Greetings from the Executive Director

I hope this new edition of our magazine finds you well and that the arts continue to thrive in your community.

In this issue, we celebrate the recipients of the 2006 Governor’s Awards for Excellence in the Arts, our state’s most prestigious lifetime artistic honor. I want to personally congratulate this year’s awardees and look forward to honoring them with the Governor and first lady at an awards ceremony scheduled for September 15, at the Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fe.

Governor Bill Richardson in announcing this year’s awardees. First Lady Barbara Richardson said, “The work of these distinguished artists boosts our economy, enriches our communities and gives learning valuable skills to use in the workplace that will serve them well for the rest of their lives,” First Lady Barbara Richardson welcomed the student competitors to the New Mexico State Finals. “These students are the future of New Mexico and our nation.” The pilot project took place in the state capital regions of all 50 states. Recent focus groups held by the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) and the National Conference of State Legislatures found that some legislators across the country still view statistics regarding arts-related economic development as unreliable. It’s important that we learn how to measure and to track what we do so that we can provide legislators with accurate information. This will help us show the governor and legislators the true impact of our work.

ARTSpeak
Summer 2006

New Mexico Arts’ Mission
To Preserve, Enhance, and Develop the Arts in New Mexico Through Partnerships, Public Awareness, and Education, and to Enrich the Quality of Life for Present and Future Generations.

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New Mexico Arts is moving ahead with plans to develop a pilot statewide “arts trail,” or cultural tourism loop, to put New Mexico artists on the map and bring the market to them.

New Mexico Arts, working with the Governor’s Office, received a one-time special appropriation of $250,000 for FY07, which begins July 1, 2006, to develop these arts trails. New Mexico Arts plans to develop an “arts trail” brand and to produce a brochure and other marketing materials for this prototype arts trail. We plan to hold regional workshops around the state to help jumpstart these arts trails.

We’re also working on developing performance measures for the arts trails, so we’ll know what success looks like. In the arts community we all need to become more aware of how to best track success and to develop quantitative measures that will help us show the governor and legislators the true impact of what we do.

Recent focus groups held by the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) and the National Conference of State Legislatures found that some legislators across the country still view statistics regarding arts-related economic development as unreliable. It’s important that we learn how to measure and to track what we do so that we can provide legislators with accurate information. This will help them help us.

We also need to continue to raise awareness about what we do in the arts across New Mexico. NASAA suggests, if you don’t already, inviting legislators and other public officials to your arts events so that they can experience first hand how the arts enrich us all.

In this issue, we celebrate the recipients of the 2006 Governor’s Awards for Excellence in the Arts, our state’s most prestigious lifetime artistic honor. I want to personally congratulate this year’s awardees and look forward to honoring them with the governor and first lady at an awards ceremony scheduled September 15, at the Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fe.

“The talent and diversity of this year’s Arts Awards recipients are fitting to what is best about New Mexico,” said Governor Bill Richardson in announcing this year’s awardees.

First Lady Barbara Richardson said, “The work of these distinguished artists boosts our economy, enriches our communities and, most importantly, nurtures our creative spirit and gives expression to our ideas and dreams.”

I also wish to congratulate Fantasia Lonjose, a junior at Santa Fe Indian School, who won the first ever New Mexico State Finals sponsored April 1, by New Mexico Arts as part of the Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest. Lonjose, from Zuni Pueblo, represented New Mexico in the national finals on May 16 in Washington DC.

Poetry Out Loud is a new national program of the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. This year’s pilot project took place in the state capital regions of all 50 states. First Lady Barbara Richardson welcomed the student competitors to the New Mexico State Finals. “These students are learning valuable skills to use in the workplace that will serve them well for the rest of their lives,” First Lady Barbara Richardson said.

Other new initiatives we’re working on at New Mexico Arts include our second T.I.M.E. (Temporary Installations Made for the Environment) Project in Silver City this October. The theme of this temporary public art project is alchemy. Silver City will also host the November 3 meeting of the New Mexico Arts Commission while the T.I.M.E project is up. The fail promises to be a great time to visit the Mimbres region of our state.

Finally, I want to wish Happy Trails to Elaine Greten, our contracts administrator and secretary of the New Mexico Arts Commission, who retired in June after more than five years with the division. Elaine did a great job in handling commission business and in making sure that arts organizations and artists across our state received their grants contracts and payments in a timely manner. We’ll miss her efficiency and good humor.

Loie Fecteau
Executive Director
loie.fecteau@state.nm.us
Zuni Student Wins New Mexico’s First Poetry Out Loud Competition

Fantasia Lonjose, a junior at Santa Fe Indian School, won New Mexico’s first Poetry Out Loud recitation contest sponsored by New Mexico Arts. The state-capital-region competition of this national competition was held on April 1 at the St. Francis Auditorium in Santa Fe. Fantasia recited Sherman Alexie’s The Peace at the End of the World. Her teacher, Tim McLainugh, and her parents accompanied her at the competition.

Fantasia, who is from Zuni Pueblo, received $200 and an all-expense paid trip to Washington DC to represent New Mexico in the national competition on May 16. The Santa Fe Indian School received $500 to purchase poetry books for the library. Second place winner Jade McCellan, a senior at Capital High School in Santa Fe, received $100, and Capital High School got a $200 stipend to purchase poetry books for the library. Jade’s prompter was Kimbertee Penn-Erazo, a teacher at Capital High School.

Poetry Out Loud is a new national program of the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. This year’s pilot program took place in the state-capital-regions of all 50 states. The other competitions in the state final competition were Evening Star Barron, a senior at Bridge Academy Charter School in Las Vegas (teacher Carol Winkell); Piette Hamblin-Hatchell, a junior at Las Altamas High School (teacher Noel Trujillo); Danny Ross, a sophomore at Desert Academy in Santa Fe (teacher Heather Golden); Sigeo Otsuji, a junior at New Mexico Academy in Santa Fe (teacher Jeffrey Laing); and Ben Mitchell, a junior at Taos High School (teacher Cat Bennett). Regional coordinators were Anne MacNaughton for the Taos area, Janet Stein-Romero for the Las Vegas area, and Lorraine Schecter for the Santa Fe area. Judges for the contest were Santa Fe poets Alex Jacobs, Mary McIlnnis, and Joe Ray Sandoval as well as Santa Fe poet Laureate Arthur See, New Mexico CultureNet Poetry Jam coordinator Alex Traube, and Albuquerque poet Danny Sails.

Making Connections

Thanks to a grant from the Dana Foundation, New Mexico Arts offered the first year of a pilot program for professional development in performing arts education for New Mexico educators and teaching artists. Two sessions of Making Connections: Movement, Performance, and Learning were held on campus June 10-12 and July 18-20.

Institute attendees participated in workshops on the relationships between movement, brain development and learning. Other workshops included in the institute covered dancer Liz Lerman’s “Critical Response Process,” arts integration; and studies in dance, music, and theater.

Participants came from all across New Mexico: Bloomfield, Cimarron, Cuba, Des Moines, Gadsden, Hobbs, Lordsburg, Mountainair, Portales, Public Education Department, Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, Sapello, and Youngsville. Several school districts sent teams of educators to the institute.

Institute instructors were Steve Bailey, Director of Education at Jump-Start Performance Co., San Antonio, Texas, in theater and Critical Response Method; Sania Krueger, Albuquerque, music; and Eleanor Weisman, Director of Dance Studies Program at Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania, dance and brain development/learning. Karen DeMoss of the Education Department of the University of New Mexico is the project evaluator.

Making Connections will be offered again in June, 2007, and the institute’s name was dedicated to the memory of Kristin Rauch.
photographic documentation of the art work in the cost of the artwork. The deadline for submissions is 5:00 pm Thursday, September 21, 2006. A complete prospectus can be downloaded from the website www.nmarts.org, or contact Deanna Draut at New Mexico Arts, telephone 505/277-6490, 800/879-4278 Inside, or email deanna.draut@state.nm.us.

BERNALILLO COUNTY PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

Deadline: Friday, July 28, 2006 – 4:00 pm

Bernalillo County Public Art Program seeks to commission an interior artwork for the Mid-Region Council of Government Offices. 2-D and 3-D work will be considered. Artists should consider a wall treatment and/or water feature. Artists will submit a proposed budget. The project is open to US artists. For more information contact Sherri Olsen, Bernalillo County Public Art Program, telephone 505/768-4267, or email ssolson@bcgov.gov.

Deadline: Friday, August 4, 2006 – 4:00 pm

Bernalillo County Public Art Program seeks to purchase interior artwork for the Bernalillo County Office. 2-D and 3-D artworks will be considered. Project Amount is $5,000 for several works. Project is open to New Mexico artists. For more information contact Sherri Olsen, Bernalillo County Public Art Program, telephone 505/768-4267, or email ssolson@bcgov.gov.

New Arts Division Staff

We welcome Ruth Lommen as our new administrator. Ruth will serve as the Administrative Secretary to the Arts Commission and as the Grants Management Assistant. Ruth has lived in Santa Fe for about 10 years and has a background in administrative planning and project organization with a professional background in media and entertainment. Ruth has been actively involved with the City of Santa Fe working on neighborhood projects and community teams.

Alison Ryan has joined AIPP as a new Public Art Program Coordinator. An alumnus of the Institute of American Indian Arts, Alison is a member of the Kiowa Tribe. She loves music, dancing, writing stories, and color. Her love of color comes from trying to insert different aspects that don’t translate from the Kiowa language to English. She also enjoys walking in the mountains. Alison has a background in museum studies and creative writing. She also coordinated the Indian Education Program at the Santa Fe Public Schools.

2006 Governor’s Awards for Excellence in the Arts

This year’s recipients are Eddie Dominguez for Sculpture; Delmas Howe for Painting; Jack Parsons for Photography; Ramona Sakiestewa for Weaving; Clara Sherman for Weaving; Rory Wagner for Painting; Edwina Milner for Major Contributor to the Arts; Irene Oliver-Lewis for Major Contributor to the Arts; and The Santa Fe Opera for Major Contributor to the Arts.

Joseph Sanchez of the Institute of American Indian Arts is the recipient of the 2006 Allan Houser Memorial Award. This award is presented along with the Governor’s Awards to a Native Artist who has demonstrated outstanding artistic success and community involvement. Established in 1974 by Governor Bruce King and First Lady Alice King, the awards honor the role of artists and craftspeople to the enrichment of the economic and cultural life of New Mexico. During its vibrant 30-year history, many individuals have been recognized for their contributions to the arts in New Mexico.

Nominations are invited every year from arts groups and individuals. The nominations are reviewed by a committee of the New Mexico Arts Commission, which sends its recommendations to the full commission and the governor.

The Allan Houser Memorial Award was created to honor the late Chihichua Apache sculptor and former instructor of the Institute of American Indian Arts. The award is presented each year by the governor and first lady in conjunction with the Allan Houser family and the IAIA Museum.

This year’s Governor’s Awards ceremonies will be held Friday, September 15, 2006, from 5:15 – 7:00 pm at the St. Francis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fe. A public reception and reception opening will be held at the Governor’s Gallery, 4th Floor, State Capitol, from 3:30 – 4:30 pm. Both events are free and open to the public.

Governor’s Awards for Excellence in the Arts’ 2006 Recipients

Eddie Dominguez, a Tucumcari native, will be honored for his functional, sometimes kitsch, sculpture work. His mixed media sculptures are in private collections throughout the country including the Smithsonian Institution/Renwick Gallery in Washington DC, the Phoenix Airport Collection, the Kohler Arts Center in Sheyogogan, Wisconsin, and the Capitol Art Foundation Collection in Santa Fe. He holds art degrees from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University and the Cleveland Institute of Art. Dominguez has taught young people through the New Mexico Arts Commission’s Artist in Residence program and the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum’s Art and Leadership program for boys. He is an Assistant Professor of Art at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and lives in Abiquiu.

Delmas Howe of Truth or Consequences, recognized for his cutting edge portrayals of cowboys and distinctive murals, spent his childhood in southern New Mexico, then went on to study music in Kansas. He played in the Air Force Band at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and attended graduate school at Yale. While working as a professional musician, he took classes at the New York City’s Art Students’ League. He returned to Truth or Consequences in 1985, and has been a major contributor to the arts and the community.

He co-founded the Sierra County Arts Council in 1995.

Jack Parsons has worked as a photographer and filmmaker documenting the cultures and landscapes of New Mexico and the Southwest for over 30 years. His work varies from portraits of traditional Hispanic musicians to colorful portrayals of lowriders. Among his many books are Santa Fe Style, with Christine Mather and Sharon Woods, Rizzoli [1984]; Straight from the Heart: Portraits of Traditional Hispanic Musicians, with Jim Sagel, University of New Mexico Press [1990]; and other titles with the Museum of New Mexico Press including Low ‘n Slow: Lowriding in New Mexico, with Carmella Padilla and Juan Estevan Arellano [1998]; The Chile Chronicles: Tales of a New Mexico Harvest, with Carmella Padilla [1997]; and New Mexico Artists at Work, with Dana Newman [2005].

Ramona Sakiestewa, the influential Native weaver, was born of Hopi ancestry in Albuquerque. She is self taught and learned to weave by adapting techniques from prehistoric Pueblo Indian weaving. Her work appears in various collections and museums including the Smithsonian, the Heard Museum in Phoenix, and the Wheelwright Museum in Santa Fe. Sakiestewa served for 10 years as a Native design consultant for the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian in Washington DC. She was the designer with the architectural team for Albuquerque’s Enchanted Skies Park, a public observatory and astronomy center sponsored by the University of New Mexico. She lives in Santa Fe.

Weaver Clara Sherman of Newcomb has dedicated her life to preserving and maintaining traditional Navajo weaving. From the 1930s to 1950s, she was instrumental in creating the Two Grey Hills style of weaving that is valued by collectors today. Her flock of churro sheep is regarded for producing distinctive colors of wool used in the Taos era/Two Grey Hills style, which uses no dyes. She has won numerous awards including the blue ribbon at the New Mexico State Fair in 1963, at least three first prize awards at the Gallup Ceremonial, and a 2004 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Southwestern Association for Indian Arts.

Taos painter Rory Wagner is known for his imagery of faces of cowboys and indigenous peoples with expressive eyes. Raised in Florida,垢

Fantasia Lonjose with her teacher Tim McCaughan at the at-state-capitol region competition of the national Poetry Out Loud recitation contest sponsored by New Mexico Arts in Santa Fe.

NMSU’s Jazz Outreach Project, Tia Fuller, saxophonist, flutist and composer, 2006.
he moved to Taos more than three decades ago. Upon arriving in Taos, he visited the galaxy of artists and quickly became his mentor and life-long friend.

Edwina Milner has been a partner to the arts for many years as a painter, educator, arts advocate and patron. She was the lead donor and visionary behind Milner Plaza, the 32-acre renovation of Museum Hill in Santa Fe. Milner moved to Santa Fe in the early 1970s and Santa Fe has become an important part of the local arts community. She has served on various boards and commissions including the Museum of New Mexico Foundation and the Institute of American Indian Arts. She was also a major donor for the Lloyd Kiva New Gallery in the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in 2002. Milner recently served on the planning committee for the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum’s 10th anniversary celebration.

Las Cruces native Irene Oliver-Lewis has worked in New Mexico theater for more than 25 years as a producer, director, story-teller, and writer. She is known for her theater work in non-traditional venues and for developing arts-based programs working with at-risk youth, including the award-winning Court Youth Center. Lewis is the Executive Artistic Producer of Alma d’arte Charter High School/Count Youth Center, the first charter school in Doña Ana County and the only arts-based charter high school in the state. Her one-woman play, Cecilia-isms: Dichos de mi madre, commissioned by the National Hispanic Cultural Center and the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities in 2002, has toured for 87-year-old mothers.

The Santa Fe Opera will be honored for its tremendous impact on the city and state’s cultural industry. Since 1956 it has served local, national, and international audiences, and has developed into a company of international artistic acclaim as well as a major contributor to the state’s economy and to the perception of New Mexico in the national and international market. The economic impact of the opera is $182 million annually. Its operating budget of $15.7 million is supported by earned income; contributions from individuals, corporations, local businesses, foundations; and government support. Through their programs they served more than 67,000 New Mexicans last year. In all 151,000 people had some involvement with the Santa Fe Opera last year.

Joseph Sanchez, the Curator of Exhibits at the Institute of American Indian Arts Museum in Santa Fe, will receive the Alan Houseer Memorial Award. Born in Trinidad, Colorado, Sanchez is a painter, sculptor, and muralist whose work is in individual and institutional collections including the Heard Museum in Phoenix and the Department of Cultural Affairs in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

New Mexico Fiber Artisans

Diane Bowman, Executive Director, Española Valley Fiber Arts Center

Last August, fiber artists and fiber arts groups were among those who attended an arts-based economic development conference sponsored by New Mexico Arts. We were able to work with Becky Anderson from Handmade in Georgia O’Keeffe Museum’s 10th anniversary celebration.

New Mexico Fiber Artisans (NMFA) was formed in a collaboration among 10 fiber nonprofits and for-profit businesses. We have started work on these ideas through our Yahoo! online discussion group NMFiber. In December and May, New Mexico Arts offered funding for New Mexico Arts and the New Mexico Department of Tourism. The New Mexico Arts application was successful and will provide partial support for NMFA’s FY2007 activities. We will update you on the outcome of the Tourism application on our online Yahoo! group. In March of 2006, we met again with Becky Anderson in Spainola, through the efforts of the Regional Development Corporation and other partners. We further developed our plans to create a statewide system of “fiber trails” that would appear in a published guidebook and on a website. Since then, New Mexico Arts has been successful in securing legislative funding to help put New Mexico artists on the map. The funds will be used in part to support statewide fiber trails development and marketing. NMFA is a vital partner in this initiative.

Many fiber artists and businesses have received an email invitation to join the Yahoo! online discussion group NMFiber. For those without internet access, information will be listed in the Española Valley Fiber Arts Center’s (EVFAC) newsletter and through arts organizations. If you are in southern New Mexico, you may also contact the Southwest Women’s Fiber Arts Collective. We will try to get the word out about our progress, including membership information and any scheduled meetings or other events.

The dream of the group is to include all those who create and market all manner of fiber arts, raise fiber animals and process the fiber into yarn, cultivate dye plants and fiber plants, yarn shops, loom builders, and other suppliers of materials used in the arts. Groups interested in southern New Mexico, you may also contact the Southwest Women’s Fiber Arts Collective. We will try to get the word out about our progress, including membership information and any scheduled meetings or other events.

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Diablo Canyon, Reg Loving: 14” x 18”; Acrylic on panel; Carrizozo Town Hall

New Mexico Fiber Artisan Sculpture to be Dedicated

New Mexico Arts and the Fundacion Presbitero Don Antonio Jose Martinez – The Padre Martinez Memorial Committee is pleased to announce that Colorado sculptor Huberto Maestas was selected to receive a $10,000 public art sculpture grant from Padre Antonio Jose Martinez as a gift to the Town of Taos to be installed in Taos Plaza as part of a special memorial celebration and stat-
he moved to Taos more than three decades ago. Upon arriving in Taos, he vis-
ted the galleries in the area, the first of which became his mentor and life-long friend.

Edwina Milner has been a partner to the arts for many years as a painter, edu-
cator, arts advocate and patron. She was the lead donor and visionary behind
Milner Plaza, the 32-acre renovation of Museum Hill in Santa Fe. Milner moved to
Santa Fe in the early 1990s and quickly became an important part of the local
arts community. She has served on various boards and commissions including the
Museum of New Mexico Foundation and the Institute of American Indian Arts. She
was also a major donor for the Lloyd Kiva
New Gallery in the Museum of Indian Arts and
Culture in 2002. Milner recently
served on the planning committee for the
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arts-based programs working with at-risk youth, including the award win-
ing Court Youth Center. Lewis is the
Executive Artistic Producer of Alma d’arte
Charter High School/Court Youth Center;
the first charter school in Doña Ana
County and the only arts-based charter
high school in the state. Her one-woman
play, Cecilia-isms: Dichos de mi madre,
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Joseph Sanchez, the Curator of Exhibits at
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and muralist whose work is in individual
and institutional collections including the
Museum in Phoenix and the
Department of Cultural Affairs in Ottawa,
Ontario, Canada.

New Mexico Fiber Artisans
Diane Bowman, Executive Director, Española Valley Fiber Arts Center

Last August, fiber artists and fiber arts groups were among
those who attended an arts-based economic
development conference sponsored by New Mexico Arts.
We were able to work with Becky Anderson from Handmade
in America and began to think about how we could bring marketing
opportunities to those who work with fiber in New Mexico.
We began to see an alternative to galleries or craft shows where
artists could sell their work in their own communities. From that
a new coalition was formed dedicated to marketing New Mexico fiber artists, growers, businesses, and organizations.
New Mexico Fiber Artisans (NMFA) began as a collaboration among 10 fiber nonprofits and for profit businesses.

We have had some work on these ideas through our Yahoo! online
discussion group NMFiber. In December and May, NMFA applied for funding from New Mexico Arts and the New Mexico
Department of Tourism. The New Mexico Arts application was
successful and will provide partial support for NMFA’s FY2007
activities. We will update you on the outcome of the Tourism
application on our online Yahoo! group. In March of 2006, we
met again with Becky Anderson in Spainola, through the
efforts of the Regional Development Corporation and other
partners. We further developed our plans to create a statewide
system of “fiber trails” that would appear in a published guide-
book and on a website. Since then, New Mexico Arts has been
successful in securing legislative funding to help put New
Mexico artists on the map. The funds will be used in part to
support statewide fiber trails development and marketing.
NMFA is a vital partner in this initiative.

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tation to join the Yahoo! online discussion group NMFiber.
For those without internet access, information will be listed in the
Española Valley Fiber Arts Center’s (EVFAC) newsletter and
through fiber art groups. If you are in southern New Mexico,
you may also contact the Southwest Women’s Fiber Arts
Collective. We will try to get the word out about our progress,
including membership information and any scheduled meetings or other events.

The dream of the group is to include all those who create and
market all manner of fiber arts, raise fiber animals and process
the fiber into yarn, cultivate dye plants and fiber plants, yarn
shops, loom builders, and other suppliers of materials used in
their arts. NMFA’s mission is to market work of local artists. We hope to
include those from all cultural traditions and artistic approach-
es. It is our vision to encompass the entire state with a struc-
ture of support, encouragement, and economic opportunity for
fiber artisans. A major component of that structure will be the
fiber trails network. It is this concept of bringing the market to the artisans that we
believe can give economic viability to those who work with fiber,
especially those who live in small, rural communities.

With a fiber trails system in place, visitors will be able to
choose a route and visit individual artists working in their stu-
dios, as well as visit cooperative galleries, art centers, and other venues where they can see New Mexico’s wonderful variety of
traditional and contemporary fiber arts. In time, fiber related
tours and weekend getaway could also be organized to bring
groups of interested potential buyers to rural New Mexico.

New Mexico is very rich with talented fiber people—gifted
artists who work hard at their chosen medium and need only
the opportunity to market their work in a way that benefits
them, their families, and their communities. We create beauty
out of our cultural traditions and the inspiration of this amaz-
ing place we live in. We want to encourage visitors to discover
the treasure of fiber artists in New Mexico by following the trails
to studios, farms, art centers, museums, schools and galleries
throughout the state. We want them to see artists and growers
at work and to experience the broken connection between
the land, culture, and creativity that we are blessed with
in New Mexico.

If you would like to learn more about New Mexico Fiber Artisans,
if you would like to be on our mailing list, or if you have special
skills or ideas that you would like to contribute, contact me at
NMFA, 505/747-3577, or email diane@nmfa.org. In southern New Mexico, please contact Carmaine White at 505/538-5733,
or email carmaine@fibermassollective.org. To join our Yahoo!
online discussion group, you can sign up by going to
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NMFiber/.

CALL FOR FIBER ARTISANS
Deadline: September 1, 2006

New Mexico Arts seeks applica-
tions from fiber artists and fiber
art organizations for list-
ing in a New Mexico Fiber
Trails brochure, featuring fiber
destinations across the state.
Trail destinations must meet
the eligibility guidelines. For
complete information, guide-
lines, and application forms,
visit www.nmfa.org. under
Breaking News. Applications
must be mailed to New Mexico
Arts, PO Box 1450, Santa Fe NM
87504-1450. Submissions must
be sent by the postmark dead-
line of September 1, 2006.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES
PROGRAM

Padre Martinez Sculpture to be Dedicated
New Mexico Arts and the Fundacion Presideto Don Antonio Jose Martinez – The Padre Martinez Memorial Committee is pleased to announce that Colorado sculp-
tor Huberto Maestas was selected to create a large clay sculpture of Padre Antonio Jose Martinez as a gift to the Town of Taos to be installed in Taos Plaza, near the first Padre Martinez
memorial celebration and stat-
due dedication for the artwork
La Hona De Su Pais on Sunday,
July 16, 2006, at 2:00 pm at the Taos Plaza, Taos NM.

New Mexico Only Purchase Initiative
Deadline: Thursday, September 21, 2006
5:00 pm
New Mexico Arts is pleased to announce the second biannual
New Mexico Only Purchase Initiative. The project will con-
tinue to diversify the state’s public art collection by pur-
chasing artwork from artists in all stages of their careers that are
living and working in New Mexico. There are approximate-
ly 60 public art sites through-
out the state with 1% for
Public Art funds. Each site may
select one to two artworks. All
media will be considered. All
work must be original or in edi-
tions of 50 or less. All prints
must be hand pulled, no offset lithography. Digital photo-
graphic prints will be required to include a certificate certify-
ing the archival quality of the print. The available amount for each site ranges from $1,000 to
$5,000. The majority of sites have between $1,100 and
$2,500 available. Artists need to include all applicable
expenses: materials, insurance, framing, labor, taxes, installa-
tion, project plaque, and
photographic documentation of the artwork in the cost of the artwork. The deadline for submissions is 5:00 pm Thursday, September 21, 2006. A complete prospectus can be downloaded from the website at www.nmarts.org, or contact Deanna Draudt at New Mexico Arts, telephone 505/827–6490, 800/879–4278, or email deanna.draudt@state.nm.us.

**BERNALILLO COUNTY PUBLIC ART PROGRAM**

**Deadline:** Friday, July 28, 2006 – 4:00 pm

Bernalillo County Public Art Program seeks to commission an interior artwork for the Mid-Region Council of Government Offices, 2-D and 3-D work will be considered. Artists should consider wall treatment and/or water feature. Artists will submit a proposed budget. The project is open to US artists. For more information contact Sherri Olsen, Bernalillo County Public Art Program, telephone 505/768–4257, or email ssolsen@bernco.gov.

**Deadline:** Friday, August 4, 2006 – 4:00 pm

Bernalillo County Public Art Program seeks to purchase interior artwork for the Bernalillo County Offices. 2-D and 3-D artworks will be considered. Project Amount is $5,000 for several works. Project is open to New Mexico artists. For more information contact Sherri Olsen, Bernalillo County Public Art Program, telephone 505/768–4257, or email ssolsen@bernco.gov.

**New Arts Division Staff**

We welcome Ruth Lommel as our new administrator. Ruth will serve as the Administrative Secretary to the Arts Commission and as the Grants Management Assistant. Ruth has lived in Santa Fe for about 10 years and has a background in administrative planning and project organization with a professional background in media and entertainment. Ruth has been actively involved with the City of Santa Fe working on neighborhood projects and community teams.

Alison Ryan has joined AIPP as a new Public Art Program Coordinator. An alumna of the Institute of American Indian Arts, Alison is a member of the Kiowa Tribe. She loves music, dancing, writing stories, and color. Her love of color comes from trying to insert different aspects that don’t translate from the Kiowa language to English. She also enjoys walking in the mountains. Alison has a background in museum studies and creative writing. She also coordinated the Indian Education Program at the Santa Fe Public Schools.

**2006 Governor’s Awards for Excellence in the Arts**

**Governor Bill Richardson, First Lady Barbara Richardson, and the New Mexico Arts commission have announced the recipients of the 2006 Governor’s Awards for Excellence in the Arts.**

This year’s recipients are Eddie Dominguez for Sculpture; Delmas Howe for Painting; Jack Parsons for Photography; Ramona Sakiestewa for Weaving; Clara Sherman for Weaving; Rory Wagner for Painting; Edwina Milner for Major Contributor to the Arts; Irene Oliver-Lewis for Major Contributor to the Arts; and The Santa Fe Opera for Major Contributor to the Arts.

Joseph Sanchez of Institute of American Indian Arts is the recipient of the 2006 Allan Houser Memorial Award. This award is presented along with the Governor’s Awards to a Native Artist who has demonstrated outstanding artistic success and community involvement.

Established in 1974 by Governor Bruce King and First Lady Alice King, the awards honor the role of artists and craftspeople to the enrichment of the economic and cultural life of New Mexico. During its vibrant 30-year history, many individuals have been recognized for their contributions to the arts in New Mexico.

Nominations are invited each year from arts groups and individuals. The nominations are reviewed by a committee of the New Mexico Arts Commission, which sends its recommendations to the full commission and the governor.

The Allan Houser Memorial Award was created to honor the late Chichahua Apache sculptor and former instructor of the Institute of American Indian Arts. The award is presented each year by the governor and first lady in conjunction with the All Santer House and the IAIA Museum.

This year’s Governor’s Awards ceremonies will be held Friday, September 15, 2006, from 5:15 – 7:00 pm at the St. Francis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fe. A public reception and reception opening will be held at the Governor’s Gallery, 4th Floor, State Capitol, from 2:30 – 4:30 pm. Both events are free and open to the public.

**Eddie Dominguez**, a Tucumcari native, will be honored for his functional, sometimes kitch, sculpture work. His mixed media sculptures are in private collections throughout the country including the Smithsonian Institution/Rehnwick Gallery in Washington DC, the Phoenix Airport Collection, the Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and the Capitol Art Foundation Collection in Santa Fe. He holds arts degrees from the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University and the Cleveland Institute of Art. Dominguez has taught young artists in New Mexico Arts Commission’s Artist in Residence program and the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum’s Art and Leadership program for boys. He is an Assistant Professor of Art at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and lives in Abiquiu.

Delmas Howe of Truth or Consequences, recognized for his cutting edge portrayals of cowboys and distinctive murals, spent his childhood in southern New Mexico, then went on to study music in Kansas. He played in the Air Force Band at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs and attended graduate school at Yale. While working as a professional musician, he took classes at the New York City’s Art Student’s League. He returned to Truth or Consequences in 1985, and has been a major contributor to the arts and the community.

He co-founded the Sierra County Arts Council in 1995.

Jack Parsons has worked as a photographer and filmmaker documenting the cultures and landscapes of New Mexico and the Southwest for over 30 years. His work varies from portraits of traditional Hispanic musicians to colorful portrayals of lowriders. Among his many books are Santa Fe Style, with Christine Mather and Sharon Woods, Rizzoli [1996]; Straight from the Heart: Portraits of Traditional Hispanic Musicians, with Jim Sagal, University of New Mexico Press [1990]; and other titles with the Museum of New Mexico Press including Low ’n Slow: Lowrider in New Mexico, with Carmella Padilla and Juan Estevan Arellano [1998]; The Chile Chronicles: Tales of a New Mexico Harvest, with Carmella Padilla [1997]; and New Mexico Artists at Work, with Dana Neumann [2000].

Ramona Sakiestewa, the influential Native weaver, was born of Hopi ancestry in Albuquerque. She is self taught and learned to weave by adapting techniques from prehistoric Pueblo Indian weaving. Her work appears in various collections and museums including the Smithsonian, the Heard Museum in Phoenix, and the Wheelwright Museum in Santa Fe. Sakiestewa served for 10 years as a Native design consultant for the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian in Washington DC. She was the designer with the architectural team for Albuquerque’s Enchanted Skies Park, a public observatory and astronomy center sponsored by the University of New Mexico. She lives in Santa Fe.

Weaver Clara Sherman of Newcomb has dedicated her life to preserving and maintaining traditional Navajo weaving. From the 1930s to 1950s, she was instrumental in creating the Two Grey Hills style of weaving that is valued by collectors today. Her flock of churro sheep is regarded for producing distinctive colors of wool used in the Toadlena/Two Grey Hills style, which uses no dyes. She has won numerous awards including the blue ribbon at the New Mexico State Fair in 1963, at least three first prize awards at the Gallup Ceremonial, and a 2004 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Southwestern Association for Indian Arts.

Taos painter Rory Wagner is known for his imagery of faces of cowboys and indigenous peoples with expressive eyes. Raised in Florida,
Fantasia Lonjeou, a junior at Santa Fe Indian School, won New Mexico’s first Poetry Out Loud recitation contest sponsored by New Mexico Arts. The state-capital-region competition of this national contest was held on April 1 at the St. Francis Auditorium in Santa Fe. Fantasia recited Sherman Alexie’s The Powwow at the End of the World. Her teacher, Tim McLaughlin, and her parents accompanied her at the competition.

Fantasia, who is from Zuni Pueblo, received $200 and an all-expense paid trip to Washington DC to represent New Mexico in the national competition on May 16. The Santa Fe Indian School received $100 to purchase poetry books for the library. Second place winner Jade Mcclellan, a senior at Capital High School in Santa Fe, received $100, and Capital High School got a $200 stipend to purchase poetry books for the library. Jade’s sponsor was Kimberree Penn-Erazo, a teacher at Capital High School.

Poetry Out Loud is a national program of the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. This year’s pilot program took place in the state-capital-regions of all 50 states. The other competitors in the state final competition were Evening Star Barson, a senior at Bridge Academy Charter School in Las Vegas (teacher Carol Winkell); Piette Hamblin-Hatchell, a junior at Las Alamos High School (teacher Noel Trujillo); Danny Ross, a sophomore at Desert Academy in Santa Fe (teacher Gavonna); and Sige Olson, a junior at New Mexico Academy in Santa Fe (teacher Jeffrey Laing); and Ben Mitchell, a junior at Taos High School (teacher Cat Bennett). Regional coordinators were Anne MacNaughton for the Taos area, Janet Stein-Romero for the Las Vegas area, and Lorraine Schecter for the Santa Fe area.

Judges for the contest were Santa Fe poets Alex Jacobs, Mary McGinnis, and Joe Ray Sandoval as well as Santa Fe Poet Laureate Arthur Set, New Mexico CultureNet Poetry Program coordinator Alex Taube, and Albuquerque poet Danny Sallis.

Making Connections

Thanks to a grant from the Dana Foundation, New Mexico Arts offered the first year of a pilot program for professional development in performing arts education for New Mexico educators and teaching artists. Two sessions of Making Connections: Movement, Performance, and Learning were held in Albuquerque and Santa Fe in June.

Institute participants attended workshops on the relationships between movement, brain development and learning. Other workshops in the institute covered dancer Liz Lerman’s “Critical Response Process,” art integration; and studies in dance, music, and theater.

Participants came from all across New Mexico: Bloomfield, Chimarron, Cuba, Des Moines, Gadsden, Hobbs, Lordsburg, Mountainair, Portales, Public Education Department, Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, Sapello, and Youngsville. Several school districts sent teams of educators to the institute.

Institute instructors were Steve Bailey, Director of Education at Jump-Start Performance Co., San Antonio, Texas, in theater and Critical Response Method; Sania Kreher, Albuquerque, music; and Eleanor Weisman, Director of Dance Studies Program at Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania, dance and brain development/learning. Karen DeMoss of the Education Department of the University of New Mexico is the project evaluator.

Making Connections will be offered again in June, 2007. This summer’s institute was dedicated to the memory of Kristin Rauch.

Saddles have been in use for thousands of years. Their creation and evolution in Asia and around the Mediterranean Sea are fairly well documented, but few examples of ancient saddles remain today. It is therefore generally accepted that stirrups first appeared on saddles in Asia Minor several hundred years before the birth of Jesus. Some historians credit a central Asian group called the Sarmatians, who lived in the Carpathian region, with this innovation. No matter the source, stirrups provided stability and enabled riders to better wield weapons from atop their horses. The infamous Huns are considered to be the conduit that brought stirrups to Europe.

At the time of the colonization of New Mexico in 1598, there were two major types of saddles in use in Spain. One, of Moorish origin, was a light cavalry saddle called a jineta, and the other was a heavier more stable war saddle that evolved from knights and jaunting traditions called an estradito. In most depictions of Coronado, he is shown atop an estradito, with its distinctive high crowned back (or cantle) and humped front (saddle bow). While the estradito was fine for travel on the Camino Real, it was impractical for working with cattle. The jineta did not have the stability of the estradito, and so it too was a poor choice for the early New Mexican caballero.

Somewhere along the line, some innovative caballeros began to work with two of these Spanish saddles into something new that could be used for their unique occupation. While keeping the stable platform (saddle tree) of the estradito, they eliminated the high saddle bow and cantle, incorporating those of the jineta instead. While this saddle was a great improvement, it was still a work in progress. Keeping the cow at the end of the rope was a challenge. The first hybrid saddles employed “D” rings to tie the cow to the horse. It was the next innovation that created the true prototype of the western saddle as we know it today: the introduction of the saddlehorn (also known as an apple) on the front of the saddle. The addition of this horn allowed the rider to quickly tie a roped cow to his horse with one hand.

Although there were many variations on the theme, this remained as the basic foundation of the “Spanish saddle” that Anglo-Americans encountered as they settled into Texas and New Mexico in the mid-nineteenth century. The Anglo-Americans are credited by some historians with increasing the size of the saddle skirts in the later part of the century, but aside from that, the basic design remained even though the name was changed to the “western” saddle. The late nineteenth and twentieth centuries saw more innovations to the design including ornamental carving on the leather skirts and longer fenders that reached elaborate lengths on parade and show saddles. Different and lighter woods were experimented with for the saddle tree. Fiberglass was also employed and “treeless” saddles have been tried. The sport of rodeo has also been responsible for many variations and innovations, creating specialty saddles for each event, such as bronc riding, roping, cutting, or barrel racing.

Today, there are still many custom saddle makers plying their trade in New Mexico, too many to name here, but one retired maker, Slim Green, formerly of Tesuque and now residing in Las Cruces, deserves a special mention. Renowned as one of the best saddle makers on the planet, Slim was a recipient of the prestigious New Mexico Governor’s Award for Excellence in the Arts among many other awards and honors. For over twenty-five years, Slim made the parade saddles that were awarded annually to the winner of the New Mexico State Fair Rodeo Queen crown.

To learn more about the “western” or “Spanish” saddle, check out the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Museum in Las Cruces, the Museum of New Mexico in Ruidoso Downs, or read about them and view gorgeous pictures of them in The Art of the Western Saddle: A Celebration of Style and Embellishment by Bill Reynolds, Lyons Press, 2005.