

Kim Tuccitto Crowned America's Most Gifted Wrapper; Wraps Up \$10,000 Grand Prize in Scotch Brand Most Gifted Wrapper Contest

Kim Tuccitto, a gift-wrapping guru from Vadnais Heights, Minn., was crowned "America's Most Gifted Wrapper(TM)" for 2003 as she wrapped up the \$10,000 grand prize today in a national gift-wrapping contest sponsored by the maker of Scotch brand tape.

Amid throngs of holiday revelers at Rockefeller Center, Tuccitto out wrapped six other gift-wrapping experts -- including pros with experience at Lazarus-Macy's and Star Treatment -- in the seventh annual Scotch Brand Most Gifted Wrapper contest sponsored by 3M. With bows, ribbons and Scotch brand tape in hand, Tuccitto and her worthy competitors wrapped a 10-gallon hat, a pair of skis and a La-Z-Boy(R) chair with breathtaking flair, speed and style.

Tuccitto offers this advice to those who are getting ready to wrap their holiday presents. "My best gift-wrapping tip is to always work with the package to be creative," Tuccitto said. "Don't let the gift's shape or size work against you while wrapping."

The first runner-up, Sue Collins from Mission Hills, Calif., received a \$2,500 cash prize. The other five contestants received smaller cash prizes as well. Contestants were judged on three criteria: appearance, technique and speed.

The judging panel consisted of three experts in the art of gift-wrapping: Robin Cohen, producer of "Wrap Magic" and the president of Bow Jest Enterprises in San Andreas, Calif.; Ellen Timberlake, "America's Most Gifted Wrapper" in 2000; and John Saxtan, editor-in-chief of "Giftware News".

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