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**THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION REVEALS WINNING ARTWORK FOR DISPLAY  
ON OUTDOOR PUBLIC WALL IN DALLAS ARTS DISTRICT**

*Local artist Pamela Nelson selected as winner of 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Catholic Foundation Plaza Artists Competition*

**DALLAS** – The Catholic Foundation announced local Dallas artist Pamela Nelson as the winner of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Catholic Foundation Plaza Artists Competition, and her work, “Magic Carpet,” was unveiled and blessed during a dedication ceremony in the Dallas Arts District on Oct. 17.

The winning art will be displayed on a 28’ by 9’8” wall for approximately one year at the Catholic Foundation Plaza, which is free and open to the public and located on the grounds of the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe in the Dallas Arts District.

“‘Magic Carpet’ is based on the Downtown Dallas city street plan, with the streets paved in gold,” Nelson said of her winning painting. “I designed this piece to form a tapestry of connecting segments, emphasizing the many ways the Arts connect us.”

Earlier this year, the Catholic Foundation invited selected professional artists living in the North Texas area to submit proposal designs for consideration. A panel of highly respected members of the local arts community then chose the winning piece. Nelson will receive a \$1,000 stipend, and three honorable mentions, Ann S. Adams for “Then There Was Light”, Adrienne T. Rosenberg for “Cycles”, and Kay Strother for “Diversity” will receive \$250 each.

“The inspiration behind Pamela Nelson’s stunning artwork work is truly exemplified by its new home in The Catholic Foundation Plaza, surrounded by all of the wonderful art venues the city has to offer,” said Edwin M. Schaffler, president and chief executive officer of The Catholic Foundation. “The Plaza was designed as an urban retreat for the community to enjoy, and we invite the public to come and visit to behold Mrs. Nelson’s larger-than-life artwork.”

The Catholic Foundation Plaza, dedicated in October 2006, was a gift from The Catholic Foundation to the Dallas community to commemorate the Foundation’s 50th anniversary. In addition to the art wall, the 3,900-square-foot public space features a distinctive overhead shading trellis attached to twin stone columns with lighting, stone benches, floral landscaping, a fountain and free wireless connection. The Plaza is available for private rental through the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe.

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The Selection Committee included one representative from The Catholic Foundation and one from the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe. Other members of the committee were drawn from the arts community. The committee was comprised of Cindy M. Gummer, owner of The Enchanted Galleries; Katherine Wagner, former director of the Dallas Visual Arts Center; Patricia B. Meadows, senior curator of the Hall Collection; David B. Hickman, sculptor; Gary Skotnicki of Architexas, the architectural firm that designed the Plaza; Rev. Eduardo Gonzales, Rector of the Cathedral Shrine of the Virgin of Guadalupe; Christy Frazer, Ursuline Academy of Dallas; Katherine C. Berg, president, Interprise, and Ann Cushing Gantz, the 2007 Artist Competition winner.

Former winners include Marty Ray for her work "Celebrate Life, Celebrate Art" in 2006 and Ann Cushing Gantz for her work "Trumpeting Angels" in 2007.

Chartered in 1955, The Catholic Foundation was founded by a group of dedicated Catholic laymen with a vision that extended far beyond the charitable needs of the moment. For over 50 years, this independent, nonprofit corporation has dedicated its resources to compassionate charitable giving through grants provided by benefactors through its many planned giving programs. The Foundation has been able to provide approximately \$20 million through hundreds of grants to various religious, educational and charitable organizations within the Diocese of Dallas during its 50 plus years of existence. In addition, donor-advised funds maintained at the Foundation have accounted for many more grants amounting to millions of dollars over the years.

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