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Art Lines

The E-newsletter of the Arkansas Arts Council

May 2010

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In Memory of Sally Williams



The Arkansas Arts Council suffered a great loss with the passing of Sally A. Williams. Sally died April 20, after serving the Arts Council for 25 years as its Artist Services Manager. Sally was a visual artist who expressed this in both her personal and professional life.

During her time at the Arts Council, she managed programs for individual artists, championed the [Individual Artist Fellowship](#) program for visual, literary and performing artists as well as public art, and developed the [Arkansas Artist Registry](#). She enjoyed visiting galleries and studios throughout the state and providing encouragement and support to her constituents.

At Sally's request there will be no memorial service, but you can celebrate her life by making a contribution to the [Arkansas Arts Center Museum School](#), the [Arkansas Arts Council](#) for a professional development fund for individual artists, or [Heifer Project International](#). To make a contribution in her memory to

the Arkansas Arts Council, please call (501) 324-9766.

Peter Lippincott of Fort Smith Named 2010 Arkansas Living Treasure

Peter Lippincott, a studio potter from Fort Smith, Ark., has been named this year's [Arkansas Living Treasure](#) by the Arkansas Arts Council. Lippincott will be honored at a reception from 5:30-7 p.m., Tuesday, May 11, at [Second Street Live](#) on 101 N. 2nd St. in Fort Smith. The reception is sponsored by the Arkansas Arts Council, the [Department of Arkansas Heritage](#) and Art Matters.



Now in its ninth year, the Arkansas Living Treasure recognizes an Arkansan who excels in the creation of a traditional craft and who actively preserves and advances his or her craft through community outreach and educating others. A distinguished panel of practicing craft artists selects the recipient based on the quality of work, community outreach and total contribution to the field of traditional crafts.

"Not only does Peter continue to excel in his field, but he also tirelessly advocates the craft through teaching classes to both adults and children," said Joy Pennington, executive director of the Arkansas Arts Council. "Since he moved to Fort Smith, he was determined to build a clay community, and his efforts have made a positive impact both in Fort Smith and in the state of Arkansas."



Although Lippincott had admired and collected the work of studio potters for years, he never planned to turn the craft into a career. With a bachelor's degree in zoology from the University of Illinois and post graduate work in secondary science, he didn't begin his study of pottery until he was 38 years old. "I had always worked with my hands doing art projects with my artist mother and making musical instruments with my architect/woodworker father. Trying my hand at pottery seemed a natural," he said.

Lippincott describes his work as "traditional stoneware but with a contemporary flair." His work ranges from simple, functional stoneware with Asian influences to dynamic, large-scale vessels. Known for his extraordinary glazes, Lippincott mixes his own clay and glazes and forms his work one piece at a time by hand and or thrown by wheel.

After receiving five years of ceramic education from St. Louis Community College, Lippincott moved to Fort Smith in 1992. "Since moving to Arkansas,

pottery has been my vocation,” he said. “Making a living at pottery has been an additional education. To survive, I combine retail and wholesale sales with extensive teaching.”

In addition to running [Mudpuppy Studios](#) in Fort Smith, Lippincott teaches private pottery lessons to adults and children. He began teaching classes at Westark Community College (now the [University of Arkansas Fort Smith](#)) and he now teaches classes at the [Fort Smith Art Center](#). This is also his ninth year to teach in schools through the Arts Council’s [Arts in Education](#) program. In addition, he offers special classes for scout troops, church groups, nursing homes and other organizations.

“Of the more than 400 adult students I have taught, at least 25 have become relatively skillful potters and several continue to practice their craft on a full- or part-time basis,” he said. “This tells me they have developed their own voices as artists.”

Lippincott said he is nourished by the success of his students just as they are nourished by his teaching. “To me, working with student learners is a delight and a real source of energy. This is true of my most advanced students, as well as my 7-year-old granddaughter and all the students in between. The bond between teacher and student is joyous.”

His passion for pottery also inspires him to be an ambassador for the arts. He has served on many boards throughout the state, including the [Center for Arts and Education](#) in Van Buren, the [Mayor’s Commission for the Arts](#) in Fort Smith, the [Fort Smith Art Center](#), the [Arkansas Craft Guild](#) and ArtQuest in Fort Smith.

His work can be found in private collections throughout the United States and in Europe, and it has been exhibited in museums and galleries in the United States.

There is Still Time to Make a Nomination for Governor's Arts Awards

Arkansas is blessed to have a thriving arts community filled with talented artists and enthusiastic art patrons. It’s time to recognize these individuals and organizations who work hard to foster the growth of arts in Arkansas.

Please consider nominating an individual and/or organization for this year’s [Governor's Arts Awards](#).

The deadline is Friday, May 7, just a week away!



The annual awards recognize Arkansans for their outstanding contributions to the arts community. Nominations are being accepted in seven categories: Arts Community Development, Arts in Education, Corporate Sponsorship of the Arts, Individual Artist, Folk Life, Patron and Lifetime Achievement. Each nomination will be judged on the significance of the contributions made, the range of the individuals and groups served and the length of time and degree of the activity or contributions. Nominees must be current Arkansas residents or Arkansas-based corporations.

Governor's Arts Awards nomination forms are available at www.arkansasarts.org or by calling the Arkansas Arts Council at (501) 324-9766 or e-mailing info@arkansasarts.com. The recipients will be honored at an awards ceremony in the fall.

\$4,000 Fellowship Application Deadline is May 7



Times are tough economically for everybody, but artists have felt the blow particularly hard. The Arkansas Arts Council is offering a way to help. Up to nine \$4,000 [Individual Artist Fellowships](#) will be awarded this year to artists in the following categories: choreography, literary non-fiction and works on paper. Deadline to apply for the fellowships is Friday, May 7.

“The Individual Artist Fellowships recognize individual artistic ability,” said Executive Director Joy Pennington. “Historically, artists who have received fellowships demonstrate a major career commitment to the art discipline for which they apply and have created a substantial body of work. Artists make up the core of the 34,000 Arkansans who work in creative enterprises, and it is important to recognize their economic and artistic contributions to our state.”

To be eligible for fellowship awards, an artist must be at least 25 years old and must have been an Arkansas resident for at least one year at the time of application. Previous fellowship recipients are not eligible to apply.

Fellowship applications are available at www.arkansasarts.org and directly from the Arts Council. Contact the Arts Council at (501) 324-9766 or e-mail info@arkansasarts.com for more information.

Arkansas Arts Council is Recruiting Artists to Teach Children

Have you ever thought about sharing your artistic knowledge and expertise with children? If so, now is your opportunity to apply for the Arts in Education artist roster. The Arkansas Arts Council is now accepting applications; performing, literary or visual artists who are interested in working with teachers and students in schools or after-school/summer programs are encouraged to apply.

The [Arts in Education Artist Roster](#) features artists available for participation in the Arts in Education residency program. The program places professional artists in Arkansas schools and communities to work directly with teachers and students, to demonstrate their art forms and share their ideas, creativity and talents.



Applications must be hand-delivered or postmarked no later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, July 9, 2010. For more information, contact Cynthia Haas, Arts in Education program manager, at (501) 324-9769 or e-mail cynthia@arkansasheritage.org. Applications are available online at www.arkansasarts.org.

Small Works on Paper Exhibition Travels to Springdale

The 2010 [Small Works on Paper](#) touring exhibition will make its home at the [Arts Center of the Ozarks](#) in Springdale on Friday, May 7. Sponsored by the Arkansas Arts Council, the juried exhibition will be on display through May 29 in the Smith Kelly Gallery on 214 Main St. A public reception to celebrate the opening of the exhibit will be held from 6-8 p.m., Thursday, May 13, in the gallery.



Several artists from the Springdale area have works featured in the exhibition. They are Steven Wise of

Rogers; Diana Hausam of Farmington; Niki Ciccotelli of Bentonville; Jessica Carter of Fayetteville; Victor Chalfant of Fayetteville; and Laura M. Terry of West Fork.

Hours of operation for the exhibition are 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday. Admission is free.

Now in its 23rd year, this year's *Small Works on Paper* exhibition presents 39 works by 39 Arkansas artists. More than 300 entries were submitted. This annual exhibition showcases up to 40 small-sized visual works (no larger than 24 x 24 inches) by Arkansas artists in a year-long traveling show to 10 or 11 galleries, often in rural areas or small towns. The juror, a professional from the arts community, selects the artwork and designates pieces for purchase awards.

This year's exhibition was juried by Suzanne Bloom, a professor of art at the University of Houston. Bloom holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree and a Master of Fine Arts degree in painting from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. She is the recipient of two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and has served as juror for numerous national and local organizations.

Fort Smith Southside Senior Wins Statewide Poetry Out Loud Competition

Branson White, a senior from Fort Smith's [Southside High School](#), was named Arkansas state champion of the [Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest](#) on Saturday, March 6. Reciting "We Wear the Mask" by Paul Laurence Dunbar, "Anthem for Doomed Youth" by Wilfred Owen and "Miniver Cheevy" by Edwin Arlington Robinson, White received the top score from the judges for his ability to convey the meaning of his selected poems.



White competed against 26 other finalists during the state competition at [Pulaski Technical College](#) in North Little Rock. Contestants recited works they selected from an anthology of more than 400 classic and contemporary poems. The competition was emceed by

Clayton Scott, Poet Laureate of Fayetteville.

As the state champion, White received \$200 from [The Poetry Foundation](#) and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to compete for the national championship on April 25-27. His school will receive a \$500 stipend for the purchase of poetry books. Allissa Hertz, a senior from Russellville High School, was first runner-up and received \$100, with \$200 for her school library. Three additional finalists were recognized for their performances: René Manjarrez, a senior from Fort Smith's Northside High School; Sarah Casey, a junior from Deer High School; and Elizabeth Pratt, a senior from Hamburg High School.



Created by the [National Endowment for the Arts](#) and The Poetry Foundation to encourage high school students to memorize and perform great poems, Poetry Out Loud invites the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into the English class.

The competition helps students master public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about their literary heritage. "The Poetry Out Loud program is a great tool because it helps the students gain a true appreciation of the power of language,"

said Joy Pennington, Arkansas Arts Council executive director.

The Arkansas Poetry Out Loud competition was presented by the Arkansas Arts Council in partnership with the [National Endowment for the Arts](#) and The Poetry Foundation. State partners were the [Arkansas Department of Education](#) and Pulaski Technical College.

Celebrate the Arts During ArtWeek 2010

ARTWEEK '10



**Bridging the Cities
& Celebrating the Arts**

Join artists and art lovers for a week of art! [ArtWeek 2010](#) is May 13-22, 10 days of promoting the arts in Little Rock and North Little Rock.

ArtWeek '10 is the second annual week long art festival bringing Little Rock and North Little Rock

together. Galleries, museums, restaurants, artists, musicians and performers will host fun and exciting events in both cities every day for 10 days in May.

The organizers of [2nd Friday Art Night](#) and [3rd Friday Argenta Art Walk](#) are working with more than 60 sites for exhibits, events and performances by

countless visual and performing artists. The culinary, literary and film arts will be included at restaurants, galleries, museums, businesses and public spaces as well.

The mission of ArtWeek '10 is to promote and develop the art community by bringing people together through events, media campaigns and innovative programs. For a complete listing of ArtWeek events, visit <http://www.art-week.org/>.



Funding for the Arkansas Arts Council and its programs is provided by the State of Arkansas and The National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

Arkansas Arts Council, 1500 Tower Building, 323 Center Street, Little Rock, AR 72201-2606
Phone: 1-501-324-9766 | TTD: 1-501-324-9150 | Fax: 1-501-324-9207 | e-mail: shelby@arkansasheritage.org

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