

# Flame Off! 2007

by the Sonoran Glass Art Academy Staff



Photos by Michael Joplin and Vicky Stromee

**Flame Off! 2007**, which was held at the Sonoran Glass Art Academy on Friday, February 2, brought over 350 art lovers from all over the world together to celebrate, create, and marvel at the extraordinary talent of the flameworkers and the fantastic art created in this medium. The goal of the competition was to create one finished piece of glass art within a set amount of time, usually two hours. The participants selected whether they would make sculptural pieces, beads, marbles, goblets, vessels, or abstract art. It is quite a spectacle to see sixteen torches blazing over a foot high while the artists bend, twist, and join the red-hot rods of flowing, liquid glass. The sound of the torches, the music, and the mesmerized crowd—all wearing sunglasses—made for a wild scene.

An amazing group of thirty-two flameworkers, or lampworkers, from as far as Japan and as close as Idaho came together for this one night of competition and donated their time and talents to raise funds for our youth programming. Close to \$6,500 was raised this year. This is the most ever raised at the Flame Off! The school is so grateful to the many men and women who have joined us for this great cause over the years. Your generosity is wonderful.

The school was also open all day Saturday with demonstrations taking place in the furnace glassblowing studio and our flame shop. It was a great time to meet the instructors, learn about upcoming programming, and just spend the day watching the amazing processes of working with hot glass.





## Contestants and Winners of the 2007 Flame Off!

### Participating Artists

Brad Brandolino	Keith Bryan
Joshua Castleberry	Bandhu Scott Dunham
Mac Fields	Brad Fischer
Eusheen Goines	Mike Gong
Jeremy Guerrero	Seth Hawkins
Jonathan Holaway	Rashan Jones
Jesse Kaminski	Paul Kowan
James Lynch	Eli Mazet
Josh Mazet	Grant Menzies
Wil Menzies	John Mims
Laurie Nessel	Akihiro Ohkama
Bill Rasmussen	Andy Ray
Wayne Robbins	Jeff Rogers
David Sigler	Shawn Tsai
Filip Vogelpohl	Lewis C. Wilson

### Best of Show

Akihiro Ohkama

### Sculpture and Goblet

1st Place

Wayne Robbins  
& Jeff Rogers

2nd Place

Bandhu Scott Dunham  
& Joshua Castleberry

3rd Place

Seth Hawkins  
& James Lynch

### Marble

1st Place

Brad Brandolino

2nd Place

Akihiro Ohkama

3rd Place

Josh Mazet

### Wearable

1st Place

Laurie Nessel

2nd Place

Jonathan Holaway

3rd Place

Rashan Jones





Along with the amazing artists who donated their energy, we want to thank the following contributors for the 2007 event. Contributions this year included glass, equipment, and great prizes for the winning artists. Thank you so much!

ABR Imagery  
 Carlisle School of Glass Art  
 Cutting Edge Products  
*The Flow* Magazine  
 Glasscraft, Inc.  
 Glass Alchemy, Ltd. — Thanks, Susan and Henry!  
 Glow Glass LLC  
 Hot Glass Color and Supply  
 Nicholas Building  
 Nimbus Brewery  
 Nortel Machinery — Thanks, Jean Robichaud. You are fabulous!  
 Northstar Glassworks, Inc.  
 Olympic Color Rods  
 Praxair  
 Winship Design

To view all of the artwork, visit our website at [www.sonoranglass.org](http://www.sonoranglass.org).

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