

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nine artists receive recognition at Spring Tennessee Craft Fair

Nashville, Tenn. (June 3, 2014) –Nine artists received recognition for their work at the 43rd Annual Spring Tennessee Craft (formerly TACA) Fair, held May 2-4. As a juried craft fair, artists’ work is judged based on design, originality and execution.

Tennessee Craft presents awards as a way to recognize excellence and elevate artists to the next level in their career by building confidence and résumés. This is just one of the ways Tennessee Craft fulfills its mission to “continue and create Tennessee’s fine craft tradition.”

"Selling your art is a result of your hard work," award winner Shadow May said, "but being awarded by jurors for your work is validation to keep making you art."

May, of Chattanooga, received the Fair’s biggest honor, *Best of Show*, for his innovative work in clay.

Uniquely this year, the Fair’s featured artist, Marilee Hall of Cookeville, received two honors. On her birthday, she was awarded a *Nashville Arts Award* and a *Merit Award* for her imaginative work in clay.

In addition to Tennessee Craft awards, Nashville Arts Magazine recognized two artists with their *Nashville Arts Award*. These winners, Bill Dale of Nashville and Marilee Hall of Cookeville, will be featured in an upcoming issue of the magazine.

Awards won are as follows:

Best of Show

Shadow May, Clay (Chattanooga)

Best New Exhibitor

Clay Bush, Fiber (Kingston Springs)

Best Thrown Clay (Talle Johnson Memorial Award)

Anderson Bailey, Clay (Chattanooga)

Nashville Arts Award

Bill Dale, Clay (Nashville)

Nashville Arts Award

Marilee Hall, Clay (Cookeville)

Merit Award

Marilee Hall, Clay (Cookeville)

Merit Award

Tim Hintz, Furniture (Smithville)

Merit Award

Andy Lane, Basketry (Cookeville)

Merit Award

Petty Shepard, Basketry (Kingsport)

Merit Award

Vickie Vipperman, Fiber (Kingston Springs)

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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 600 members throughout the state, Tennessee Craft serves as the premier connection point for local, independent makers and their audiences through craft fairs, exhibitions and educational programs. For more information, visit www.tennesseecraft.org.