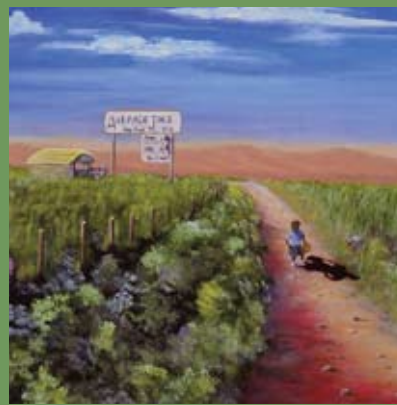


CRIMINAL LAW



A Word About Our Artists

As you read the insightful criminal law articles in this issue of the *Michigan Bar Journal*, I hope you'll take a moment to view the accompanying artwork, along with the powerful cover image. Our feature artists, identified in the table of contents and in each article, are all prisoner artists. As one artist said, "When people see our work, for a few moments, they forget that this work was done by a felon, and understand that it was done by another human being. A human being who has the same thoughts, emotions, and inspirations as they do, and for that one moment, a major social and political barrier is shattered."



The art you see in this issue is a small sampling of the type of artwork available through the Prison Creative Arts Project (PCAP) at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan. In 2008, from March 25 to April 9, PCAP will present the Thirteenth Annual Exhibition of Art by Michigan Prisoners, along with a series of eight educational events, at the Duderstadt Center Gallery on the University of Michigan North Campus at 2281 Bonisteel Boulevard. This nationally recognized exhibition is the largest showing of prisoner art in the country. More than 300 works of art by over 200 artists will be available for purchase, revealing the artistic talent behind prison walls and encouraging the public to think about incarceration rates in Michigan and nationally. The exhibition is free and open to the public. For more information, contact PCAP at (734) 647-7673, prisonart@umich.edu, or <http://www.prisonarts.org>.

I would like to recognize and thank Rachael Hudak, PCAP administrator, and Janie Paul and Buzz Alexander, exhibition curators, for their time and assistance in obtaining the artwork for this issue. Additionally, I'd like to thank Barbara Levine, executive director, Citizens Alliance on Prisons and Public Spending, for putting me in touch with PCAP. A big thank you goes to Michael Sundermann, of Ciesa Design, who is the creative talent behind these pages. Most of all, I would like to thank the prisoner artists for helping illustrate this issue and for allowing us to showcase their talent.

—Linda Novak, Editor

