

NEWS RELEASE

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2005 NICHE Award Winner Announced

(Baltimore, MD) Steve Sizelove has been selected as a winner for a NICHE Award for the piece entitled "Neoclassic Goblet" in the Goblets category.

Winners of the NICHE Awards were announced at a ceremony during the Philadelphia Buyers Market of American Craft on February 20, 2005. Only 138 artists out of approximately 1,000 entries were named as finalists for a NICHE Award. Of that group, 64 artists won awards in several categories including ceramics, wood, metal, jewelry and glass.

The NICHE Awards program began in 1990 to recognize the outstanding creative achievements of American craft artists who produce work for craft galleries and retail stores. Judging criteria are based on three main distinctions:

- . technical excellence and creativity, both in surface design and form,
- . market viability, and
- . a distinct quality of unique and original thought

The Awards are sponsored by NICHE magazine, the exclusive trade publication for North American retailers of American crafts.

NICHE magazine is published by The Rosen Group, a Baltimore-based arts marketing, publishing, and advocacy firm. The Rosen Group also publishes AmericanStyle magazine, a consumer lifestyle magazine for collectors of American art, and produces the Philadelphia Buyers Market of American Craft, the nation's largest wholesale craft event.

Applications for the 2006 NICHE Awards will be available in the spring. For more information on the NICHE Awards, call 410.889.2933 x218, fax 443.524.2644, e-mail danielw@rosengrp.com or visit www.AmericanCraft.com.