Hanger Orthopedic Group Launches 'ARTroduction to Austin'

August 19, 2010

Latest Central Texas Company Recognizes Community's Spirit, Creativity and Innovation with $10,000 Area Art Competition

Austin, Texas, August 19, 2010 — As Hanger Orthopedic Group officially moves into its new Austin headquarters, the global leader in the supply of orthotic and prosthetic products and patient care is launching a competition for local artists. Reflecting the company's and the city's shared values of creativity and innovation, "Hanger's ARTroduction to Austin" competition provides an opportunity for new and emerging artists to display their talent and further their careers. The winning artist will receive a $10,000 commission plus public exposure for his or her artwork at Hanger's corporate office.

"We recognized when we were evaluating potential locations that the Austin area and Hanger were aligned in many ways, including spirit and innovative thinking, which were key factors in our selection," said Hanger CEO and President Tom Kirk. "As a way to discover that creative energy and to connect with this community, we're proud to host a competition where local artists will help us bring to life these common characteristics."

Launching today, Hanger's ARTroduction to Austin competition is open to any artists 18 years or older in the five-county region of Central Texas (Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis and Williamson counties). Priority will be given to artists in the early stages of their careers, in keeping with Hanger's commitment to education and career development; however, all artists within the region are encouraged to apply.

"We've chosen to focus on new and emerging artists because, at Hanger, we believe continuing education and practical experience are cornerstones to ensuring tomorrow's supply of quality professionals, which are so necessary for a vibrant community," said Kirk. "It's that philosophy that inspired the creation of our own college and residency program, and drives significant investment in the development of new medical devices and ongoing education to enhance our patients' care."

The artwork should reflect the theme of "Moving Lives Forward," representing Hanger's vision to provide services and products that enhance human physical capability. The winning art will be displayed in the gallery space of Hanger's new headquarters at The Domain in Northwest Austin for approximately two years. After that time, the work will be auctioned with proceeds benefitting a local nonprofit organization.

Artists can decide what concept would best represent the theme and have the most impact on the designated space, whether that is a series of artwork or a single piece. The competition is open to all visual art mediums except video or any work that requires electricity. Entries, including a 500-word-limit description, a photo of one completed original piece of art, and the artist's resume, are due by 5 p.m., CST, on Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2010.

A jury of area art professionals along with Hanger Orthopedic Group representatives will select up to 10 finalists who will be awarded $500 each. The winning artist, chosen by the same jury, will receive a $10,000 Hanger Commission Award to carry out his or her vision for Hanger's gallery space. Hanger employees across the country will also select one artist to receive the Employee Choice Award and a $1,000 prize. The Employee Choice artist's work will likely be displayed at one of Hanger's patient care centers in the Austin area.

Full details on the competition are available at www.ARTroduction.com.

Hanger Orthopedic Group relocated the company headquarters from Bethesda, Maryland to Austin on August 16, 2010. An official opening will be celebrated with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on September 15, 2010. By the end of the year, Hanger estimates 145 employees will be operating from its Austin headquarters.

About Hanger Orthopedic Group (www.hanger.com)
Hanger Orthopedic Group (NYSE: HGR) helps those with limb loss, paralysis, and debilitating orthopedic anomalies become productive members of society after a devastating injury or illness. We're in the business of providing personal independence, increased mobility and restored functionality. Our employees move lives forward and realize success through their patients' independence. With 680+ patient care centers in 45 states and the District of Columbia, Hanger Orthopedic Group is the world's premier provider of orthotic and prosthetic (O&P) patient care. Additionally, we have businesses in distribution, network management, and device development and commercialization.

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Jennifer Bittner, Hanger Orthopedic Group
904-249-4210, jbittner@hanger.com

Krisita Burket, Hanger Orthopedic Group
904-249-0314, kburket@hanger.com