

NEWS RELEASE

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9 ARIZONA ARTISTS CREATE INDIVIDUAL AWARDS FOR 30TH ANNIVERSARY GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARDS CELEBRATION

PHOENIX, Ariz. (April 6, 2011): Nine artists from around the state have been selected to create special commemorative awards that will be presented to honorees in six categories at the 30th annual Governor's Arts Awards celebration on Tuesday, April 12 at the Herberger Theater, 222 E. Monroe.

Each of the artists is creating a custom-designed piece in their respective mediums to honor honorees in categories including Artist, Individual, Arts in Education – Individual, Arts in Education – Organization, Community and Business. Awards also are being presented to the 2011 Shelley Award winners, former State Senator Carolyn Allen and Phoenix attorney and longtime arts advocate Bill Sheppard.

"It has been our tradition to engage Arizona artists to help us recognize and honor the Governor's Arts Awards winners and this year's awards will be as compelling as any we've seen in the past," said Catherine "Rusty" Foley, interim executive director of Arizona Citizens/Action for the Arts which puts on the annual event.

Artists, their hometowns and mediums are:

- Cristina Cardenas, Tucson, bisque painted ceramic.
- Kevin Matthew Stevens, Laveen, caliche.
- Yolanda Hart Stevens, Laveen, traditional clay.
- Patricia Sannit, Phoenix, carved and incised mixed clay bodies with slip and stain.
- Sherrie Zeitlin, Phoenix, stoneware
- Jeff Reich, Mesa, stoneware vessel.
- Halldor Hjalmarson, Phoenix, stoneware.
- Heath Kriegor, Prescott, stoneware thrown and altered with manganese crystal glaze

A total of 76 nominations for The 2011 Governor's Arts Awards were submitted from across the state. During the past three decades, 138 awards have been presented and all previous honorees will be recognized at the event. Each past honoree, or their family, has or will receive a special commemorative medallion underwritten by Resolution Copper Company.

The Governor's Arts Awards, which recognize substantial and outstanding contributions to arts and culture in Arizona, are presented by Arizona Citizens/Action for the Arts, the Arizona

Commission on the Arts and the Office of the Governor. Bank of America is the Presenting Sponsor this year, APS is the Sustainability Sponsor, Target Stores is the Dessert Sponsor and Salt River Project is providing video production and on-site production at the event.

Tickets for the Oscar-style presentation, which include hors d'oeuvres and refreshments before the event and a dessert reception afterwards, are \$135 each for members of Arizona Citizens/Action for the Arts and \$150 for nonmembers. Tickets can be purchased online at www.governorsartsawards.org.

Robin Sewell from Arizona Highways Television is the emcee for the evening.

The event begins at 5:30 p.m. with a silent auction, hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. Honorees will be recognized at 7 p.m. following by a dessert reception at 8 p.m.