



**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## **PaintAmerica Launches National Artists' Competition**

PaintAmerica, a national, non-profit organization to support and promote the visual arts, has announced the Call to Entries for the PaintAmerica Top100 Art Competition. In the inaugural year of the PaintAmerica Top100, the competition is already among the richest in prize money and purchase awards. The Grand Prize winner will earn a \$5,000 purchase award, plus a cash prize. Dozens of purchase awards, cash prizes and other awards are available, and more are still being secured. Full details and entry forms are available at [www.PaintAmerica.org](http://www.PaintAmerica.org)

PaintAmerica was established to support and promote the arts, with a goal of providing scholarship opportunities for young artists, as well as providing a premiere, national venue for local and regional artists to showcase their talent. "The Top100 Competition format not only rewards artists with great potential for sales of their work, it also encourages them with recognition and awareness through state level gallery exhibits," stated Rod Seel, Executive Director of PaintAmerica. "Showcasing the beauty and qualities of every state of America as seen through the eyes of its artists is another benefit of the program."

The unique format of the competition asks artists to create artworks that depict a particular state of their choosing. Art can be landscape, cityscape, nature, wildlife, or anything topical to that state. The artist enters their paintings at the state level, with 50 winners chosen within each state. Then, two winners from each state are chosen by a national jury panel to automatically progress to the National Top100. Along the way, the Top50 in each state are included in gallery and online exhibits, with excellent chances of earning a purchase award or other prizes.

A "mini" competition for works between 80 and 154 square inches is also part of this call to entry. A discounted entry is available for meeting the early deadline of July 1, 2006. The final contest entry deadline is August 1, 2006. Galleries interested in exhibiting the Top50 in each state, or the National Top100 should contact PaintAmerica at [mail@PaintAmerica.org](mailto:mail@PaintAmerica.org)