

NEWS RELEASE

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Steve Sizelove Named a 2006 *NICHE* Award Finalist

Baltimore, Md. (November 29, 2005)- Artist Steve Sizelove has been selected as a finalist in the 2006 *NICHE* Awards for the piece entitled "Toast to Bacchus" in the Goblets category.

Winners of the 2006 *NICHE* Awards will be announced at a ceremony during the Philadelphia Buyers Market of American Craft on Sunday, February 19, 2006. Only 191 entries - out of more than 1,000 submissions by some of the nation's most brilliant and innovative artists in every medium - were named as finalists in this year's competition. The awards program is sponsored by *NICHE* magazine, the exclusive trade publication for North American retailers of American craft.

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 is based on three main criteria:

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

NICHE magazine is published by The Rosen Group, which also publishes *AmericanStyle* magazine, a consumer lifestyle magazine for enthusiasts and collectors of American art. The Rosen Group produces the Philadelphia Buyers Market of American Craft, the nation's largest wholesale craft tradeshow.

Applications for the 2007 *NICHE* Awards will be available in Spring 2006. For more information or to obtain images of finalists' works, e-mail danielw@rosengrp.com or visit www.AmericanCraft.com.