



MEDIA ADVISORY IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 17, 2002:

*Berrien Springs, Michigan
Home of "The Greatest of All Time," Muhammad Ali*



Pilchuck Glass School, Seattle, Washington and The Muhammad Ali Center, Louisville, Kentucky announce a unique collaboration in fundraising for their respective institutions, assisted by the Champ himself.



Reminiscent of Cinderella and the glass slipper, legendary great Muhammad Ali places his fist into a glass boxing glove to benefit two great institutions—and it's a perfect fit!

Scott Darlington, glass artist and former faculty member at Pilchuck Glass School, has sculpted a hand blown glass boxing glove that actually fits around the fist of the world famous boxing great.

Creating a glove in glass evokes the somewhat paradoxical qualities of both strength and delicacy—not dissimilar to Muhammad Ali himself. The glove is 14 inches long and 9 1/2 inches wide. A second version of the glove will be blown by the artist and will reside in The Muhammad Ali Center when it opens in 2004. Darlington is currently a member of the prestigious faculty at the Toyama City Institute of Glass Art in Japan and was formerly associated with Pilchuck and the glass community in the Pacific Northwest.



On August 22, 2002, this work of art traveled to the home of boxing legend and humanitarian, Muhammad Ali, where Ali etched his signature onto the face of the glove.

This one-of-a-kind glass artwork will be auctioned off to the highest bidder at Pilchuck Glass School's 24th Annual Glass Auction to be held on Friday, October 18, 2002 at The Westin Seattle: live phone and online bidding will also be available. Auction proceeds from the glove will jointly benefit The Ali Center and Pilchuck Glass School.



PHOTOS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

CONTACTS:

The Glass Boxing Glove:
Jennifer Lennon
jblennon@aol.com
206.861.8100

Muhammad Ali Center:
Jeanie Kahnke
jkahnke@alicenter.org
502.584.9254

Pilchuck Glass School:
Tony Cole
tonycole@tonycole.com
818.222.6646



About The Muhammad Ali Center:

The Muhammad Ali Center is an international cultural and educational institution that is guided and inspired by the ideals of Muhammad Ali as they relate to our *individual lives*. The Center will take visitors on a personal, inspirational, and developmental journey through a non-traditional museum experience. Through the use of exhibits, media, and interactive technology, the Center will translate the values and milestones of Muhammad Ali's life into an awareness on the part of the visitors that they have the same potential to shape their lives—and the world—as did Muhammad Ali. International peacemaking and conflict resolution are also important themes on which the Center will be focusing.

The mission of the Muhammad Ali Center is to preserve and share the legacy and ideals of Muhammad Ali, to promote respect, hope, and understanding, and to inspire adults and children everywhere to be as great as they can be. Located in Louisville, Kentucky, where Muhammad Ali was born, the Center is currently in Phase I of its development; it is scheduled to open in mid-2004.

For more information, visit The Muhammad Ali Center web site at: www.alicenter.org



About Pilchuck Glass School

Pilchuck was founded by Dale Chihuly with the support of patrons Anne Gould Hauberg and John H. Hauberg. A Tacoma native and graduate of the University of Washington, Chihuly envisioned a retreat that would offer artists the opportunity to work with and learn about glass amid the spectacular beauty of the Northwest forests. That vision became a reality in 1971 when Chihuly received a \$2,000 grant from the Union of Independent Colleges of Art and the Haubergs offered their Pilchuck Tree Farm as a site for the school. The first summer Chihuly, along with sixteen students and two other faculty members, built glass furnaces, constructed housing and began blowing glass sixteen days after arriving at the hillside site with its spectacular view of the Skagit River Delta.

Today Pilchuck retains its experimental spirit, attracting novice and professional artists from more than thirty-seven states and twenty-five countries, this year alone. From May to September each year, the school offers a series of intensive residential sessions. Five classes run concurrently through each two-and-one-half-week session. Classes focus on a particular technique—including glassblowing, casting, fusing, slumping, neon, stained glass, flameworking, mixed-media sculpture, cutting, polishing and engraving.

For more information, visit the Pilchuck Glass School web site at: www.pilchuck.com