



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: December 6, 2008

**RACE HORSE SCULPTURE BY LOCAL ARTIST DEDICATED AT WINNER'S CIRCLE PARK
IN NORTH SACRAMENTO**

Sacramento, CA—A public artwork by Sacramento artist, John King was unveiled on December 6 at Winner's Circle Park and Tot Lot in the heart of North Sacramento. The focal point of the artwork is a five-foot tall stainless steel sculpture of a race horse set atop a circular planter at the entrance of Winner's Circle Park. Steel silhouettes of race horses grace the stone walls at both sites. The artwork is titled "Run for the Roses" and honor's James "Ben Ali" Haggin. Mr. Haggin is famous for breeding and training Ben Ali, California's first Kentucky Derby Winner. Additionally, he gave his horse ranch and 44 acres of land, called Rancho del Paso, to the City of Sacramento when he died. Winner's Circle Park and the sculpture by King reside on what was once his land and now is commonly referred to as Del Paso Heights in North Sacramento.

The artwork was commissioned by the Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, Art in Public Places Program Mentor Program, with the support of Council Member Sandy Sheedy. The Mentor program pairs emerging public artists with experts in the field. Sacramento artist, Larry Meeks mentored King throughout the process.

John King studied art and education at Alabama State University where he received a Bachelor of Science in 1961. He moved to California in the early sixties to continue his education at Otis Art Institute. He received his Master's of Art Degree at San Jose State University. King's work has been exhibited throughout Northern California, but he is best known for a mural at the Women's civic Improvement Club in Sacramento, California. "Run for the Roses" is his second work of public art.

The Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission is a City/County joint agency.

#