

Features

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Calendar puts Detroit in good light

■ Angered by trash-talk about the city, photographer Laszlo Regos gathers 12 images of city landmarks.

BY KIMBERLY HAYES TAYLOR
The Detroit News

Consider this calendar of beautiful Detroit architecture Laszlo Regos' big payback.

The inspiration to showcase Detroit came on Nov. 19, 2004, the night of the infamous Detroit Pistons/Indiana Pacers basketball brawl.

That night, Regos cruised through Chicago, listening to radio show hosts bash the city. To hear them tell it, Detroit is nothing but a dirty, crime-ridden shell of a city.

"They were trashing the city so badly, I got mad," Regos says. "We have so much more to offer."

That same night, Campus Martius, downtown Detroit's premier park offering ice skating in winter and free concerts in summer, celebrated its grand opening. But no one in Chicago mentioned that, Regos says.

The announcers also failed to note jewels such as the Detroit Opera House, the Fisher and Guardian buildings and Belle Isle, the nation's only city park that is an island.

Regos, who has spent the last 20 years shooting images of Detroit, decided to show them off. He pored through photos until he found just the right shots of the city's skyline during the International Freedom Festival fireworks, Hart Plaza, Fox Theatre and other sites.

He fired back with "Detroit City Beautiful," a limited edition 2006 wall calendar featuring 12 Detroit landmarks.

"We have some of the most



Laszlo Regos

Calendar features Detroit images.

Calendar

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unique architecture in the world," Regos says. "Most famous architects did something in this city. But too often, people don't notice the nice things. You'll have to look around a long time to find a building like the Guardian Building. You won't find it in New York or Chicago."

For 2007, he's planning a second

calendar to showcase Detroit's hidden treasures. Meanwhile, the Hungary native is shooting images for a book of synagogues in Budapest.

"I love Detroit," Regos says, "so I have to put my money where my mouth is

"I'm an architectural photographer and showing Detroit off has become my passion."

You can reach Kimberly Hayes Taylor at (313) 222-2058 or ktaylor@detnews.com.

Celebrate Detroit all year

Architectural photographer Laszlo Regos' "Detroit City Beautiful" (\$12.99), a limited edition 2006 wall calendar, features Cobo Center, Ford Field, Renaissance Center, Comerica Park, Detroit Opera House, Belle Isle, Detroit skyline during the fireworks, Hart Plaza, Guardian Building, Compuware/Campus Martius, Fisher Building and Fox Theatre. The calendar is available at:

- Greenfield Village gift shop, 20900 Oakwood Blvd., Dearborn
- Detroit Historical Museum, 5401 Woodward Ave., Detroit
- Pure Detroit locations (all in Detroit): Guardian Building lobby, 500 Griswold St.; Fisher Building Lobby, 3011 W. Grand Blvd.; 156 W. Congress St.
- Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit
- Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit

To order by phone, call (313) 550-5005, or visit www.laszlofoto.com.