'ARTroduction to Austin' winner Morgan Graff completes installation of 'Strides' artwork at Hanger headquarters

March 23, 2011

Installation marks seven-month engagement to connect Hanger's innovative and creative values to its new home in Austin

Austin, Texas, March 23, 2011 — Austin glass-blowing artist Morgan Graff has completed the installation of her winning artwork at Hanger Orthopedic Group's headquarters. Selected in November 2010 as the winner of Hanger's ARTroduction to Austin Art Competition for her representation of the theme, "Moving Lives Forward", Graff's installation titled "Strides" consists of a series of 35 glass globes containing historical photographs of Hanger's milestones, innovations, and successes throughout its 150-year history.

"The installation of Morgan's inspirational work of art marks the culmination of Hanger's ARTroduction to Austin," said Hanger President and CEO Tom Kirk. "We knew from her proposal and conceptual design that this piece would prove to be an eye-catching addition to our space, however, I don't think anyone anticipated how creative and distinctive it would be until it came to life in person. 'Strides' is a wonderful complement to our space both in terms of its scale and storytelling ability."

A striking time capsule, the series of light brown, gold and pink glass globes ranging from four to six inches in diameter are independently suspended from the ceiling in graduating heights to create an arc of color. Located in the gallery space just off the lobby, "Strides" is visible immediately upon entering Hanger's headquarters. The competition theme "Moving Lives Forward" is represented by the movement of the globes along with the progression of achievements depicted within.

MEDIA NOTE – High-resolution photographs and video chronicling the series of events and artwork creation process are available for download here: http://www.hanger.com/MediaLibrary/ARTroduction

"I wanted to create an original piece that was unique and specific for the space, and it needed to be impactful in a large area exposed to wonderful amounts of natural light," said Graff. "Once I learned about Hanger's extensive history, it just came together. Even though I had never been involved with an installation piece as large as what I had proposed, the entire process came together well, and I'm looking forward to marketing myself further to pursue future installations."

A 2002 graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York, Graff has quickly become an accomplished glassmaker managing her own business, Glass Blowing Austin, where she teaches and creates custom designs and fine art. Most recently she has exhibited her art in Haven Art Gallery in Austin and at Craft Texas, an exhibition at the Houston Contemporary Center for Crafts.

In August 2010, the week Hanger moved into its new Austin headquarters, the company launched a region-wide art competition called "ARTroduction to Austin". The competition encouraged artists from Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson counties to compete for a $10,000 commission and the opportunity to display artwork at Hanger's new corporate headquarters at The Domain.

Graff and nine other finalists were selected through a juried process that included Hanger Orthopedic Group President and CEO Tom Kirk; Austin Artist, Holocaust Survivor and Hanger Patient Dr. Max Brenner; Senior Director of Art Education for the Austin Museum of Art Judith Sims; Acting Cultural Arts Division Manager with the City of Austin Megan Crigger; and *Austin Chronicle* Arts Writer Robert Faires.

The finalists each received a $500 prize and had their artwork displayed at a reception attended by more than 250 community leaders and Hanger



ARTroduction to Austin art competition winner Morgan Graff



ARTroduction to Austin art competition winner
Morgan Graff with Hanger President and CEO Tom Kirk



Hanger President and CEO Tom Kirk addressing
the audience during an unveiling ceremony at Hanger's
corporate headquarters in Austin, Texas

employees on November 16, 2010. Hanger's 4,000+ employees nationwide also had the opportunity to get involved by voting for their favorite artwork to receive a $1,000 Employee Choice Award. The employees chose Round Rock's Bryan Dubreuiel who created "Back to Life," a 24" x 48" acrylic painting that depicts an amputee in silhouette running away from a series of colorful lines that represent turmoil and stress.

"We embarked on this art competition as a way to celebrate Hanger's and Austin's shared values of creativity and innovation while immediately supporting the community of our new home," said Kirk. "Our experiences throughout the past few months only serve to reinforce our decision to move to Austin. Our transition has gone flawlessly; the community has been welcoming and the talent pool is exceptional."

Hanger Orthopedic Group celebrated the relocation of its company headquarters from Bethesda, Maryland to Austin, Texas with an official ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 15, 2010. As of December 31, 2010, Hanger created 138 positions at its Austin headquarters, with additional positions planned throughout 2011.

About Hanger Orthopedic Group (www.hanger.com)
Hanger Orthopedic Group, Inc. (NYSE: HGR) is the world's premier provider of services and products that enhance human physical capability. Founded in 1861 by James Edward Hanger, the first amputee of the Civil War, Hanger Orthopedic Group is steeped in 150 years of clinical excellence and innovation. Owning and operating in excess of 670 patient care centers in 45 states and the District of Columbia, with more than 4,300 employees including 1,100 clinicians, Hanger provides orthotic and prosthetic (O&P) patient care services, distributes O&P devices and components, and delivers therapeutic solutions to the broader post acute market.
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