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## **Celebrate the finest craft Tennessee has to offer and Find Out Who Wins Best of Show!**

**Nashville, Tenn.** (August 17, 2016) – The public is invited to celebrate the finest craft Tennessee has to offer at The Best of Tennessee Craft awards presentation and reception on August 27 from 4-6pm EST at the [Reece Museum](#) on the East Tennessee State University campus in Johnson City, Tennessee. The exhibition will open at the museum on August 22 and run until December 2, 2016. The Reece Museum will offer *special Saturday hours* for this exhibition from 11am – 3pm on September 10 & 24, October 8 & 22 and November 12.

[The Best of Tennessee Craft Exhibitions](#) celebrate and showcase the finest contemporary and traditional craft our state has to offer, providing public visibility and recognition for the quality and diversity of craft found throughout Tennessee.

The juried exhibition will present cash awards including a **\$1000 Best of Show**. Our guest juror is **Jerry Jackson, deputy director at [Penland School of Crafts](#)** in Penland, North Carolina. Mr. Jackson selected works for the exhibition from the submitted entries and will select award winners. Prior to Penland, he served as chief curator and director of the Rocky Mount Arts Center at the Imperial Center for Arts and Sciences in Rocky Mount. Mr. Jackson earned his Master of Fine Arts and Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in studio art from East Carolina University.

***Congratulations to the Best of Tennessee Craft invited artists:*** Anderson Bailey, Marc Barr, Joan Schaller Bauer, Jeanne Brady, Sally Brogden, Graham Campbell, Martha Christian, Jinni Copp, Chery Cratty, Don DuMont, Richard Dwyer, Sharron Eckert, Emily Eversgerd, J. Michael Floyd, Judi Gaston, John Glass, Katie Gonzalez and Allison Volek Shelton, Mindy Herrin, David Heustess, Tim Hintz, Buffy Holton, John Jordan, Shana Kohnstamm, Claudia Lee, Ken Lewis, Jeffrey Neil, Nancy Oxford, Abraham Pardee, Claire Reishman, Anne Rob, Tim Roberts, Pat Rollie, Wes Shugart, Thomas Spake, George Summers, Vickie Vipperman, Sadie Wang, Bruce Willey and Kimberly Winkle.

The Best of Tennessee Craft Exhibit will be on display during [Tennessee Craft Week, October 7-16, 2016](#). Tennessee Craft Week is a vibrant celebration of over 100 craft artists, showcasing their work and sharing their art through demonstrations, insightful lectures, and over 50 state and regional craft events. Make time for this fabulous opportunity to meet the artists, learn how they create art and own a handmade piece of Tennessee.

The art of handmade crafts is a Tennessee legacy that continues to grow each year. Born from the hills of the Smoky Mountains, and evolving as artists create new works across the state, handmade crafts are bringing local communities together and creating a beautiful reason to tour the state.

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*About Tennessee Craft*

The Tennessee Association of Craft Artists (TACA) is now Tennessee Craft. Since 1965, the organization has worked to continue and create Tennessee's fine craft tradition. With more than 500 members throughout the state, Tennessee Craft serves as the premier connecting point for local, independent makers and their audiences through Craft Fairs, exhibitions, professional development and educational programs.

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