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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Artrain USA Completes First Half of Michigan Tour
With the Support of the DTE Energy Foundation**

Ann Arbor, June 16: Artrain USA has successfully visited four Michigan communities this spring (Petoskey, Mt. Pleasant, Ludington, Lowell) and will visit five more in the fall thanks to the support of the DTE Energy Foundation. Over 7,500 Michigan residents were able to view the exhibition: *Native Views: Influences of Modern Culture* during its first four Michigan stops. Artrain USA will return to Michigan in the Fall and will visit Harrisville, Standish, West Branch, Owosso and Grand Haven.

“*Native Views* is a stunning celebration of contemporary Native American art. It illustrates that differences in cultures can show us how truly similar we all are,” said Roger Royer, DTE Energy regional relations manager. “DTE Energy is very pleased to sponsor this exhibit’s Artrain tour through Michigan.”

“The DTE Energy Foundation is one of our valued corporate sponsors. DTE has made it a priority to provide access to the arts to the residents of Michigan. This is made even more special to us since Artrain USA was founded in,” states Debra Polich, President and CEO of Artrain USA.

Support for Artrain USA’s Michigan State Tour comes from 2005 Michigan State Tour Sponsor DTE Energy Foundation with additional funding from AAA Michigan, the Consumers Energy Foundation and the DeRoy Testamentary Foundation. This project is made possible with the support of the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and

the National Endowment for the Arts. Transportation for Artrain USA is provided by Norfolk Southern, CSXT and Michigan's shortline railroads.

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 commonalities 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 – from April 2004 through December 2007.

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 780 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 Roger Royer or Debra Polich, please call: 734.747.8300 or visit www.artrainusa.org.

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