



Governor Bill Richardson and First Lady Barbara Richardson to present Governor's Arts Awards

Public is invited to attend ceremony and reception

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SANTA FE -- Governor Bill Richardson and First Lady Barbara Richardson will present New Mexico's highest and most prestigious artistic honor to eight artists and arts contributors in ceremonies at the St. Francis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts in Santa Fe on Friday evening, September 17, at 5:15 p.m.

"The talent and innovations exhibited by this year's participants is extraordinary," said Governor Richardson. "These award winners are stars in New Mexico's art community."

First Lady Barbara Richardson said, "The Governor and I are proud to honor these artists and arts supporters for their outstanding contributions to this celebrated award."

This year's Governor's Arts Awards recipients are:

Ralph Berkowitz of Albuquerque for Music, **Glynese Floyd** of Hobbs for Theater, **Clark Hulings** of Santa Fe for Painting, **Michael McGarrity** of Santa Fe for Literature, **Elias Rivera** of Santa Fe for Painting, **Nancy Youngblood** of Santa Fe for Pottery, **Ruth Schultz** of Albuquerque - Major Contributor to the Arts and the **Lannan Foundation** of Santa Fe - Major Contributor to the Arts. **Harry Fonseca**, a Santa Fe sculptor and painter, is the recipient of the 2004 Allan Houser Memorial Award. This award is presented along with the Governor's Awards to a Native American who has demonstrated outstanding artistic success and community involvement.

The Governor's Arts Awards were established in 1974 to celebrate the enormous roles -- both economic and cultural -- that artists and craftspeople play in the life of New Mexico. During its 28-year existence, a variety of painters, weavers, sculptors, dancers, musicians, storytellers, poets, actors, playwrights and potters have been honored, such as Rudolfo Anaya, Georgia O'Keeffe, Richard Farnsworth, N. Scott Momaday, Larry Bell and Eliot Porter.

The 5:15 p.m. ceremony at the St. Francis Auditorium will be preceded by an afternoon reception and exhibition opening, 3:30 - 4:45 p.m., in the Governor's Gallery, 4th Floor, State Capitol.

Both the awards ceremony and gallery reception are open to the public and free of charge.

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