



For Immediate Release

Art From the Streets Hosts 14th Annual Show and Sale

Volunteer-driven art exhibition allows Austin homeless artists to display creativity, interact with public, pay for necessities

Austin, Texas – October 1, 2006 – Art From the Streets (AFTS), a volunteer-driven program providing a safe and encouraging environment for Austin's homeless to exhibit artistic skills, today announced its 14th Annual Art From the Streets Show and Sale, being held on Saturday, November 11, and Sunday, November 12, 2006, from 12:00pm to 5:00 p.m., at the Austin Resource Center for the Homeless (ARCH), 500 East 7th Street. Original artwork starts at \$30 with proceeds going directly to the exhibiting artists. A \$3 suggested admission donation helps defray the cost of supplies and materials. Parking is available on the street.

The Show & Sale gives Austin's homeless community the opportunity to exhibit artistic skills, interact with the people of Austin, and raise funds to pay for necessities such as food, clothing and housing. At last year's event, over 1,500 people attended the show purchasing over 2,000 pieces of art, raising more than \$80,000 through sales, admissions, and donations.

"The artwork created by the homeless participants is truly unique," said Bill Jeffers, volunteer co-director/co-founder, Art From the Streets. "The range of art is incredible - paintings, jewelry, photography - and when it sells it has a huge, immediate impact on these artists' who are trying to bring honor, dignity and purpose to their lives. This is what Art From the Streets is all about. For 14 years, we've been successful at helping provide a positive impact to our homeless community. We couldn't have done it without the support from the local community who have really made a difference. We encourage everyone to come out again this year to buy art and help the homeless."

To date more than 700 homeless artists have taken part in the Art From the Streets annual shows, earning more than \$400,000 through sales of their art to the 20,000+ Austinites who have attended.

About Art From the Streets

Art From the Streets is a volunteer program established in 1991 that provides a safe and encouraging environment where the positive spirit of homeless people is nurtured through artistic expression. Art From the Streets is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts. Art From the Streets is a fund of the Austin Community Foundation and is made possible by the support of Women and Their Work. Pro bono PR/Marketing and advertising conducted by members of the Austin Ad Federation. For more information, call (512) 440-0839 or contact info@artfromthestreets.org.

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