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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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*Digital image available upon request*

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### **Garfield High School Student Wins Northwest Folklife Design Award**

Seattle, WA. -- Northwest Folklife, sponsor of the Northwest Folklife Festival, today announced that Carl Norlen, 17, a junior at Garfield High School in Seattle, is the winner of a statewide design competition for the Festival's 2005 Limited Edition T-shirt.

Art and graphic design students from high schools throughout Washington participated in the competition. Finalists, as well as the overall winner, were selected by an independent panel of expert judges appointed by the Festival.

"The competition was formidable, and the entries, which included drawings, paintings and even computer generated images, were all impressive," said Michael Herschensohn, Executive Director of the Festival, and a member of the final selection panel. "The judges felt that Carl's artwork was outstanding, and best captured the spirit of the Festival."

Norlen's design will be printed on thousands of "special edition" T-shirts, to be offered for sale to festival-goers, along with the official T-shirt, based on the Festival's annual poster. Both versions have traditionally become collector's items.

"Because this year's Festival theme, *Generation to Generation: Passing on our Traditions* emphasizes the importance of passing along traditions to future generations, we thought it would be particularly appropriate to turn to the 'next generation' for a design," explained Herschensohn. "Carl Norlen's work is reflective of the tremendous talent that exists among our young people, and we're honored to be able to present him with the opportunity to expose his talent to such a large number of people at such a young age," Herschensohn added.

The limited edition T-shirt featuring, Norlen's design, will be unveiled at a reception at 5:00 pm on Friday May 27<sup>th</sup> in the 3rd floor gallery of the Seattle Center House, where all competition entries will be on public display throughout the Festival weekend.

The Northwest Folklife Festival is the largest folk, ethnic and traditional arts event in North America, drawing more than 275,000 visitors annually. This year's event, May 27-30th at the Seattle Center, will feature more than 6,000 musicians, dancers, tradition bearers and visual artists, as well as 1,000 music and dance performances, visual arts and folklore exhibits, symposia, workshops, demonstrations and films. Admission is FREE, with a suggested \$5 donation.

Northwest Folklife is a non-profit organization committed to creating opportunities for individuals and communities of the Pacific Northwest to celebrate, share and sustain the vitality of folk, ethnic and traditional arts for present and future generations.

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