

Christopher Radko Ornament To Raise Awareness, Funds For Scholarship America



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Minneapolis, MN -- Christopher Radko, renowned designer of European glass ornaments and holiday home accents, has remade his popular Hoo Knows More glass ornament in an exclusive new version for Scholarship AmericaSM, the nation's largest private sector scholarship and educational support organization. The ornament debuts May 2003 to coincide with National Scholarship Month, created by Scholarship America to raise awareness of the critical need for scholarships and to celebrate existing scholarship support from corporations, communities, organizations and individuals. Scholarship America will sell the ornament nationwide through national affiliates and partnerships and will be the sole beneficiary of the ornament's sale. Funds raised will go to support the mission of Scholarship America.

"I'm delighted to work with Scholarship America again," says Christopher Radko, who in 2002 had contributed funds from the sale of each of his Valiant and Brave ornaments to Scholarship Americas Families of Freedom Scholarship FundTM, which provided educational assistance to the children and spouses of those lost or disabled on September 11, 2001. "Education is so valuable for the future of our children, and the future of our world," says Radko.

Hoo Knows More is a charming, five-inch tall, glass ornament of a scholarly owl atop a stack of books, wearing the classic mortarboard hat of a graduate. It is rendered in mouth-blown glass and hand-painted by European artisans. The luminescent gleam of the ornament comes from subtle glitter accents on the outside and a coating of real sterling silver inside the ornament.

"There is no better time than May, National Scholarship Month for Christopher Radko to again show his support for helping students attain the critical benefits of postsecondary education through scholarships," said Scholarship America president Dr. William C. Nelsen.

The quality of production and the sheer beauty of his designs have made Christopher Radko's ornaments the perfect keepsakes for life's special events ever since he produced his first collection of 50 styles 18 years ago. Each of Radko's magnificent glass ornaments is created entirely by hand by skilled European artisans. Using techniques dating back to the 1800's, the process requires seven days to produce a single ornament.

ABOUT SCHOLARSHIP AMERICASM AND NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP MONTH

Scholarship America created National Scholarship Month (www.nationalscholarshipmonth.org) in 1998 to raise awareness of the critical need for scholarships and to celebrate existing scholarship support from corporations, communities, organizations and individuals. AXA, through its philanthropic arm the AXA Foundation, is the National Presenting Sponsor of National Scholarship Month. USA Funds is National Supporting Sponsor of National Scholarship Month.

Scholarship America is the nation's largest private sector scholarship and educational support organization. It carries out its mission of expanding access to educational opportunities and encouraging academic achievement through its Dollars for Scholars®, Scholarship Management Services, and Scholar Shop® programs. Headquartered in Minneapolis and St. Peter, MN,

Scholarship America has distributed \$911.5 million to more than 850,000 students through its scholarship and other support programs since its founding in 1958. For the sixth year in a row, *Smart Money*, the *Wall Street Journal's* magazine of personal finance, has ranked Scholarship America as one of the 17 most efficient nonprofits in the country. *Worth Magazine* has also named Scholarship America as one of America's 100 best charities for 2001/2002. In partnership with Indianapolis-based Lumina Foundation for Education, Scholarship America founded and raised more than \$125 million for the Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund™, which was created to provide educational assistance for postsecondary study to the financially needy dependents of the September 11th terrorist attack victims. For more information, visit www.scholarshipamerica.org