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For Immediate Release

AlbertaViews magazine wins Gold at National Magazine Awards

Calgary, AB —*AlbertaViews* is pleased to announce that "Conundrum of Kites," by Edmonton's Sophie Lees, took home a Gold Award in the Personal Journalism Category at the 27th Annual National Magazine Awards in Toronto last Friday, June 11.

Lees' winning piece, which looked at suicide from a deeply personal perspective, was published in *AlbertaViews*' Nov/Dec 2003 issue. The entire issue focused on mental illness and earlier earned the Dennis Anderson Media Award for Excellence in Mental Health Reporting from the Alberta Alliance on Mental Illness and Mental Health.

"It's an incredible honour to be recognized by the industry. I'm still a bit stunned," says Lees, a student at Grant MacEwan College and former theatre professional. "I have to say I've been blessed with some amazing instructors and a publisher who was willing to take a big risk."

Lees, who is studying professional writing, is working this summer as an editorial intern at *AlbertaViews*. More of her outstanding writing will be featured in upcoming issues.

Honorable mention recognition went to *AlbertaViews*' associate editor Dan Rubinstein for "Heads in the Sand" (Mar/Apr 2004) and Judd Palmer and Stephen Pearce of the Old Trouts Puppet Theatre for "Notes on the Art of Puppetry in an Atmosphere of Dread" (Jul/Aug 2003).

To arrange an interview or to learn more about *AlbertaViews*, call Amber Bowerman at 243 5334 (in Calgary) or toll free at 1 877 212 5334.

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