FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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NOMINATION DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO APRIL 1, 2016

FOR ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS

SANTA FE - The New Mexico Arts Commission and New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, are accepting nominations for the 2016 Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts. The annual Governor’s Arts Awards are New Mexico's highest and most prestigious artistic honors and are intended to celebrate lifetime achievement. Nominations can be submitted by individual New Mexico residents or representatives of businesses or organizations in New Mexico. Self-nominations are discouraged.

Nominations for the awards may include individual living New Mexican artists working in any discipline who have demonstrated outstanding lifetime achievement; individuals who have consistently made significant or distinguished contributions to the arts in New Mexico; and businesses, nonprofits or foundations with sustained involvement in and support for the arts.

The nomination deadline has been extended to Friday, April 1, 2016. Nominations must be received by April 1, 2016. Nominations may be mailed or hand-delivered no later than April 1 to New Mexico Arts, Suite 270, 407 Galisteo St., Santa Fe, NM, 87501. Nomination forms are available online at www.nmarts.org or contact New Mexico Arts at 505-827-6490, 800-879-4278 (statewide), or email loie.fecteau@state.nm.us. The events for the 2016 Annual Governor’s Awards for Excellence in the Arts are scheduled for the fall of 2016 in Santa Fe.
Established in 1974 by Governor Bruce King and First Lady Alice King, the Governor’s Arts Awards celebrate the role that artists, craftspeople and arts supporters play in the economic and cultural life of New Mexico. Throughout its existence, a diverse and prestigious list of painters, weavers, sculptors, dancers, musicians, storytellers, poets, actors, playwrights and potters have been honored. Since 1974, about 270 artists and arts supporters have received this coveted award. The awards are a collaboration of New Mexico Arts, the New Mexico Museum of Art and other partners.

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New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, is the state arts agency. New Mexico Arts administers the state’s One Percent for Public Art program, awards grants to nonprofit organizations for arts and cultural programs in their communities across the state, and provides technical assistance and educational opportunities for organizations, artists, and arts educators throughout New Mexico.