares of our common stock of record will be requested to forward proxy soliciting materials to the beneficial owners of such shares and will be reimbursed by us for their charges and expenses in connection therewith. In addition, we may use the services of individuals or companies we do not regularly employ in connection with the solicitation of proxies if management determines that it is advisable to do so.

## STOCK OWNERSHIP OF PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table presents certain information, as of October 1, 2010, regarding our shares of common stock beneficially owned by (i) persons known by us to own beneficially more than 5% of our outstanding shares, (ii) the incumbent directors and the nominees for election to the Board of Directors at the upcoming Annual Meeting, (iii) the Company's executive officers, and (iv) all of the directors and executive officers as a group.

	Shares Beneficially Owned <sup>(1)</sup>	
	Number	Percent of Class
Richard Kenneth Duncan Sr. 8435 Katy Freeway, Houston, Texas 77024	1,345,982	17.3%
David G. Hall P.O. Box 6280 Newport Beach, CA 92658	1,041,799 <sup>(3)</sup>	13.0%
Van D. Simmons	275,386 <sup>(4)</sup>	3.4%
Michael J. McConnell	164,491 <sup>(5)</sup>	2.1%
Joseph J. Wallace	126,840 <sup>(6)</sup>	1.6%
A. Clinton Allen	121,432 <sup>(7)</sup>	1.5%
Deborah A. Farrington	69,045 <sup>(7)</sup>	*
A. J. Bert Moyer	69,045 <sup>(7)</sup>	*
Bruce A. Stevens	22,295 <sup>(7)</sup>	*
All Directors and Executive Officers, as a group (8 persons)	1,890,333 <sup>(8)</sup>	23.6%

\* Less than 1%.

- (1) Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Under those rules and for purposes of the table above (a) if a person has decision making power over either the voting or the disposition of any shares, that person is generally deemed to be a beneficial owner of those shares; (b) if two or more persons have decision making power over either the voting or the disposition of any shares, they will be deemed to share beneficial ownership of those shares, in which case the same shares will be included in share ownership totals for each of those persons; and (c) if a person held options or warrants to purchase shares that were exercisable on, or became exercisable within 60 days of, October 1, 2010, that person will be deemed to be the beneficial owner of those shares and those shares (but not shares that are subject to options or warrants held by any other stockholder) will be deemed to be outstanding for purposes of computing the percentage of the outstanding shares that are beneficially owned by that person.
- (2) Unless otherwise indicated in the footnotes below, the persons named in the above table have sole voting and dispositive power with respect to all shares shown as beneficially owned by them, subject to community property laws where applicable.
- (3) Includes (i) a total of 50,518 restricted shares of common stock which will vest (that is, cease to be subject to the risk of forfeiture) if Mr. Hall remains in continuous service with the Company, in two (2) annual installments of 25,258 shares and 25,260 shares, respectively, on June 30, 2011 and June 30, 2012; and (ii) 51,066 shares held in grantor trusts established for Mr. Hall's children (the "Trust Shares"). Mr. Hall may, under limited circumstances, exercise dispositive power (but he does not have voting power) over the Trust Shares and, for that reason, may be deemed to share dispositive power over those shares with the trustees of those trusts.
- (4) Includes 17,021 of the shares held by the grantor trusts established by Mr. Hall for his children that are referred to in footnote (4) above, because Mr. Simmons is a trustee for certain of those trusts. As trustee, he exercises voting power, and shares dispositive power with Mr. Hall, with respect to those 17,021 shares and, therefore, those shares are included in both of their respective share ownership totals. Mr. Simmons does not have any financial or pecuniary interest in any of the shares held in these trusts. Also includes (i) 16,500 shares which Mr. Simmons may purchase by exercising director options that were exercisable on October 1, 2010 and (ii) 927 restricted shares of common stock that are scheduled to vest on December 8, 2010.

- (5) Included in the number of shares of common stock beneficially owned by Mr. McConnell, the Company's Chief Executive Officer, are (i) a total of 927 shares of restricted stock that are scheduled to vest (that is, cease to be subject to the risk of forfeiture) on December 8, 2010, and (ii) a total of 81,445 restricted shares which, subject to the satisfaction of certain contingencies, including the achievement of a Company financial goal, will vest in installments as follows: 32,758 shares on June 30, 2011, 44,010 shares during fiscal 2012 and 3,750 shares, respectively, on June 30, 2013.
- (6) The number of shares shown as beneficially owned by Mr. Wallace, the Company's Chief Financial Officer, include (i) 41,250 shares of common stock that may be purchased by exercise of employee stock options on or within 60 days of October 1, 2010, and (ii) a total of 48,285 restricted shares of common stock, which will vest and cease to be subject to the risk of forfeiture in installments as follows: 19,142 shares and 26,643 shares during fiscal 2011 and 2012, respectively, and 2,500 shares on June 30, 2013, provided that certain contingencies, including a Company financial performance goal, are satisfied.
- (7) Includes the following numbers of shares which may be purchased on exercise of director stock options that were exercisable on or will become exercisable within 60 days of October 1, 2010: Mr. Allen—57,750 shares; Ms. Farrington—45,650 shares; and Mr. Moyer—41,250 shares. The share totals of each of Ms. Farrington and Messrs. Allen, Moyer and Stevens also include 927 restricted shares of common stock that are scheduled to vest on December 8, 2010.
- (8) Includes a total of 202,400 shares which our directors and executive officers have the right to acquire by exercise of stock options that were exercisable on, or will become exercisable within 60 days of, October 1, 2010 and the restricted shares of common stock set forth in the footnotes above.

## ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

### (Proposal No. 1)

The authorized number of the Company's directors is seven. Directors are elected to serve for a term of one year or until their successors are elected and duly qualified. The Board of Directors has nominated, for election at the Annual Meeting, the seven nominees named below to serve as the Company's directors for a term of one year ending on the date of the 2011 Annual Meeting and until their successors are elected and qualified. Unless authority to vote has been withheld, proxies received by us from our stockholders will be voted by named proxy holders at the Annual Meeting for the election of all seven of the nominees named below.

All seven nominees are presently directors of the Company and were elected to the Board of Directors by the Company's stockholders at the Company's 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

All of the nominees have consented to serve, if elected. If any nominee becomes unavailable for any reason before the election, the enclosed proxy will be voted for the election of such substitute nominee or nominees, if any, as shall be designated by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has no reason to believe that any of the nominees will be unavailable to serve.

#### Director Nominees

The names and certain information, as of October 1, 2010, concerning the nominees for election as directors is set forth below.

### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE “FOR” THE ELECTION OF THE DIRECTOR NOMINEES NAMED BELOW

<u>Nominees</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Director Since</u>	<u>Principal Occupation</u>
A. Clinton Allen	66	2001	Chief Executive Officer of A. C. Allen & Company
Deborah A. Farrington	60	2003	General Partner of StarVest Partners, L.P.
David G. Hall	63	1986*	President of the Company
Michael J. McConnell	44	2007	Chief Executive Officer of the Company
A. J. “Bert” Moyer	66	2003	Business Consultant and Private Investor
Van D. Simmons	59	1986*	President of DHRCC, Inc.
Bruce A. Stevens	68	2006	Industry Partner with Cordova, Smart & Williams, LLC

\* Although Collectors Universe, Inc. was organized in February 1999, Messrs. Hall and Simmons were both founders and served as directors of its predecessor company, Professional Coin Grading Service, Inc. beginning in 1986.

**Mr. A. Clinton Allen** has been a director since 2001 and Chairman of the Board of Directors since December of 2002. In addition to serving as a director, Mr. Allen is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of A.C. Allen & Company, a consulting firm. Mr. Allen serves as a Lead Director of Steinway Musical Instruments Company, a manufacturer of musical instruments, and as a director and member of the Executive Committee of LKQ Corporation, a supplier of recycled OEM automotive parts. He is also a director of Avantair, Inc., a provider of fractional aircraft shares for business and personal use and Brooks Automation, which provides integrated tool and factory automation solutions for the global semiconductor and related industries. Mr. Allen provided the original financing for Blockbuster Entertainment Corporation, was one of its founding directors and served on its board until that company was acquired by Viacom/Paramount in September 1994. Mr. Allen holds a Masters Professional Director Certification from the American College of Corporate Directors, a director education and credentialing organization. The Company believes that Mr. Allen's financial and business expertise, combined with his experience as an executive and director of other companies, both public and private, as well as his years of experience providing strategic advisory services, qualifies him to serve as the non-executive Chairman of our Board of Directors and as a member of the Board.

**Deborah A. Farrington** is a founder and President of StarVest Management, Inc. and is, and since 1999 has been, a general partner of StarVest Partners, L.P., a venture capital fund which invests primarily in emerging software and business services companies. From 1993 to 1997, Ms. Farrington was President and Chief Executive Officer of Victory Ventures, LLC, a New York-based private equity investment firm. Also during that period, she was a founding investor and Chairman of the Board of Staffing Resources, Inc., a diversified staffing company which grew from \$17 million to \$300 million in annual revenues while she served on its board. Prior to 1993, Ms. Farrington held management positions with Asian Oceanic Group in Hong Kong and New York, Merrill Lynch & Co. Inc. and the Chase Manhattan Bank. Ms. Farrington serves on the board of directors of NetSuite, Inc., a New York Stock Exchange-listed company where she is Lead Director and Chairman of the Compensation Committee, and on the boards of directors of Fieldglass, Inc., Host Analytics, Inc., PivotLink, Inc. and Perquest, Inc., all of which are private companies. She also serves on the board of directors of Opportunity International, a nonprofit organization that provides financial products and strategies to over two million people working their way out of poverty in the developing world. Ms. Farrington holds a Professional Director Certification from the American College of Corporate Directors, a director education and credentialing organization. She is a graduate of Smith College and received an MBA from the Harvard Business School. We believe that Ms. Farrington brings valuable experience and insight to our Board of Directors, having helped to finance and serve as a director of numerous emerging growth companies. She also is knowledgeable with respect to and plays a key role in the formulation and evaluation of the Company's executive compensation programs and has served as Chairperson of our Compensation Committee since joining our Board of Directors.

**David G. Hall** has served as President of Collectors Universe since October 2001 and as a Director since its founding in February 1999. From April 2000 to September 2001, Mr. Hall served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Company and as Chairman of the Board from February 1999 to October 2001. Mr. Hall was a director of Professional Coin Grading Service, Inc., the Company's predecessor and was its Chief Executive Officer from 1986 to February 1999, when it was acquired by the Company. Mr. Hall was honored in 1999 by *COINage Magazine* as Numismatist of the Century, along with 14 other individuals. In 1990, Mr. Hall was named Orange County Entrepreneur of the Year by *INC. Magazine*. In addition, Mr. Hall has written *A Mercenary's Guide to the Rare Coin Market*, a book dedicated to coin collecting. Mr. Hall invented and introduced the concept of and developed the business of independent third party grading of high value collectible coins and sports cards. He is also known in the numismatics community as one of the leading experts in identifying and grading high value collectible coins and he is often in demand as a speaker at coin conventions and trade shows. We believe that, as the Company's President and a member of our Board of Directors, he lends great credibility to the Company among collectibles dealers and collectors and he brings to the Board valuable insight about the collectibles markets generally and the collectibles coin market in particular.

**Michael J. McConnell** has served as the Company's Chief Executive Officer since March 2009. From 1998 to September 30, 2008, Mr. McConnell was a Managing Director and a member of the Executive Committee of Shamrock Capital Advisors, Inc., a manager of private equity, real estate and direct investment funds, including the Shamrock Activist Value Funds. Prior to joining Shamrock in 1994, Mr. McConnell held various management positions at PepsiCo, Merrill Lynch and Kidder Peabody. Mr. McConnell is a member of the board of directors of MRV Communications, Inc. and formerly served on the boards of directors of Ansell Limited, Nuplex Industries, Force Corporation, iPass, Inc., Port-link International, Cosmoline Limited and Neo Technology Ventures. Mr. McConnell also serves on the Board of Governors of Opportunity International, a nonprofit organization that provides financial products and strategies to over two million people working their way out of poverty in the developing world. Mr. McConnell received his B.A. in Economics from Harvard University and his MBA (with distinction—Shermet Scholar) from the Darden School of the University of Virginia. We believe that, as a result of his past experience, including managing an investment fund focusing on "small-to-medium cap" public companies and serving as a director of a number of such companies, Mr. McConnell adds valuable managerial experience on the Board and a keen understanding of investor expectations, both of which are important to the Board's strategic planning and risk management responsibilities.

**A. J. “Bert” Moyer**, who is a business consultant and private investor, served from March 1998 until February 2000 as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for QAD, Inc., a leading provider of enterprise resource planning software applications for global manufacturing companies. Between September 2000 and February 2002, Mr. Moyer was engaged as a consultant to QAD, Inc., assisting in the Sales Operations of the Americas Region. He served as president of the commercial division of the Profit Recovery Group International, Inc. from March until July 2000. Prior to joining QAD, Inc. in 1998, Mr. Moyer was Chief Financial Officer of Allergan, a publicly traded specialty pharmaceutical company based in Irvine, California and prior to that he served as Chief Financial Officer of Western Digital, a publicly traded manufacturer of hard drives. Mr. Moyer serves on the boards of directors of CalAmp Corp., Virco Manufacturing Corporation, Occam Networks, Inc., LaserCard Corporation and MaxLinear, Inc., all of which are public companies. Mr. Moyer holds a Professional Director Certification from the American College of Corporate Directors, a director education and credentialing organization. Mr. Moyer received his Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Duquesne University and graduated from the Advanced Management Program at the University of Texas. Mr. Moyer brings a combination of managerial and financial experience and know-how to the Board, having served in both operational and financial managerial positions with a number of publicly traded companies. More particularly, due to his experience as a chief financial officer of publicly traded companies, he is familiar with the accounting and financial reporting requirements applicable to and the financial issues faced by public companies, making him an effective member of Audit Committee, of which he is the Chairman.

**Van D. Simmons** is the President of DHRCC, Inc., a direct seller of rare coins. He served as President of the Company’s David Hall Rare Coins Division from October 2000 until March 2004, when we discontinued that business. From July to October 2000, he served as Vice President of Sales of the Company’s Bowers and Merena Division. From 1981 to 1997 he served as the President of DHRCC, Inc. Mr. Simmons was a founding director of the Company in February 1999 and was also a founder and served as a director of its predecessor company, Professional Coin Grading Service, Inc., from 1986 to February 1999. He served as Chairman of the Board of David Hall’s North American Trading, LLC, a retailer of rare coins, from February 1997 to July 2000. Mr. Simmons holds a Professional Director Certification from the American College of Corporate Directors, a director education and credentialing organization. Mr. Simmons possesses a keen understanding of the collectible coin market, which has proven to be valuable to the Board in understanding that market and in evaluating and approving the Company’s strategic initiatives in that market.

**Bruce A. Stevens** is an Industry Partner with Cordova, Smart & Williams, LLC, a private equity firm that focuses its investments on lower middle market companies that are engaged in businesses with which the partners of the firm have had operating experience. From 1985 until his retirement in January 2008, Mr. Stevens was the President and Chief Executive Officer of Steinway & Sons, a wholly owned subsidiary of Steinway Musical Instruments, Inc., which is the maker of fine pianos with manufacturing operations in the United States and Germany and operational facilities in China, Japan and the UK. He also served as a member of the board of directors of Steinway Musical Instruments, Inc. from 1996 until his retirement in January 2008. Before joining Steinway & Sons, Mr. Stevens was employed by Polaroid Corporation for nearly 18 years where he held various positions in both its domestic and international divisions. Mr. Stevens currently serves on the Board of Trustees at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. He also has served on the boards of directors of numerous industry and music education organizations, such as the Piano Manufacturers Association International, American Music Conference, Music Teacher National Association, Winchester Community Music School, Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center and Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence. Mr. Stevens earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Economics from the University of Pennsylvania, and he holds an Advanced Director Certification from the American College of Corporate Directors, a director education and credentialing organization. Having been the President and CEO of a consumer products company the sales of which, like those of the Company, depend in large part on the availability and willingness of consumers to spend discretionary income, Mr. Stevens brings to the Board considerable knowledge and experience in identifying and evaluating economic and market challenges faced by the Company, which has been of particular benefit to the Board when reviewing and evaluating marketing and strategic initiatives proposed by management.

#### *Family Relationships*

There are no family relationships among any of the Company’s officers or directors.

## THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **The Role of the Board of Directors**

In accordance with Delaware law and the Bylaws of the Company, the Board of Directors oversees the management of the business and affairs of the Company. The members of the Board keep informed about our business through discussions with senior management and other officers and managers of the Company and its subsidiaries, by reviewing analyses and reports sent to them by management and outside consultants, and by participating in Board and committee meetings.

### **Number of Directors**

The Board of Directors currently consists of seven members. Our Bylaws provide that the Board is authorized to change the authorized number of directors from time to time, as it deems to be appropriate.

### **Attendance at Meetings**

Our Board members are encouraged to prepare for and attend all meetings of the Board and the Board committees of which they are members. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 (“fiscal 2010”), the Board of Directors of the Company held a total of six meetings and all of the directors attended at least 75% of the total of those meetings and the meetings of the Board committees on which they served during the respective periods they served as directors of the Company during that year. In addition, six of the directors attended the Company’s 2009 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

### **Term of Office of Directors**

The Bylaws of the Company provide that directors are elected annually to serve for a term of one year ending at the Company’s next Annual Meeting of Stockholders or until their successors are elected and duly qualified. If a vacancy occurs in any Board position between annual meetings, the Board may fill the vacancy by electing a new director to that position. The Board of Directors may also create a new director position and elect a new director to hold that position for a term ending at the next annual meeting.

### **Annual Election of Directors/Majority Vote Requirement**

Our Board of Directors has adopted a majority-voting standard for uncontested director elections. This means that each director in an uncontested election must receive a “majority of the votes cast” in the election of directors. An “uncontested election” is an election in which the number of nominees for director is not greater than the number of directors to be elected. A “majority of the votes cast” means that the number of votes “FOR” a nominee for director must exceed 50% of the votes cast. Shares voted as “withhold authority” for a nominee for director will count as votes cast. In a contested election, directors will be elected by a plurality of the votes cast by the shares entitled to vote in the election of directors.

The election of directors at the Annual Meeting will be uncontested. As a result, each director nominee has delivered an offer of resignation to the Board. If any nominee fails to receive a majority of the votes cast in the election of directors at the Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors will have the right, in its discretion, to accept or reject that nominee’s offer of resignation. If the Board accepts the resignation, it may either appoint another person to fill the vacancy created by the resignation or correspondingly reduce the authorized number of directors. If the Board decides, instead, to reject the resignation, then, the nominee would continue to serve as a director until the next annual meeting; and, in that event, the Board will be required to publicly disclose the reasons why it decided to reject the resignation of the nominee.

## **Director Independence and Diversity**

*Director Independence* . The Board has determined, after careful review, that each member of the Board is independent under the definition of independence set forth in the NASDAQ Listing Rules that are applicable to companies with shares listed on the NASDAQ Global Market (the “NASDAQ Listing Rules”), with the exception of Messrs. McConnell and Hall, who are officers of the Company. In reaching this conclusion, the Board considered all relevant facts and circumstances with respect to any direct or indirect relationships between the Company and each of the non-management directors. The Board determined that any relationships that now exist, or may have existed in the past, between the Company and any of the non-management directors have no material effect on their independence.

In accordance with the Board’s independence evaluation, five of seven of our directors are independent directors. In addition, as required by the NASDAQ Listing Rules, all of the members of the Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Governance Committees, which comprise the Board’s standing committees, are independent directors.

*Diversity* . The Board of Directors and its Nominating and Governance Committee believe that differences in experience, knowledge, skills and viewpoints enhance the Board of Directors’ performance. Accordingly, the Nominating Committee considers such diversity in selecting, evaluating and recommending proposed Board nominees. However, neither the Board nor the Nominating Committee has implemented a formal policy with respect to the consideration of diversity for the composition of the Board of Directors.

### **Committees of the Board of Directors**

The Board has three standing committees: an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee and a Nominating and Governance Committee. Information regarding the members of each of those Committees and their responsibilities and the number of meetings held by those Committees during fiscal 2010 is set forth below.

#### *Audit Committee*

The members of the Audit Committee are A. J. Bert Moyer, its Chairman, Deborah A. Farrington and Bruce A. Stevens. All of the members of the Audit Committee are independent within the meaning of the NASDAQ Listing Rules and the enhanced independence requirements for audit committee members contained in Rule 10A-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Our Board of Directors has determined that each of Mr. Moyer, Ms. Farrington and Mr. Stevens meets the definition of “audit committee financial expert” adopted by the SEC. The Audit Committee has a written charter that specifies its responsibilities, which include oversight of the financial reporting process and system of internal accounting controls of the Company, and appointment and oversight of the independent registered public accountants engaged to audit the Company’s financial statements. In accordance with its Charter and to ensure independence, the Audit Committee meets separately with our outside auditors and separately with members of management. The Audit Committee held seven meetings during fiscal 2010.

#### *Compensation Committee*

The members of the Compensation Committee are Deborah A. Farrington, its Chairperson, A. Clinton Allen, and A. J. Bert Moyer. All of the members of the Compensation Committee are independent within the meaning of the NASDAQ Listing Rules. The Compensation Committee reviews and approves the salaries and establishes incentive compensation and other benefit plans for our executive officers. Our Board of Directors has adopted a charter setting forth the role and responsibilities of the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee held four meetings during fiscal 2010.

#### *Nominating and Governance Committee*

The members of the Nominating and Governance Committee are Bruce A. Stevens, its Chairman and A. J. Bert Moyer, each of whom is independent within the meaning of the NASDAQ Listing Rules. This Committee has a written charter that specifies its responsibilities, which include identifying and recommending nominees for election to the Board; making recommendations to the Board regarding the directors to be appointed to each of its standing Committees; reviewing the adequacy of and approving the compensation that is to be paid to non-employee directors for their service as directors and as members of Board Committees; developing and recommending corporate governance guidelines for adoption by the Board of Directors; and overseeing the annual self-assessments by the Company’s Directors of the performance of the Board of Directors and its Committees. The Committee held a total of four meetings during fiscal 2010.

*Committee Charters* . Stockholders can access our Board Committee Charters by visiting the Investor Relations Section of our website at [www.collectors.com](http://www.collectors.com) . In addition, copies of those Charters will be made available in print, without charge, to any stockholder upon request made to the Corporate Secretary, Collectors Universe, Inc., P.O. Box 6280, Newport Beach, California 92658.

## **Board Leadership Structure and the Role of the Board in Risk Management Oversight**

*Board Leadership Structure* . The Board does not have a formal policy with respect to whether the roles of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board should be separate and, if they are to be separate, whether the Chairman of the Board should be selected from among the non-employee directors or management. The Board believes that it should be free to make a choice from time to time in any manner that is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders. Nevertheless, since 2002, it has been the practice of the Board for the position of Chairman of the Board to be held by an independent non-employee director as an aid in the Board's oversight of management.

*The Board's Role in Risk Oversight* . The responsibility for the day-to-day management of risk lies with the Company's management. It is the Board's role to oversee the risk management process to ensure that it is properly designed, well-functioning and consistent with the Company's overall corporate strategy. In fulfilling that oversight role, the Board focuses on the adequacy of the Company's risk management process and overall risk management system. The Board believes that an effective risk management system will (i) adequately identify the material risks to the Company's business, (ii) monitor the effectiveness of the risk mitigating policies and procedures, and (iii) provide management with input with respect to the risk management process.

More particularly, the Board has tasked its Audit Committee to perform a number of the Board's risk oversight responsibilities. Among other things, the Audit Committee works with management to highlight significant enterprise-wide risks, to evaluate operational plans that are designed to control and mitigate risks and to monitor and review the risk management function. The Audit Committee also is responsible for the internal audit function, with that function reporting directly to the Committee, overseeing the Company's independent registered public accounting firm, and reviewing reports from management and the internal auditor regarding the adequacy and effectiveness of various internal controls.

In addition to the Audit Committee, both the Board's Compensation Committee and Nominating and Governance Committee consider risks within their respective areas of responsibility. The Compensation Committee oversees risks associated with the Company's compensation plans and programs and the Nominating and Governance Committee oversees risks associated with the Company's corporate governance policies.

## **Communications with the Board**

Stockholders interested in communicating with the non-management directors as a group may do so by writing to: Corporate Secretary, Collectors Universe, Inc., P.O. Box 6280, Newport Beach, California 92658, attention: Board of Directors. The Corporate Secretary will review and forward to the appropriate member or members of the Board copies of all such correspondence that, in the opinion of the Corporate Secretary, deal with the functions of the Board or its committees or that the Corporate Secretary otherwise determines requires their attention. Concerns relating to accounting, internal controls or auditing matters will be brought promptly to the attention of the Chairman of the Audit Committee and will be handled in accordance with procedures established by the Audit Committee.

## Corporate Governance Policies

Our Board of Directors believes that sound governance practices and policies provide an important framework to assist the Board in fulfilling its duties to the Company's stockholders. In September 2004, our Board of Directors adopted the following governance policies, which include a number of policies and practices under which our Board had operated for some time, together with concepts suggested by various authorities in corporate governance and the requirements of the NASDAQ Listing Rules and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. In addition, each year the Board and its standing committees review and, as they deem appropriate, make changes to those governance principles. Some of the principal subjects covered by those policies include:

- *Director qualifications* , including measuring each candidate's independence, experience, knowledge, skills, expertise, integrity, ability to make independent analytical inquiries; his or her understanding of our business and the business environment in which we operate; and the candidate's ability and willingness to devote adequate time and effort to Board responsibilities, taking into account the candidate's employment and other board commitments.
- *Responsibilities of Directors* , including acting in the best interests of all stockholders; maintaining independence; developing and maintaining a sound understanding of our business and the industry in which we operate; preparing for and attending Board and Board committee meetings; and providing active, objective and constructive participation at those meetings.
- *Director access to management and, as necessary and appropriate, independent advisors* , including encouraging presentations to the Board from the officers responsible for functional areas of our business.
- *Maintaining adequate funding* to retain independent advisors for the Board, as the Board deems to be necessary or appropriate, and also for its standing committees as the members of those committees deem to be necessary or appropriate.
- *Director orientation and continuing education* , including programs to familiarize new directors with our business, strategic plans, significant financial, accounting and risk management issues, compliance programs, conflicts policies, code of business conduct and corporate governance guidelines. In addition, each director is expected to participate in continuing education programs relating to developments in the Company's business and in corporate governance.
- *Annual performance evaluation of the Board* , including an annual self-assessment of the Board's performance, as well as the performance of each of the Board's standing committees.
- *Regularly scheduled executive sessions, without management* , are held by the Board. In addition, the Audit Committee meets separately with the Company's outside auditors.

## The Director Nominating Process

In identifying new candidates for membership on the Board, the Nominating and Governance Committee will seek recommendations from existing Board members and executive officers. In addition, the Committee will consider any candidates that may be recommended by any of the Company's stockholders who submit such recommendations to the Board in accordance with the procedures described below. The Board also has the authority to engage an executive search firm and other advisors as it deems appropriate to assist it in identifying qualified Board candidates.

In assessing and selecting new candidates for Board membership, the Nominating and Governance Committee considers such factors, among others, as the candidate's independence, experience, knowledge, skills and expertise, as demonstrated by past employment and board experience and the candidate's reputation for integrity. When selecting a nominee from among candidates being considered by the Committee, it conducts background inquiries of and interviews with the candidates that the Committee members believe are best qualified to serve as directors. The factors that the Committee considers in making its selection of a nominee from among those candidates include whether the candidate has the ability, willingness and enthusiasm to devote the time and effort required of members of the Board; the candidate's independence, including whether the candidate has any conflicts of interest or commitments that would interfere with the candidate's ability to fulfill the responsibilities of directors of the Company, including membership on Board committees; whether the candidate's skills and experience would add to the overall competencies of the Board; and whether the candidate has any special background or experience relevant to the Company's business.

*Stockholder Recommendations of Board Candidates* . Any stockholder desiring to submit a recommendation for consideration by the Board of a candidate that the stockholder believes is qualified to be a Board nominee at any upcoming stockholders meeting may do so by submitting that recommendation in writing to the Board not later than 120 days prior to the first anniversary of the date on which the proxy materials for the prior year's annual meeting were first sent to stockholders. However, if the date of the upcoming annual stockholders meeting has been changed by more than 30 days from the anniversary date of the prior year's annual meeting, the recommendation must be received within a reasonable time before the Company begins to print and mail its proxy materials for the upcoming annual meeting. In addition, the recommendation should be accompanied by the following information: (i) the name and address of the nominating stockholder and the person that the nominating stockholder is recommending for consideration as a candidate for Board membership; (ii) the number of shares of voting stock of the Company that are owned by the nominating stockholder, his or her recommended candidate and any other stockholders known by the nominating stockholder to be supporting the nomination of that candidate; (iii) a description of any arrangements or understandings that relate to the election of directors of the Company, between the nominating stockholder, or any person that (directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries) controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with, such stockholder, on the one hand, and any other person or persons (naming such other person or persons), on the other hand; (iv) such other information regarding each recommended candidate as would be required to be included in a proxy statement filed pursuant to the proxy rules of the SEC; and (v) the written consent of the stockholder's recommended candidate to be named as a nominee and, if nominated and elected, to serve as a director. No such recommendation was received from any stockholder with respect to the Annual Meeting.

*Stockholder Nominations* . Our Bylaws provide that any stockholder also may nominate, at any annual meeting of stockholders, one or more candidates for election to the Board of Directors, by giving the Company written notice (addressed to the Secretary of the Company at the Company's principal offices) of such stockholder's intention to do so not later than 120 days prior to the first anniversary of the date on which the proxy materials for the prior year's annual meeting were first sent to stockholders. Such notice must be accompanied by the same information, described in the immediately preceding paragraph, regarding such candidate or candidates to be nominated for election to the Board and the nominating stockholder. Any stockholder nomination at any annual meeting that does not comply with these Bylaw requirements shall be ineffective and disregarded. No such notice was received from any stockholder with respect to Annual Meeting and, therefore, the Board's nominees will be the sole candidates standing for election as directors at the Annual Meeting and, therefore, the election of directors will be uncontested.

## **Code of Business and Ethical Conduct**

We have adopted a Code of Business and Ethical Conduct for our officers, employees and directors, as well as specific ethical conduct policies and principles that apply to our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and other key accounting and financial personnel. A copy of our Code of Business and Ethical Conduct is available at the Investor Relations Section of our website at [www.collectors.com](http://www.collectors.com). We intend to disclose, at this location on our website, any amendments to our Code of Business and Ethical Conduct and any waivers of the requirements of that Code that may be granted to our Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer. A copy of the Code of Business and Ethical Conduct will be made available in print, without charge, to any stockholder upon request. Stockholders who wish to do so should make a request to: Corporate Secretary, Collectors Universe, Inc., P.O. Box 6280, Newport Beach, California 92658.

## **Other Governance Matters**

In addition to the governance policies discussed above, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have provided the certifications of our SEC filings required by Sections 302 and 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 each quarter since the certification rules were adopted. You can access our news releases, SEC filings and other corporate governance materials, as well as the Board Committee Charters, by visiting the Investor Relations Section of our website at [www.collectors.com](http://www.collectors.com).

## **Compliance with Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

Based upon information made available to us, the Company believes that all filing requirements under Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 applicable to its directors and officers were satisfied and timely made with respect to the Company's fiscal year ended June 30, 2010.

## COMPENSATION OF NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

### Compensation Philosophy and Objectives

We believe that the success of our business and the creation of long-term stockholder value depend to a large extent on our ability to retain and to attract superior management employees. Therefore, the Compensation Committee's primary objectives, when setting management compensation, are to enable the Company to retain its existing and, when the need arises, to attract new or additional executive officers and other key management employees, while at the same time maintaining compensation expense at a level that reflects the scope of our business and our revenues. To achieve these objectives, our Compensation Committee has followed the practice of:

- Offering competitive salaries and benefits to our executive officers, who are named in the Summary Compensation Table below (collectively, our "NEOs");
- Providing our NEOs the opportunity to earn additional compensation, either in the form of cash or equity incentives, based on the achievement of defined annual corporate financial performance goals or individualized NEO performance objectives or a combination thereof;
- Aligning the financial interests of our NEOs with those of our stockholders, primarily through the grant of shares of restricted stock to reward our NEOs for improvements in the market performance of our common stock; and
- Providing, generally, for stock-based compensation awards to our NEOs to become exercisable or vest in annual installments over multi-year periods as a means of creating incentives for our NEOs to focus on achieving longer-term corporate objectives and to remain in the Company's employ.

Significant factors that affect the Committee's determinations with respect to executive compensation include: (i) the competitive nature of the market for talented and experienced individuals, nationally, and particularly in Southern California where the Company is headquartered and where most of its operations are conducted; and (ii) the very limited number of senior executives that have knowledge and experience in the collectibles markets. Also, to ensure that we are appropriately compensating our NEOs and that we have appropriate human resources to execute on our business plans, in making its executive compensation determinations our Compensation Committee obtains available information relating to executive compensation, including peer group data, and sometimes obtains recommendations from independent compensation consultants. However, no single factor is determinative and the Committee ultimately relies on the experience and judgment of its members in making its executive compensation decisions. Moreover, the Compensation Committee sometimes varies and gives different weights or importance to the individual elements or components of an NEO's compensation in a given year, depending upon the state of the Company's business and its overall objectives for that year. The Compensation Committee also performs periodic reviews of the Company's executive compensation programs to evaluate their competitiveness and consistency with our overall management compensation and our financial and strategic objectives.

### Executive Compensation Paid in Fiscal 2010

NEO compensation in fiscal 2010 was comprised of two major components: (i) base annual salaries, and (ii) equity-based incentive compensation that was designed, among other things, to align the interests of our NEOs with those of our stockholders by rewarding our NEOs for improvements in the market performance of our shares and to focus the efforts of our NEOs on achieving the Company's longer term strategic objectives and remaining in the Company's employ.

The Committee's allocation of these two components of NEO compensation in fiscal 2010 was based on a number of factors, including competitive market conditions and the positions of the management employees within our organization in terms of their ability to influence our financial performance.

While historically not a significant portion of the total compensation paid to our NEOs, in addition to the two compensation categories discussed above, our Compensation Committee does have the discretion to pay discretionary cash bonuses to our NEOs if it deems appropriate under the circumstances.

*Fiscal 2010 Management Equity Incentive Plan*

In May 2009, the Compensation Committee conducted a review of the relationship of the Company's executive compensation programs to the Company's financial and strategic objectives for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010. As a result of that review, the Compensation Committee adopted an equity incentive compensation plan for its NEOs for fiscal 2010 (the "2010 Equity Incentive Plan"), in place of a cash-based management bonus plan of the type adopted by the Compensation Committee in fiscal 2009. The primary purposes of the 2010 Equity Incentive Plan were (i) to establish incentives that would focus management on achieving a turn-around in the Company's financial performance in fiscal 2010, as well as to provide incentives for them to remain in the Company's employ thereafter, (ii) to reduce cash outflows by paying such incentive compensation in stock, rather than cash, and (iii) to further align the interests of our NEOs with those of the stockholders by making the value of the equity incentives to the NEOs dependent on the price performance of the Company's shares.

Pursuant to that Plan, on July 31, 2009 the Compensation Committee awarded the following numbers of restricted shares to its NEOs: Mr. McConnell – 101,034 shares; Mr. Hall – 101,034 shares; and Mr. Wallace – 50,517 shares, which were available for grant under the Company's stockholder-approved 2006 Equity Incentive Plan. Retention by our NEOs of their restricted shares was made contingent on the satisfaction of the following vesting requirements:

(1) *Performance-Contingent Shares* . The vesting of seventy-five (75%) of the restricted shares awarded to each NEO (the "Performance Contingent Shares") was made contingent on the Company's achievement of a financial performance goal for fiscal 2010, measured by reference to the Company's fiscal 2010 operating income which, if achieved, would in the view of the Board and Compensation Committee enable the Company to return to profitability and generate increased cash flows from operations. If the Company achieved that financial performance goal, then (i) one-third of the Performance Contingent Shares would vest when it was determined that the financial performance goal would be achieved, provided that the officer was still in the Company's service at the end of fiscal 2010; (ii) another one-third of those Shares would vest on June 30, 2011, provided the officer was still in the Company's service at that time; and (iii) the final one-third of those Performance Contingent Shares would vest on June 30, 2012, provided the officer was still in the Company's service at that time, subject to acceleration of such vesting if a officer's service with the Company was terminated by the Company without cause. If, on the other hand, the financial performance goal was not achieved, all of the Performance Contingent Shares would be forfeited and cancelled.

(2) *Time-Contingent Shares* . The vesting of the other 25% of the restricted shares awarded to each NEO (the "Time-Contingent Shares") was made contingent on the continued service of the NEO to July 31, 2010, except for the 25% of the restricted shares awarded to Mr. Wallace, the Company's CFO, which became vested on the date of grant.

The 2010 Equity Incentive Plan provides that if, and when, cash dividends are paid on our outstanding shares, dividends in a like amount per share will accrue on all unvested Restricted Shares and will become payable on those of the Restricted Shares that are scheduled to vest within the succeeding year; but if any Restricted Shares become forfeitable due to the failure of any of applicable vesting conditions, the dividends that have accrued, but have not yet become payable, on those shares also will be forfeited.

In August 2010, the Compensation Committee determined that the fiscal 2010 financial performance goal under the 2010 Equity Incentive Plan, which required the Company to generate operating income (before equity compensation costs) of \$6,112,000, had been achieved. As a result, and since all three NEOs were still in the Company's service, the following respective numbers of restricted shares (i) became vested and ceased to be subject to forfeiture, and (ii) remained unvested, as of such date:

Names of NEO	As of August 31, 2010		
	Vested Performance Contingent Shares	Vested Time Contingent Shares	Remaining Unvested Shares <sup>(1)</sup>
Michael J. McConnell, CEO	25,258	25,258	50,518
David G. Hall, President	25,258	25,258	50,518
Joseph J. Wallace, CFO	12,629	12,629	25,259

(1) Each NEO's remaining unvested shares are scheduled to become vested (that is, cease to be subject to the risk of forfeiture), in two approximately equal annual installments on June 30, 2011 and June 30, 2012, respectively, provided the NEO is still in the Company's service on those dates.

Moreover, due in large part to measures taken by senior management, the Company achieved record operating income in fiscal 2010, which surpassed the financial performance goal established under the 2010 Equity Incentive Plan. The Compensation Committee believes that the adoption of that Plan created meaningful financial incentives that contributed to the improvement in the Company's operating results in fiscal 2010. As a result, in July 2010, the Compensation Committee adopted a similar equity compensation plan for fiscal 2011 for Messrs. McConnell and Wallace. On the other hand, the Committee concluded that participation by Mr. Hall in that 2011 equity plan would not provide a meaningful incentive to him due to the substantial number of Company shares that he already owns. In lieu of his participation in that plan, the Committee approved an increase in Mr. Hall's base annual salary to \$450,000 from \$300,000 in fiscal 2011.

#### *Discretionary Bonus Compensation*

The Compensation Committee also awarded Mr. Wallace a \$30,000 discretionary cash bonus based on his performance as the Company's CFO in fiscal 2010.

#### *Employment Agreements*

During fiscal 2010, Michael J. McConnell was employed as the Company's CEO under an employment agreement for a term that will end on June 30, 2011. Pursuant to that Agreement, the Company paid Mr. McConnell, for his services as CEO in fiscal 2010, a base annual salary of \$180,000 and an automobile allowance of \$650 per month as reimbursement for costs he incurred in using his personal automobile on Company business. In addition, having been an independent director prior to his appointment as the Company's CEO, during fiscal 2010 Mr. McConnell continued to receive director's fees of \$35,000 per year and was granted \$35,000 of restricted shares consistent with restricted share grants made to the non-employee directors. Effective July 1, 2010, Mr. McConnell's base annual salary was increased to \$215,000 per year; but he no longer receives director fees or restricted stock for his service as a director of the Company.

We do not have any employment agreements with any of our other NEOs.

#### *Severance Compensation/Change of Control Agreements*

Mr. McConnell's employment agreement provides that in the event his employment is terminated without cause by the Company or he terminates his employment within 30 days of a change of control of the Company, then (i) he will be entitled to continue to receive his base annual salary as in effect on the date of such termination of employment for the remainder of the original term of his employment agreement, and (ii) the Company will pay 100% of the COBRA premiums for the medical insurance coverage that was in effect on the day immediately preceding the effective date of such termination of employment, for a period of 24 months or, if shorter, until such time as Mr. McConnell obtains employment which enables him to obtain medical insurance coverage for him and his dependents. We do not have any severance compensation or change of control agreements with any of our other NEOs. However, our stock incentive plans provide that all unvested options and unvested restricted shares, whether held by NEOs or other employees, will become vested on a change of control of the Company unless the party acquiring control of the Company agrees to assume, or substitute comparable equity incentives for, those outstanding options and restricted shares on terms approved by the Compensation Committee.

## Summary Compensation Table

The following table sets forth the amounts and components of the compensation received by each of our Named Executive Officers (“NEOs”) in the fiscal years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary(\$)	Non-Equity Bonus Compensation (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	Equity Incentive Plan Awards(\$) (4)	All Other Compensation (\$)	Total(\$)
Michael J. McConnell <sup>(1)</sup> Chief Executive Officer	2010	\$ 210,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ -	\$ 446,208	\$ 10,371 <sup>(5)</sup>	\$ 666,579
	2009	87,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	-	35,000	2,560 <sup>(5)</sup>	124,560
David G. Hall President and COO	2010	\$ 300,000	\$ -	\$ 411,208	\$ -	\$ 711,208
	2009	300,000	-	-	-	300,000
Joseph J. Wallace Chief Financial Officer	2010	\$ 220,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 205,604	\$ 2,420 <sup>(6)</sup>	\$ 458,024
	2009	220,000	-	-	1,031 <sup>(6)</sup>	221,031

(1) Mr. McConnell is and since 2007 has been a member of our Board of Directors. Effective March 16, 2009, Mr. McConnell was appointed as our CEO.

(2) Includes a base annual salary of \$180,000 for Mr. McConnell for his services as CEO and \$30,000 of cash compensation for his service as a director of the Company in fiscal 2010. His salary for fiscal 2009, as set forth in this table, was comprised of (i) \$52,500 of base salary paid to him for his services as our Chief Executive Officer during the period from March 16, 2009, the date of his appointment as CEO, to June 30, 2009, and (ii) \$34,500 in director fees paid to Mr. McConnell for his services as a member of our Board of Directors for the entirety of fiscal 2009, including the period subsequent to his becoming CEO, and for his services as a member of the Compensation and the Nominating and Governance Committees of the Board in fiscal 2009 prior to his appointment as CEO.

(3) Mr. Wallace was awarded a \$30,000 discretionary cash bonus by the Compensation Committee based on his performance as the Company’s CFO in fiscal 2010. No other NEOs received any cash bonuses in fiscal 2010 and none of the Company’s NEOs received cash bonuses in 2009.

(4) Amounts shown in this column reflect the grant date fair values of the restricted stock awards as determined in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. Information regarding the assumptions on which the grant date fair values were determined is set forth under the caption “Stock-Based Compensation” in Note 2 to the Company’s Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the 2010 Annual Report to Stockholders that accompanies this Proxy Statement.

(5) Consists of (i) an automobile allowance of \$650 per month, as reimbursement for the use of his personal automobile on Company business, during fiscal 2010 and during the three and one-half period he served as CEO in fiscal 2009 and (ii) dividends in the amounts of \$2,571 and \$285 paid, in fiscal 2010 and 2009, respectively, on unvested restricted shares.

(6) These amounts represent dividends paid in fiscal 2010 and 2009, respectively, on unvested restricted shares.

The increase in Mr. McConnell’s cash compensation in fiscal 2010 to \$210,000, from \$87,000 in fiscal 2009, was attributable to his employment, and his receipt of his base annual salary, as CEO for the entirety of fiscal 2010. In fiscal 2009, Mr. McConnell served as the Company’s CEO, and received his base annual salary for his service as CEO, for only the final three and one-half months of that year.

The increases in each NEO’s total compensation (in addition to the increase in Mr. McConnell’s cash compensation discussed above) were primarily attributable to the granting and vesting of restricted stock awards under the 2010 Equity Incentive Plan. See “COMPENSATION OF NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS-- Executive Compensation Paid in Fiscal 2010 – *Fiscal 2010 Management Equity Incentive Plan*” above.

## Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year End

The following table sets forth information regarding options and restricted stock awards that have been granted to our NEOs and that were outstanding as of the end of fiscal 2010.

Names	Grant Dates	Option Awards <sup>(1)</sup>				Restricted Stock Awards	
		Exercisable <sup>(1)</sup>	Unexercisable	Option Exercise Price (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Expiration Dates <sup>(3)</sup>	Number of Shares not yet Vested(#)	Market Value of Shares not yet Vested(\$) <sup>(4)</sup>
Michael McConnell	7/31/09	-	-	-	-	101,034 <sup>(5)</sup>	\$ 1,323,545
	12/8//09	-	-	-	-	1,853	\$ 24,274
David G. Hall	7/31/09	-	-			101,034 <sup>(5)</sup>	\$ 1,323,545
Joseph J. Wallace	06/11/04	16,500	-	\$ 12.48	06/11/14	-	-
	06/09/05	5,500	-	\$ 14.17	06/09/15	-	-
	09/15/05	11,000	-	\$ 11.73	09/15/15	-	-
	11/14/07	5,500	5,500	\$ 13.18	11/14/17	3,025	\$ 39,628
	7/31/09					37,888 <sup>(5)</sup>	\$ 496,333

- (1) The number of shares subject to each of these option awards and their respective exercise prices have been adjusted to give retroactive effect to a 10% stock dividend that was issued to our stockholders in November 2008.
- (2) Each option grant was made at an exercise price equal to 100% of the closing price per share of our common stock on the date of grant as reported by the NASDAQ Global Stock Market.
- (3) The expiration date of each option award is 10 years from the date of its grant, subject to earlier termination on cessation of the NEO's service with the Company.
- (4) The market value of stock awards that have not yet vested was determined by multiplying the number of shares subject to each award by the closing price, as reported by the NASDAQ Global Stock Market, of the Company's common stock on June 30, 2010, which was the last trading day of fiscal 2010.
- (5) These awards consisted of restricted shares granted pursuant to the 2010 Management Equity Incentive Plan. A portion of these shares have vested as a result of the Company's achievement of a financial performance goal in fiscal 2010. See "COMPENSATION OF NAMED EXECUTIVE OFFICERS – Fiscal 2010 Management Equity Incentive Plan" above.

## Director Compensation

The following table sets forth information regarding all cash and other compensation earned by each of our non-management directors for service on the Board and its Committees during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010.

Names	Year Ended June 30, 2010			At June 30, 2010	
	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash(\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Total(\$) <sup>(3)</sup>	Stock Options Outstanding (#)	Stock Awards Not Yet Vested (#)
A. Clinton Allen	\$ 92,500	\$ 35,000	\$ 127,500	89,375	1,853
Deborah Farrington	57,500	35,000	92,500	45,650	1,853
A. J. Bert Moyer	62,500	35,000	97,500	41,250	1,853
Van D. Simmons	30,000	35,000	65,000	16,500	1,853
Bruce A. Stevens	46,000	35,000	81,000	--	1,853

- (1) This column reports the amount of cash compensation earned in 2010 for Board and Committee service.
- (2) Amounts shown in this column reflect the grant date fair values of the restricted stock awards as determined in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. Information regarding the assumptions on which the grant date fair values were determined is set forth under the caption "Stock-Based Compensation" in Note 2 to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements contained in the 2010 Annual Report to Stockholders that accompanies this Proxy Statement.

(3) Does not include dividends in the amount of \$2,571 paid to each director on his or her unvested restricted shares.

Set forth below is additional information regarding the compensation that we paid to our non-management directors in fiscal 2010.

*Compensation for Service on the Board of Directors* . As compensation for service on the Board of Directors in fiscal 2010, each non-management director was paid an annual cash retainer in the amount of \$30,000, and was granted \$35,000 of restricted shares of common stock (with the number of shares determined on the basis of the closing per share price, as reported by the NASDAQ Global Stock Market, of the Company's common stock on the date of grant). Each director's restricted shares vest (that is cease to be subject to a risk of forfeiture) in four equal quarterly installments subject to the director's continued service on the Board.

*Compensation for Service on Board Committees* . In addition, directors serving on the Audit Committee, the Compensation Committee or the Nominating and Governance Committee receive an annual retainer of \$10,000, \$7,500 and \$1,000, respectively, for their service on those Committees.

*Additional Board and Committee Service* . The Chairman of the Board receives an additional annual cash retainer of \$55,000, and the Chairpersons of the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Governance Committee receive additional annual cash retainers of \$14,000, \$10,000 and \$5,000, respectively, in each case for the additional services they render to the Company in those capacities.

The compensation paid to our non-management directors, as described above, was determined on the basis of information provided and recommendations made to the Compensation Committee in fiscal 2007 by its outside compensation consultant regarding trends in director compensation. Based on a review of updated information regarding compensation that is being paid by comparably sized service companies to their outside directors, the Nominating & Governance Committee recommended that no changes be made to director compensation in fiscal 2010.

### **Certain Transactions**

An adult member of the immediate family of, but who does not reside with, David G. Hall, our President, Chief Operating Officer and a member of our Board of Directors, paid us \$517,000 and \$191,000 in fees for collectibles authentication and grading services rendered to him during the years ended June 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Those authentication and grading fees were comparable in amount to the fees which the Company charges, in the ordinary course of its business, for similar services it renders to unaffiliated persons.

During fiscal 2009 the Company repurchased 120,010 shares of Company common stock owned by Michael Haynes, who was then the Chief Executive Officer and a director of the Company, at a purchase price of \$4.033 per share, which represented a 10% discount from the then market price of the Company's shares. To reduce its cash outlay, the Company then sold, at the same per share price, 30,000 of those shares to Michael J. McConnell, who was then an outside director, and 10,000 of those shares to David Hall, who is the President and Chief Operating Officer and a director of the Company. The per share price \$4.033 that was paid by the Company for the shares it purchased from Mr. Haynes, and that was paid to the Company for the shares it sold to Messrs. McConnell and Hall, was determined on the basis of price negotiations between Mr. McConnell, acting on his own behalf, and Mr. Haynes, as seller of the shares (and not in his capacity as our CEO).

The Company did not engage in any other transaction or any series of related transactions in amounts exceeding \$120,000 in which a "related person" (as defined in SEC rules) had a direct or indirect material interest in fiscal 2010 or fiscal 2009.

The SEC defines a "related person" as any director, nominee for director, executive officer, or person controlling more than 5% percent of our outstanding voting securities, and any immediate family member of any of such persons.

## RATIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

### (Proposal No. 2)

The Audit Committee of our Board of Directors has selected Grant Thornton LLP (“Grant Thornton”) to serve as our independent registered public accounting firm for our fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. Grant Thornton audited our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. We are submitting the selection of our independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2011 to our stockholders for ratification at the Annual Meeting.

Our organizational documents do not require that our stockholders ratify the selection of Grant Thornton as our independent registered public accounting firm. However, we are doing so because we believe it is a matter of good corporate practice. If our stockholders do not ratify the selection, the Audit Committee will reconsider whether or not to retain Grant Thornton, but may still retain them. Alternatively, even if the selection is ratified, the Audit Committee, in its discretion, may change the appointment at any time during the year if it determines that such a change would be in our best interests and the best interests of our stockholders.

A representative of Grant Thornton is expected to be present at the Annual Meeting, will have the opportunity to make a statement if he or she desires to do so, and will be available to respond to appropriate questions from stockholders.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY  
RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE “FOR” THE RATIFICATION OF THE  
APPOINTMENT OF THE INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

#### **Audit and Non-Audit Services Pre-Approval Policy**

The Audit Committee Charter, provides that our Audit Committee will pre-approve all audit and non-audit engagements of any independent registered public accounting firms, including the nature of the services to be performed and the fees for such services, either through specific approval of the Audit Committee or by its Chairman pursuant to authority specifically delegated to him or her by the Committee. Any engagement approved by the Chairman pursuant to delegated authority is required to be reported to the Audit Committee at its next meeting. Since the adoption of the Charter, all audit and non-audit services provided by the Company’s independent registered accounting firms have been pre-approved by the Audit Committee.

#### **Audit and Other Fees Paid in Fiscal 2010 and 2009**

*Audit Services and Fees* . With respect to fiscal 2010 and 2009, Grant Thornton rendered audit services to us that consisted of the audit of our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 and 2009 and reviews of our interim consolidated financial statements included in our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q filed with the SEC for the first three quarters of each of those years. In fiscal 2010, audit services include preparatory work performed by Grant Thornton for an audit of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting at June 30, 2010. However, as a result of the enactment of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, the Company was exempted from this audit requirement for fiscal year 2010 and, for that reason, no audit of our internal controls was conducted. Audit fees paid to Grant Thornton for these services in fiscal 2010 and 2009 totaled \$317,000 and \$285,106, respectively.

*Audit-Related Fees* . Grant Thornton did not render any audit-related services with respect to fiscal 2010 or 2009.

*Fees for Tax Services* . Grant Thornton rendered tax planning and advisory services to us in fiscal 2010 and 2009, consisting primarily of (i) ongoing federal and state income tax compliance services, and (ii) research assistance with respect to certain tax issues and positions; and (iii) assistance with a state audit. Grant Thornton received fees totaling \$94,900 and \$82,511 for those services in fiscal 2010 and 2009, respectively.

*Other Services* . Grant Thornton did not provide any consulting or other services to us with respect to fiscal 2010 or in fiscal 2009.

The Audit Committee determined that the provision by Grant Thornton of tax related services in each of 2010 and 2009, and the fees paid by the Company for those services, were compatible with maintaining Grant Thornton’s independence.

## REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

The following is the report of the Audit Committee with respect to the Company's audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010 (the "2010 Financial Statements").

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors is responsible for assisting the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities as they relate to the Company's financial reporting, internal financial and accounting systems and accounting practices and policies. The Board of Directors has adopted an Audit Committee Charter that sets forth the authority and responsibilities of the Audit Committee. A copy of the Charter is accessible at the Investor Relations section of our website at [www.collectors.com](http://www.collectors.com).

In discharging its responsibilities, the Audit Committee met and held discussions with management and Grant Thornton, LLP, the Company's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2010. Management represented to the Audit Committee that the Company's financial statements were prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and the Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the financial statements with management and Grant Thornton, LLP. The Audit Committee also discussed with Grant Thornton, LLP the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended (AICPA, *Professional Standards*, Vol. 1, AU section 380).

The Audit Committee has received from Grant Thornton the written disclosures and the letter required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1 (Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1, *Independence Discussions with Audit Committees*), as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in Rule 3600T, and has discussed with them their independence with respect to the Company and its management, and has considered whether Grant Thornton's provision of any non-audit services was compatible with maintaining their independence.

Based on the discussions and reviews referenced in the two preceding paragraphs, the Audit Committee recommended that the Board of Directors approve the inclusion of the Company's 2010 Financial Statements in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 30, 2010 as filed with the SEC.

Management is responsible for the Company's financial reporting process, including its system of internal controls, and for the preparation of consolidated financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The Company's independent auditors are responsible for auditing those financial statements. The Audit Committee's responsibility is to monitor and review these processes. It is not the Committee's duty or responsibility to conduct auditing or accounting reviews or procedures. The members of the Audit Committee are not employees of the Company and no member of the Committee is, nor does any member of the Committee represent himself or herself to be or to serve as, accountants or auditors by profession or experts in the fields of accounting or auditing. Therefore, the Committee members have necessarily relied, without independent verification, on management's representation that the financial statements have been prepared with integrity and objectivity and in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and on the representations of the Company's registered independent public accounting firm included in their report on the Company's 2010 Financial Statements.

Respectfully Submitted,

A. J. Bert Moyer (Chairperson)  
Deborah A. Farrington  
Bruce A. Stevens

*Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in the Company's previous filings under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that might incorporate future filings, including this Proxy Statement, in whole or in part, the foregoing Audit Committee Report shall not be incorporated by reference into any such filings.*

## STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS

Under Rule 14a-8 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), any stockholder desiring to submit a proposal for inclusion in our proxy materials for our 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders must provide us with a written copy of that proposal by no later than 120 days before the first anniversary of the release of our proxy materials for this year’s Annual Meeting. However, if the date of our 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders changes by more than 30 days from the date on which the Annual Meeting is held, then the deadline will be a reasonable time before we begin to print and mail our proxy materials for our 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Matters pertaining to such proposals, including the number and length of such proposals, the eligibility of persons entitled to have such proposals included and other aspects are governed by the Exchange Act, the rules of the SEC promulgated thereunder, and other laws and regulations to which interested stockholders should refer.

## AVAILABILITY OF ANNUAL REPORT AND HOUSEHOLDING

A copy of our 2010 Annual Report to Stockholders accompanies this Proxy Statement. If you and others who share your mailing address are “beneficial owners” of our common stock that hold shares through a broker or other nominee, you may have received a notice that your household will receive only one Proxy Statement or Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials, as applicable, from each company whose stock is held in such accounts. This practice, known as “householding”, is designed to reduce the volume of duplicative information and reduce printing and postage costs. Unless you responded that you did not want to participate in householding, you were deemed to have consented to it, and a single copy of the Availability Notice (and/or a single copy of this Proxy Statement and the 2010 Annual Report) have been sent to your address. Each stockholder receiving the Proxy Statement by mail will continue to receive a separate voting instruction form.

If you are a beneficial owner of our common stock who holds shares through a broker or other nominee and would like to revoke your consent to householding and in the future receive your own Availability Notice (or your own set of proxy materials, as applicable), or if your household is currently receiving multiple copies of the same items and you would like in the future to receive only a single copy at your address, please contact Broadridge, either by calling toll-free at 1-800-542-1061, or by writing to Broadridge, Householding Department, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717. When prompted, please indicate your name, the name of each of your brokerage firms or banks where your shares are held, and your account numbers. The revocation of a consent to householding will be effective approximately 30 days following its receipt. You will also have an opportunity to opt in or opt out of householding by contacting your bank or broker.

If you would like an additional copy of this Proxy Statement or the 2010 Annual Report, those documents are available in electronic form for download or review by visiting the Investor Relations Section of our website at [www.collectors.com](http://www.collectors.com). We will promptly send you a copy of the 2010 Annual Report upon your request sent to: Corporate Secretary, Collectors Universe, Inc., P.O. Box 6280, Newport Beach, California 92658.

## OTHER MATTERS

We are not aware of any other matters to come before the Annual Meeting. If any other matter not mentioned in this Proxy Statement is properly submitted to a vote of stockholders at the Annual Meeting, the proxy holders named in the enclosed proxies will have discretionary authority to vote all proxies they have received with respect to such matter in accordance with their judgment.



**VOTE BY INTERNET - [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com)**

Use the Internet to transmit your voting instructions and for electronic delivery of information up until 11:59 P.M. Eastern Time the day before the cut-off date or meeting date. Have your proxy card in hand when you access the web site and follow the instructions to obtain your records and to create an electronic voting instruction form.

**Electronic Delivery of Future PROXY MATERIALS**

If you would like to reduce the costs incurred by our company in mailing proxy materials, you can consent to receiving all future proxy statements, proxy cards and annual reports electronically via e-mail or the Internet. To sign up for electronic delivery, please follow the instructions above to vote using the Internet and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive or access proxy materials electronically in future years.

**VOTE BY MAIL**

Mark, sign and date your proxy card and return it in the postage-paid envelope we have provided or return it to Vote Processing, c/o Broadridge, 51 Mercedes Way, Edgewood, NY 11717.

TO VOTE, MARK BLOCKS BELOW IN BLUE OR BLACK INK AS FOLLOWS:

KEEP THIS PORTION FOR YOUR RECORDS

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 DETACH AND RETURN THIS PORTION ONLY

**THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED.**

		<b>For All</b>	<b>Withhold All</b>	<b>For All</b>	To withhold authority to vote for any individual nominee(s), mark "For All Except" and write the Except number(s) of the nominee(s) on the line below.	
The Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR all of the following Nominees:					_____	
1.	Election of Directors <b>Nominees</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
01	A. Clinton Allen		02 Deborah A. Farrington	03 David G. Hall	04 Michael J. McConnell	05 A.J. "Bert" Moyer
06	Van D. Simmons		07 Bruce A. Stevens			

The Board of Directors recommends a vote <b>FOR</b> the following proposal:		<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>
2	Ratification of the appointment of Grant Thornton LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**NOTE:**Such other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Please indicate if you plan to attend this meeting

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please sign exactly as your name(s) appear(s) hereon. When signing as attorney, executor, administrator, or other fiduciary, please give full title as such. Joint owners should each sign personally. All holders must sign. If a corporation or partnership, please sign in full corporate or partnership name, by authorized officer.

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Signature [PLEASE SIGN WITHIN BOX] Date

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Signature (Joint Owners) Date

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**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting:** The Annual Report, Notice & Proxy Statement is/are available at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com) .

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**COLLECTORS UNIVERSE, INC.**  
**Annual Meeting of Shareholders**  
**November 19, 2010 10:00 AM**  
**This proxy is solicited by the Board of Directors**

The undersigned hereby revokes all previously granted proxies and appoints A. Clinton Allen, Michael J. McConnell and David G. Hall, and each of them individually, the attorney-in-fact, agent and proxy of the undersigned, with full power of substitution, to vote all shares of stock of Collectors Universe, Inc. which the undersigned is entitled to represent and vote at the 2010 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Friday, November 19, 2010 at 10:00 A.M., Pacific Time, at our principal offices, which are located at 1921 E. Alton Avenue, Santa Ana, California 92705, and at any and all postponements or adjournments thereof, as fully as if the undersigned were present and voting at the Annual Meeting, as directed on this Proxy.

**Your vote is very important. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we encourage you to read the accompanying Proxy Statement and submit your proxy or voting instructions as soon as possible.**

**THIS PROXY CARD IS VALID ONLY WHEN SIGNED AND DATED**

**Continued and to be signed on reverse side**