



MITCHELL J. LANDRIEU
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana
OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE, RECREATION & TOURISM
OFFICE OF CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
DIVISION OF THE ARTS

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PRESS RELEASE

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**LT. GOVERNOR MITCH LANDRIEU
AND THE LOUISIANA DIVISION OF THE ARTS ANNOUNCE
THE 2007 GOVERNOR'S ARTS AWARDS**

BATON ROUGE, La. - Ten winners of the 2007 Governor's Arts Awards and ten individual artist fellowship winners will be honored at the Old State Capitol on Thursday, October 11, 2007 from 5:30 pm to 9:00 p.m. These individuals and organizations have all made outstanding contributions to the arts and to the quality of life in our state.

"At the Governor's Arts Awards, we honor those that have improved the lives of Louisianans through their contribution to the arts. We recognize that art and culture not only have intrinsic value, but in Louisiana culture means business, accounting for 144,000 jobs," Lt. Governor Landrieu said.

The annual Arts Awards recognize Louisiana's artists, arts educators, patrons, and arts organizations. Winners are chosen on the basis of the significance and magnitude of their contributions, the benefits of those contributions to Louisiana's citizens, and innovation and commitment to the arts in Louisiana. The winners were selected by a committee of the Louisiana State Arts Council from nominations submitted by private citizens, various organizations and public officials.

Award recipients include:

Arts Education - Gene Davis and Mid City Dance Project
Arts Organization - Southern Rep
Patron - Stanford Group Company
Folk Artist - John Paul Darden and Scarlett Darden
Lifetime Achievement - James Burton
Leadership in the Arts - Mayor Randy Roach
Professional Artist - Dr. Jack Bedell

The following awards will be announced at the ceremony:

Cultural Tourism
Cultural Economy Development
Historic Preservation Restoration/Rehabilitation

Artist fellowship recipients include:

Kettye Voltz – Dance
Bobby Terry – Folklife
Ben Sandmel – Literature
Michael Skinkus – Music, Jazz
Stephen Michael Esneault – Music, Composition
Leslie Addison – Visual Arts, Photography
Ron Bennett – Visual Arts, Painting
Troy Dugas – Visual Arts, Mixed Media
John Gargano – Visual Arts, Clay
Kevin Kennedy – Visual Arts, Sculpture