

Holiday 2009

*Beauty. Inspiration.
Imagination.*

Welcome to The Trail of Painted Ponies, where the inspirational power of the horse is imaginatively expressed by some of the finest artists in the country. What began as a fantastic public art exhibition in Santa Fe, New Mexico has expanded to new ranges with the introduction of a select line of high-quality figurines that honor the spirit of original Painted Ponies. Each Painted Pony is crafted with exquisite attention to detail, and each is a miniature work-of-art in its own right, which is why Painted Ponies figurines have become one of the most beloved collectibles in America.



Noel

*A*s the legend is told in France, Pere Noel (Father Christmas) is the legendary gift-giver who, on Christmas Eve, travels from house to house with his pet donkey (Mistletoe) and an overflowing bag of gifts. According to tradition, before they go to bed, children leave their shoes by the fireplace filled with carrots and hay, and if they have been good they will be rewarded with candies and presents... and if they have been very good, maybe even something treasured by both the young and young-at-heart: a handcrafted, hand-decorated, rocking horse.

Artist: **Karlynn Keyes with Bryn Wilkins Lawson**
#12306

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Dashing Through the Snow

*I*f you have never gone for an old-fashioned, horse-drawn sleigh ride down a quiet country road on a cold, sparkling, winter day after a heavy snowfall, then this Painted Pony will help you imagine the sights and sounds that are unique to this experience... the jingling harness bells and squeak of sleigh runners on the hard-packed snow, the steady breathing and prancing steps of a stocky English Shire who seems to enjoy the outing as much as you do, and the unspoken promise of a roaring fire and mug of steaming hot cider waiting for you at home.

Artist: **Karlynn Keyes with Bryn Wilkins Lawson**
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Starlight

I remember as a child the story my mother and father would read each year on Christmas Eve, about how long ago, late one silent night, a star shined so bright in the sky that it guided shepherds and wise men to the birth place of baby Jesus," recalls the artist. "With this image in mind, I painted twinkling stars on one of God's greatest creations, the horse, to give us all one more reason to believe the stars shine brighter at Christmas."

Artist: **Ann Yarbrough**
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Christmas Parade

*I*t's a clear, frosty, Saturday morning in December and the air is tingling with excitement. The sidewalks are lined with rosy-cheeked children and their families, all eagerly waiting for the celebration to begin. Before long, the beginning of the procession can be seen coming down the street. Fancy-clad majorettes lead the way, followed by the uniformed marching bands and the brightly decorated floats. As the festivities continue, the children strain to see, further down the way, a Palomino pony adorned with Christmas wreaths, boots, ribbons, candy canes and holly, with a warm, wool scarf tied around his neck, who is escorting the guest of honor: Santa Claus!

Artist: **Devon Archer**
#12309