



Kentucky Personnel Cabinet  
Office of the Secretary

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**Personnel Cabinet Sec. Nikki Jackson named one of Louisville's  
10 Most Inspirational Women**  
*Muhammad Ali Center's Resident Artist Pat Gallagher unveils portraits*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (April 23, 2009) – This evening Personnel Cabinet Sec. Nikki Jackson was named one of the 10 Most Inspirational Women in Louisville by local artist Pat Gallagher. Her portrait *The Matador\** was unveiled at the Muhammad Ali Center's *Celebrating the Power of Women* event.

“Nikki has been an inspiration to me because of her gift for advocating what is right and always standing up for those who cannot stand up for themselves,” said Gallagher. “Each of these women has a fascinating and inspirational story that needed to be told. This is my way of tipping my hat to their greatness within and hopefully inspiring others to awaken their own dreams.”

Several months in the making, the exhibit is the culmination of Gallagher's “Year of Inspiration.” Throughout the year, visitors to the center were able to observe Pat at work and learn about his own unique story.

Gallagher left a corporate job with a Fortune 500 company, when he became inspired by a passer-by in Times Square who told him his sketch on a piece of scrap paper would make a distinguished piece of art. That incident unfolded a series of events that eventually led Gallagher to the Ali Center's Dreammaker's Program.

The exhibit also features pieces honoring: Lonnie Ali, Cathy Bailey, Jennifer Bielstein, Anita Cauley, Marlene Grissom, Bonnie Hathcock, Lynda Lambert, Lisa Resnik and Barbara Sexton Smith. The exhibit at the Ali Center will be open to the public through the month of April.

Sec. Jackson's portrait will also be on loan at the Capitol Rotunda, Derby Art Exhibit. The exhibit is May 2, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. till 12:00 p.m. and will feature equestrian-themed work from artists across the state. For more information about the exhibit, please contact Rachel Rasnick at the Kentucky Arts Council at (502) 564-3757 or toll free at (888) 833-2787.

To learn more about Pat Gallagher and his work, visit <http://www.patgallagher.org>. Visit the Ali Center Web site to learn about their mission and programs at

<http://www.alicenter.org>. For more information on the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet, visit <http://personnel.ky.gov/>.

*\*See below for high resolution photo of "The Matador"*  
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