



THE GARY ROSENTHAL COLLECTION FOUNDATION RECEIVES BEST ARTS NONPROFIT AWARD

Local Nonprofit Supports Arts Enrichment and Education

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 24, 2005 – A local foundation that develops community-based programs dedicated to arts enrichment and education received an award earlier this month from one of the American craft industry’s leading publications

The Gary Rosenthal Collection Foundation (**Kensington, Maryland**) won the inaugural Best Arts Nonprofit award at *NICHE* magazine’s annual Top 100 Retailers of American Craft awards ceremony. The event was part of the Philadelphia Buyers Market of American Craft, the nation’s largest wholesale American craft event, held bi-annually at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia.

More than 18,000 artists from across the country selected The Gary Rosenthal Collection Foundation as their favorite nonprofit arts organization. Rosenthal also launched the Art as a Catalyst Retailer Network at the Philadelphia trade show.

“The Gary Rosenthal Collection Foundation is honored to be selected by America’s craft retailers as the best arts nonprofit in the country,” Rosenthal said. “This honor demonstrates that the American craft community wants to be involved in social entrepreneurship and work with nonprofits to develop cause-related marketing ventures that support their local communities.”

The Gary Rosenthal Collection Foundation is funded through sales of items created by the Art as a Catalyst™ program, and supports arts enrichment activities for children in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. It also provides grants to nonprofit organizations for arts programming and to foster art-based, community-building intergenerational activities.

“Art nonprofits such as The Gary Rosenthal Collection Foundation deserve every ounce of recognition that they receive,” said *NICHE* magazine publisher Wendy Rosen. “We applaud them for doing so much to grow the American craft industry and to give back to the community.”

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Since 2002, The Gary Rosenthal Collection Foundation has given nearly \$100,000 in grants and in-kind gifts to Washington, D.C. area nonprofits, including Autism Society of America, Latin American Youth Center, the Higher Achievement Program, the Montgomery County Housing Opportunity Commission, and The Theatre Lab. The Gary Rosenthal Collection Foundation is a designated fund operating within the National Capital Area Community Foundation as the 501(c)3 designated fund for The Gary Rosenthal Collection's Art as a Catalyst program.

The Art as a Catalyst Retailer Network brings together retailers from across the country to help raise funds for nonprofit organizations. Retailers carry the unique Art as a Catalyst product line, developed in collaboration with nonprofit organizations under Rosenthal's direction, and donate a portion of the proceeds to charity.

The Gary Rosenthal Collection has been a leader in the American craft movement for nearly 30 years. Combining copper, brass, and steel with brilliant fused glass, the collection has a contemporary style rooted in tradition. Pieces of the collection have been presented to American presidents and displayed in fine galleries and museums throughout the world.

NICHE magazine is the exclusive quarterly trade magazine for craft retailers. In addition to publishing *NICHE* magazine, The Rosen Group produces the biannual Philadelphia Buyers Market of American Craft, the nation's largest wholesale American craft event. The Rosen Group also publishes *AmericanStyle* magazine, a consumer lifestyle magazine for arts enthusiasts and collectors.

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