



## BUFFALO NIAGARA CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

### Buffalo Regains No. 1 Position in AmericanStyle Magazine's Ranking of Top Arts Destinations

**BUFFALO, NY, April 8, 2008** – The April 2008 issue of *AmericanStyle* has proclaimed Buffalo as “**No. 1 Arts Destination for Mid-Sized Cities**” in the publication’s annual “Top 25 Arts Destinations” poll. For more than a decade, arts travelers have trusted the magazine’s annual poll to guide them to emerging arts scenes and cultural meccas.

Buffalo placed first over Scottsdale, AZ, Pittsburgh, PA, Savannah, GA, and New Orleans in the Mid-Size Cities category. Other notable mid-size cities included: Cleveland (No. 7), Atlanta (No. 8) Minneapolis (No. 10), Rochester (No. 14), Miami (No. 15) and St. Louis (No. 25). In 2007 Buffalo ranked as the No 14 destination in the mid-sized category.

*AmericanStyle* stated that Buffalo received votes from across the country touting the Queen City as “a hidden jewel” and “a well-kept secret.” The magazine cited construction of the new Burchfield-Penney Arts Center, the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, the addition of Artspace Buffalo to the scene, and a commitment to the arts from City of Buffalo Mayor Bryon Brown as reasons why Buffalo is a top-tier arts destination.

“Winning the top honor will serve as an instant identifier that Buffalo is a major player in the art world,” said Richard Geiger, President & CEO, Buffalo Niagara Convention & Visitors Bureau. “The No. 1 ranking reinforces our organization’s marketing and branding efforts in selling our community to the world. We are thrilled that through this designation, tens of thousands of art aficionados will take notice of our vibrant arts scene.”

In the October 2007, the annual *AmericanStyle* poll asked art lovers to nominate their favorite destinations. The Buffalo Niagara Convention & Visitors Bureau took notice and led the effort to regain the top spot as a way to dramatically aid its marketing efforts. The

CVB encouraged its partners, colleagues, and professional contacts to vote for Buffalo as a top arts destination in the country.

Buffalo has earned much national recognition for its arts and culture scene. In 2007, the Elmwood Village was named one of “Ten Great Neighborhoods” in the United States by the American Planning Association. In 2001, USA Today named Buffalo the “City with Heart” after a nationwide search.

#### About *AmericanStyle* magazine

*AmericanStyle* magazine is an exclusive arts lifestyle magazine for enthusiasts and collectors, showcasing the homes of collectors and the studios of artists who create two-and three-dimensional works of art. *AmericanStyle* is published bimonthly and can be found online at [www.AmericanStyle.com](http://www.AmericanStyle.com).

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