



MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
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LT. GOVERNOR LANDRIEU PRESENTS 2008 GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARDS

BATON ROUGE - Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu and the Louisiana Division of the Arts presented the 2008 Governor's Arts Awards Tuesday evening at the Shaw Center for the Arts in Baton Rouge. The awards are given annually to individuals and organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the arts and the quality of life in Louisiana. Lt. Gov. Landrieu also awarded 12 individual fellowships for artistic excellence.

The annual event recognizes Louisiana's artists, art educators, patrons, and arts organizations. The winners were selected by the Louisiana State Arts Council from nominations submitted by private citizens, various organizations, and public officials.

The ceremony also included performances by Baton Rouge-based spoken word group WordPlay, New Orleans's Tsunami Dance Company, and Grammy Award-winning Cajun and zydeco musician Terrance Simien.

Governor's Arts Awards recipients include:

- Arts Education – KID smART
- Arts Organization – Tennessee Williams/ New Orleans Literary Festival
- Patron – Frances Davis
- Folk Artist – Christine Balfa Powell
- Lifetime Achievement – George Dunbar
- Leadership in the Arts – George Marks
- Professional Artist – Morris Taft Thomas
- Cultural Tourism – Festival Internationale de Louisiane
- Historic Preservation Partnership – McKinley High School Alumni Association
- Cultural Economy Development
 - Chef John Folse
 - Entertainment Law Legal Assistance (ELLA) Arts Council of New Orleans
 - Rural Underserved Presenters and Representatives (RUPAR)

Artist fellowship recipients include:

- John Allen, Dance
- Charles Taylor, Folklife
- Jeffery Broussard, Folklife
- Ken Foster, Literature
- Hillary Joubert, Literature
- David Sullivan, Media
- Zachary Godshell, Media
- Jonathan Freilich, Music
- Nick Slie, Theatre
- Michel Varisco, Visual Arts
- Brian Guidry, Visual Arts
- Lou Blackwell, Visual Arts