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### The 2008 AIDS Walk for Life artwork competition: New honorarium announced

The AIDS Walk for Life is thrilled to announce the establishment of a \$1,000 honorarium for its inaugural artwork competition.

“The Walk is looking for Canadian HIV-positive artists to help us celebrate the challenges, victories, and lives of individuals living with HIV/AIDS in Canada,” says Kim Thomas, Director of Programs at the Canadian AIDS Society. “We have launched a national initiative to find the centerpiece of the 2008 AIDS Walk for Life’s creative design.”

The piece chosen will be prominently featured on AIDS Walk for Life promotional materials across the country. And the successful artist will be featured on the national Walk’s web site, giving them and their artwork unprecedented exposure in Canada and around the world! In addition, a \$1,000 honorarium will be awarded to the successful artist on behalf of the AIDS Walk for Life.

As Dena Ellery, Director of Development with the BC Persons With AIDS Society, explains: “In 2007, the AIDS Walk for Life decided to redesign the creative look and feel of the event. Each year, the AIDS Walk for Life will select a piece of artwork from a different Canadian HIV-positive artist to grace all of our national promotional materials.”

“This artwork will serve as a link between the AIDS Walk for Life and the very people we are trying to help,” continues Lori Lucier, the Executive Director of the AIDS Committee of Toronto. “And by offering a \$1,000 honorarium, we will be supporting the successful artist in an unprecedented way for the Walk. We are very excited to be taking this historic step.”

The AIDS Walk for Life’s 2008 Artwork competition is open to all Canadian HIV-positive artists, professionals and amateurs alike. Artwork submitted must be an original work and artists are free to submit as many pieces as they wish. Complete submissions, along with a brief application form, must be received by February 15, 2008. All submissions will be judged in a fair and equitable manner.

For more information and to obtain a copy of the application form, please contact the AIDS Walk for Life or visit their web site today at [www.aidswalkforlife.ca](http://www.aidswalkforlife.ca).

#### **AIDS Walk for Life**

The AIDS Walk for Life is a project of the Canadian AIDS Society in partnership with the British Columbia Persons with AIDS Society, the AIDS Committee of Toronto, and community-based AIDS organizations across Canada. During the national week-long event, cities and communities from across the country host Walks to raise funds for local services and programming and to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS.

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