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# CHIHULY CREATES TROPHY FOR GINN CLUBS & RESORTS OPEN

# RENOWNED ARTIST WILL ALSO DESIGN CLUBHOUSE SCULPTURE OF WINNER'S TROPHY, ON COURSE INSTALLATIONS

**REUNION, Fla., March 20, 2006** – When choosing the tournament trophy, the Ginn Clubs & Resorts Open wanted something that represents the essence of the tournament: vibrant, brilliant, extraordinary, the best, fun, powerful and sophisticated. They found what they were looking for in artist Dale Chihuly.

Chihuly created the unique glass sculpture to be presented as the trophy to the winner of the **Ginn Clubs & Resorts Open** at **Reunion Resort & Club**, April 24-30, along with two on-course installations and a larger-scale sculpture of the winner's trophy that will remain on display at Reunion Resort & Club. This is a first for Chihuly to partner with a golf tournament.

"Dale's artwork is spectacular and amazing," said **Bobby Ginn**, president and CEO of The Ginn Company. "Our tournament represents a unique quality of excellence, and we want a winner's trophy to exemplify that same trait. Dale's artwork will not only amaze the winner, but his oncourse installations will be something no one has ever seen before."

Chihuly's artwork is also found in such upscale places as the lobby ceiling of the **Bellagio** Hotel in Las Vegas, at the luxurious **Atlantis** Resort in the Bahamas and at the **Orlando Museum of Art,** where numerous pieces of artwork are featured.

The winner's *Macchia* trophy is fuchsia with a yellow lip wrap. Reunion Resort and Ginn Clubs & Resorts Open Clubhouse *Macchia* sculpture has a sky red exterior, a dusty yellow rose interior and a chartreuse lip wrap. The name is derived from an Italian term meaning "spotted."

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A stunning display of approximately 60*Reeds* will be installed along the fairway of the 18<sup>th</sup> hole. The *Reeds*, which are tall, lithe red glass sculptures that stand nearly 5-feet high will frame a spectacular visual image for players and spectators alike on the final hole. (PHOTO BELOW)

On the seventh hole, approximately 50 globelike floating, glass sculptures called *Walla Wallas* will dot the lake and provide an extraordinary background as the LPGA players hit drives over the lake in an effort to reach the 303-yard Par 4. The multicolored *floats* called *Walla Walla Onions*, will catch the light and sparkle in this beautiful water feature. (PHOTO BELOW)

Chihuly, a renowned artist who likes mingling art with beautiful landscapes, hopes the two installations on the Ginn course will bring added beauty and a new dimension to the Ginn Clubs & Resorts Open.

"I hope the players and the audience alike will enjoy the artwork as they come upon it during the Ginn Open," says **Chihuly.** 

Dale Chihuly, born in 1941, who lives and works in Seattle, is most frequently lauded for revolutionizing the Studio Glass movement, by expanding its original premise of the solitary artist working in a studio environment to encompass the notion of collaborative teams and a division of labor within the creative process. However, Chihuly's contribution extends well beyond the boundaries of both this movement and even the field of glass: his achievements have influenced contemporary art in general.

Chihuly's practice of using teams has led to the development of complex, multipart sculptures of dramatic beauty that place him in the leadership role of moving blown glass out of the confines of the small, precious object and into the realm of large-scale contemporary sculpture. In fact, Chihuly deserves credit for establishing the blown-glass form as an accepted vehicle for installation and environmental art, beginning in the late twentieth century and continuing today.

Tickets will be priced at \$10 for each of the practice rounds and pro-am days and \$30 for general admission for each of the four rounds. Parking is complimentary and included with each ticket. Weekly badges are available for \$80 which allows guests access to all of the tournament events as well as the two evenings of music on Friday and Saturday night with concerts by the Pointer Sisters and Brooks & Dunn, to name a few. Practice rounds will be held on Monday, April 24 and Tuesday, April 25. The Pro-Am will be held on Wednesday, April 26 and the 72-hole competition will begin Thursday, April 27 and run through April 30.

Seniors will be admitted to Thursday's first round of play for \$15 and all military will be admitted to the final round on Sunday for \$15. Fans interested in group sales and sponsorship information can call the tournament office at **877-GINNTIX**.

The inaugural Ginn Clubs & Resorts Open will be played at Reunion Resort & Club on a composite layout of two of the resort's courses, the Legacy Course designed by Arnold Palmer and the Independence Course by Tom Watson. CBS Sports and The Golf Channel will televise the event nationally.

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Reunion is home to some of the greatest golf in Central Florida. The 7,154-yard Independence Course, Watson's first Florida design, has garnered many accolades since opening in February 2005. Equally beautiful and challenging is the 6,916-yard Legacy Course, designed by the legendary Palmer. Reunion's third course, the Tradition Course, a Jack Nicklaus Signature design, is scheduled to open in early 2007.

The four-year agreement between Ginn Clubs & Resorts, tournament organizer Pantheon International and the LPGA, ensures that women's professional championship golf will be prominently featured at a first-class Florida venue for years to come.

#### About Ginn Clubs & Resorts

The Ginn Company is a privately held resort development and management firm which specializes in exclusive leisure lifestyle and vacation destination communities across the U.S. From private residential communities to resort destinations offering unparalleled ownership and vacation opportunities, the common denominator throughout every Ginn Club & Resort is service. The company's principals have more than three decades of experience in creating extraordinary large-scale, recreation-oriented communities. Current Ginn Clubs & Resorts communities include Cobblestone Park in Columbia, S.C. as well as Belvidere Club & Resort, which encompasses RiverTowne Country Club, The Cottages on Charleston Harbor and Patriot's Point Golf Course in the Charleston area. The company also owns and operates Hammock Beach, The Conservatory at Hammock Beach and Yacht Harbor Village near St. Augustine, Fla., Reunion Resort & Club of Orlando, Bella Collina north of Orlando and Tesoro and Tesoro Preserve in Port St. Lucie on Florida's historic "Treasure Coast." The company also owns and operates Mahogany Run Golf Course in St. Thomas and has several projects under development in North Carolina, Vermont, Colorado and in the Bahamas.

#### About Pantheon International

Pantheon International is a privately held, Westport, CT-based sports marketing & event management firm that own event properties in California, Indiana, New York and Florida. Pantheon specializes in providing unique corporate marketing platforms through its high profile sports events. The company is a niche leader at originating and producing marquee live sports entertainment that create powerful bonds between corporations and the passionate affinity groups that permeate sports. The company's core properties include the prestigious John R. Wooden Classic and John R. Wooden Tradition college basketball invitational events, held in honor of the Hall of Fame coaching legend.

### About Reunion Resort & Club of Orlando

Located on 2,300 gently rolling acres in Osceola County, the Resort is 25 minutes south of Orlando, Fla., immediately south of Disney's Town of Celebration, 15 minutes from Walt Disney World and 25 minutes from Orlando International Airport. In addition to championship golf, planned amenities include a five-acre, multi-pool water and swim pavilion, a first-class tennis complex, stables and riding trails, a state-of-the-art spa and fitness center, walking and biking trails, and terrific boutique shopping and dining in Reunion Square. More information about Reunion Resort & Club is available at (888) 418-9611 and www.reunionresort.com.

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