



1100 N. Main Street
Suite 106
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
Phone: 734-747-8300
Fax: 734-747-8530
www.ArtrainUSA.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Southerlyn Reisig
Date: July 7, 2005
Phone: 703-395-1478
Email: southerlyn@artrainusa.org

Artrain USA is Proud Recipient of National Endowment for the Arts Grant

June 30, 2005, Ann Arbor, MI: The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has recently awarded Artrain USA a grant of \$35,000 to support the National Tour of *Native Views: Influences of Modern Culture*. During the NEA grant period (June 1, 2005 – May 31, 2006), Artrain USA will visit approximately 35 communities showcasing this nationally recognized art exhibition and art exhibition programs. “Artrain USA is extremely pleased to be recognized by the NEA and is a proud recipient of this grant,” states Debra Polich, president and CEO of Artrain USA. “Our artists and staff are honored to represent the United States arts community with our current exhibition: *Native Views: Influences of Modern Culture*. This exhibition celebrates the artistry of the *first* Americans, and we are thrilled that cities across America will have access to Artrain USA due the support of the NEA.”

Through its Grants for Arts Projects program, the National Endowment for the Arts supports museums and other exhibiting institutions for projects of the highest artistic quality. Artrain USA’ applied under the Access to Artistic Excellence category; the objective is to foster and preserve excellence in the arts and provide access to the arts for all Americans.

Native Views is a contemporary Native American art exhibition comprised of 71 artworks by 54 Native American artists. It explores the influence of popular culture and the many commonalties shared by all Americans. Visitors discover the richness, complexity and breadth of contemporary Native American art while examining varying perspectives on society. *Native Views* is touring America – coast to coast – for four years, from April 2004 through December 2007. The NEA also provided a \$35,000 grant to support the 2004 tour.

Artrain USA is “America’s Hometown Art Museum.” A nonprofit organization, Artrain USA is an art museum housed in vintage rail cars that travels via the nation’s railroads. More than 3 million people have visited Artrain USA during 790 community visits across 45 states. Founded in Michigan in 1971 by the Michigan Council for Arts Artrain USA’s national headquarters are in Ann Arbor, MI.

For more information or to interview Debra Polich, please call: 703.395.1478 or visit www.artrainusa.org .

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