

## Venessa Pica Wins Student Medal Competition

The Medallic Art Society of Canada (MASC) is pleased to announce the winner of its first Student Medal Competition, which is sponsored by the medal society. At the beginning of the school year in September 2006 the competition was presented to art students across Canada and to MASC members worldwide.



From the many well-designed and executed medals considered by the jury, a bronze medal entitled “Artisemma” created by Venessa Pica was selected as the winner.

Ms. Pica comments, “In creating this medal, my passion was to explore the characteristics of early Renaissance medals and coins; and their value in representing an individual’s uniqueness. This medal is my rendition of an Italian ancestral coin.”

On the obverse, is a self-portrait of the artist, depicted as a young artisan from the guild community.

The word ‘ARTISTEMMA’ is a word coined by the artist, derived from her Italian heritage, meaning ‘roots of an artist.’

On the reverse, is the artist’s hand at work, holding a paintbrush in one hand and gripping a palette in the other. Creativity, faith, and devotion are the roots of this hard-working hand.



### MASC Mission Statement

*The Medallic Art Society of Canada is dedicated to the creation, promotion, appreciation and education of the fine art of the medal.*