

GOVERNOR ERNIE FLETCHER AND THE KENTUCKY ARTS COUNCIL present the 2003 Governor's Awards in the Arts

The commonwealth's most prestigious awards in the arts honor individuals, organizations, and businesses that make significant and outstanding contributions to the arts in Kentucky.

Bill and Josephine D'Amato Richardson (Milner)

Josephine has chaired the Kentucky Arts Council, helped start the Governor's School for the Arts, and worked with numerous local and national arts organizations – Bill is an architect and designer of public spaces for the arts and is the founding director of Appalshop, an internationally recognized media arts center.

The Judd Family – Ashley, Naomi & Wynonna (National)

Ashley is a celebrated actress and dedicated supporter of the University of Kentucky – Naomi and Wynonna are nationally recognized popular entertainers and supporters of Kentucky arts and social-service campaigns – The Judd Family is native to eastern Kentucky.

Arturo Alonzo Sandoval (Artist)

Contemporary textile artist, recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship, and University of Kentucky faculty member, whose art work has been exhibited internationally and collected by the Smithsonian National Museum of Art, the Indianapolis Museum of Art, and the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Community Trust Bank (Business)

A generous corporate arts supporter that has provided funds, business leadership, and volunteer commitment to building strong communities across the state.

Montgomery County Council for the Arts (Community Arts)

Multidisciplinary arts resource for central and eastern Kentucky that programs extensive arts education events, visual arts exhibits, competitions, performing arts, cultural-diversity collaborations, and community-development partnerships.

Vernell Bennett (Education-Individual)

Founder/director of Operation Half-Note, an early childhood music institute that provides introductory music education, enhanced social skills, and self-esteem of pre-school students, including physically, mentally and/or economically challenged children.

Kentucky Shakespeare Festival (Education-Organization)

A professional theatre company that provides Shakespearean performances and educational outreach programs serving students, teachers, and incarcerated populations across all of Kentucky's 120 counties.

Lestel Childress (Folk Heritage)

A fifth generation, traditional white oak basket maker whose work represents the highest level of achievement of this unique regional tradition, and whose baskets have been sought after by collectors throughout the nation and the world.

City of Berea (Government)

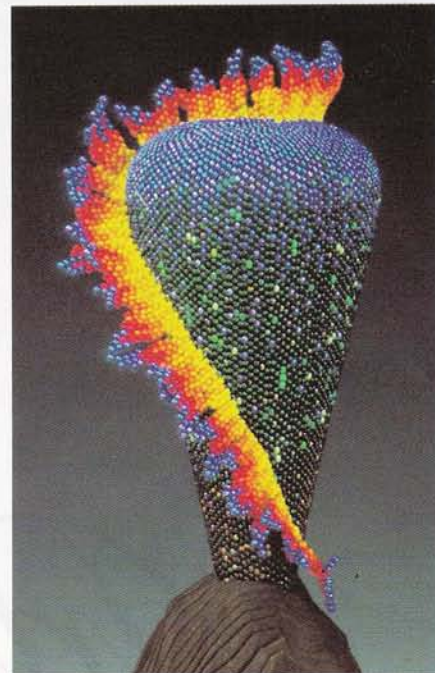
Lead supporter and effective partner in the development and promotion of long-term, community-based regional arts and tourism projects, including the Kentucky Artisan Center at Berea, a downtown Tourism Center with an artisan gallery, a city signage program, partnership with Berea College on development of a scenic corridor along KY 595, and provision of low-cost headquarters for the Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen.

Business First of Louisville (Media)

A business journal that successfully brings the arts to the attention of the public, particularly the business community of a seven-county area, through reporting news of individual arts organizations and arts leaders, trends in the arts, arts and cultural festivals, important openings and initiatives, and partnerships among business interests and the arts.

Linda Fifield was born and raised in Knott County. A visit to The Field Museum in Chicago in 1974 proved to be a pivotal point in her life. Mesmerized by beads from all over the world, she was inspired to begin teaching herself the intricacies of weaving with beads. Her work is included in some of the country's most prestigious juried shows, including the Smithsonian Craft Show, the Philadelphia Museum of Art Craft Show, and the Sculptural Objects, Furniture and Art Show (SOFA.) She is represented in numerous museums, prominent public and private collections, and a substantial number of books and magazines.

"Artistic commitment is, for me, a way of life, a continuation of a family's history. An invaluable part of my Appalachian heritage is our family's tradition of craftsmanship. Generations of women in my family have made handwork an integral part of the daily rhythm of life. Twenty years of experimentation with various on and off loom bead weaving techniques has allowed my skill to mature. I've developed a distinctive individual style. Working with glass "seed" beads, using an ancient netting stitch, I create beaded baskets/vessels, the primary focus of my work. These vessels have increased in size and complexity over the last ten years. Working on a lathe, I turn wooden vessels to be covered with precise, intricate stitches incorporating the miniscule beads. The completed works are visually rich, enticingly tactile, and a pleasure to contemplate. The skill, patience, and commitment necessary to create these beaded vessels forms the sustenance of my creative life."



Awards Ceremony and Reception

Thursday, March 11, 2004 • 10:00 am • Capitol Rotunda • Frankfort, KY

For more information, visit www.artsCouncil.ky.gov or call 1-888-833-2787.