



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AmericanStyle Announces Top 10 Arts Festivals, Ranked by Readers

PARADISE CITY ARTS FESTIVAL IN 'TOP FIVE' FOR THE SIXTH TIME

BALTIMORE (February 24, 2010) – For enthusiasts of contemporary and traditional handcraft, Kentucky beckons: Readers of *AmericanStyle* magazine have ranked Kentucky Crafted: The Market as the best arts festival in the nation. The St. James Court Art Show, #2 this year, is also in Kentucky.

Paradise City Arts Festival in Northampton, Massachusetts secured its place for the sixth time among the Top Ten Arts Festivals nationwide, this year as the #3 art fair in America. Each year, Paradise City has been named among the top five; in 2008 it received the #1 ranking. It is the only arts festival in the Northeast among the top five. The 2010 shows will take place May 29-31 and October 9-11 at the Three County Fairgrounds in Northampton.

Readers of *AmericanStyle* are art enthusiasts, art collectors and cultural tourists, who through the years of the poll have indicated a preference for shows offering a diversity of artistic styles and disciplines, high-quality craftsmanship, and an appealing setting for enjoying art. Often, the factor that sways the vote is local support for the arts.

“The winning festivals are typically events that attract a strong local following as well as a national following,” said Wendy Rosen, publisher of *AmericanStyle*. “Communities that support their artisans are finding that they are paid back with increased tourism and a growing sense of cultural pride. When the citizens buy locally produced art, the dollars they spend are recycled in the community.”

Each year *AmericanStyle* magazine polls its readers, asking where they prefer to go to view and buy art and fine craft in a festival setting. The results are used to prepare the magazine’s winners list, and its Essential Guide to Fairs & Festivals, which can be found in *AmericanStyle* magazine’s spring issue, on sale at newsstands on March 2, 2010. In addition, an expanded *AmericanStyle* Essential Guide to Fairs & Festivals with a yearlong calendar of shows can be viewed online at www.AmericanStyle.com.

Here is the complete winners list:

AMERICANSTYLE 2010 TOP 10 FAIRS & FESTIVALS

1. Kentucky Crafted: The Market, Louisville, Ky.
2. St. James Court Art Show, Louisville, Ky.
3. Paradise City Arts Festival, Northampton, Mass.

4. Scottsdale Arts Festival, Scottsdale, Ariz.
5. Francisco's Farm Arts Festival at Midway College, Midway, Ky.
6. Kentuck Festival of the Arts, Northport, Ala.
7. Bayou City Art Festival, Houston, Texas
8. The American Craft Council Show in Baltimore, Baltimore, Md.
9. League of NH Craftsmen's Fair, Newbury, N.H.
10. Des Moines Arts Festival, Des Moines, Iowa

SOURCE: *AmericanStyle* magazine readers' poll, spring 2010 issue.

The mission of *AmericanStyle* magazine is to inform craft enthusiasts and art collectors about the significance of handmade objects of art. Launched in 1994 by The Rosen Group, *AmericanStyle* provides art lovers with valuable tips on decorating, interior design, display and lighting ideas for everything from designer jewelry and art glass to collectible teapots, art furniture and sculptural ceramics. More than 250 arts festivals, gallery exhibitions and museum events are listed in the Datebook section of each issue. For more information, visit www.AmericanStyle.com.

Read the feature story online at: <http://www.paradisecityarts.com/pcafnews.html>