

NICHE

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1999 NICHE
AWARD WINNERS

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NICHE publisher Wendy Rosen with Mark Leach, director of the new Mint Museum of Craft + Design.



NICHE editor Hope Daniels (second from left) and Wendy Rosen with NICHE Student Award finalists and winners.



NICHE Award winner in enameled metal, Falcher Fussager of Magick, left, with NICHE finalist in furniture David Robinson of McAdams Design.



Jeweler Barbie Levy, left, and buyer Terri Vizzone of Vizzone Clothing with Whitney Abrams, a NICHE finalist in silver jewelry.



Richard Rowan, left, president of Savannah College of Art and Design with Provost Paula Rowan, Marisa Rowan, a student finalist in fashion accessories, and John Paul Rowan.

PHOTOS BY GARY DONNELLY PHOTOGRAPHY

1999

NICHE

AWARDS

10th Anniversary Show Plays to Packed House

THE 10TH ANNUAL NICHE AWARDS CEREMONY began with Philadelphia Mayor Edward Rendell, a strong supporter of American crafts, welcoming the crowd of over 600 artists, buyers, gallery owners, friends and family. Held Feb. 21 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center during the Buyers Market of American Craft, the ceremony recognized 41 professional and 15 student artists for outstanding achievement.

Back by popular demand, master of ceremonies Joyce Scott, an artist and performer, brought down the house with her own lyrics about the NICHE awards sung to a medley of tunes from "West Side Story."

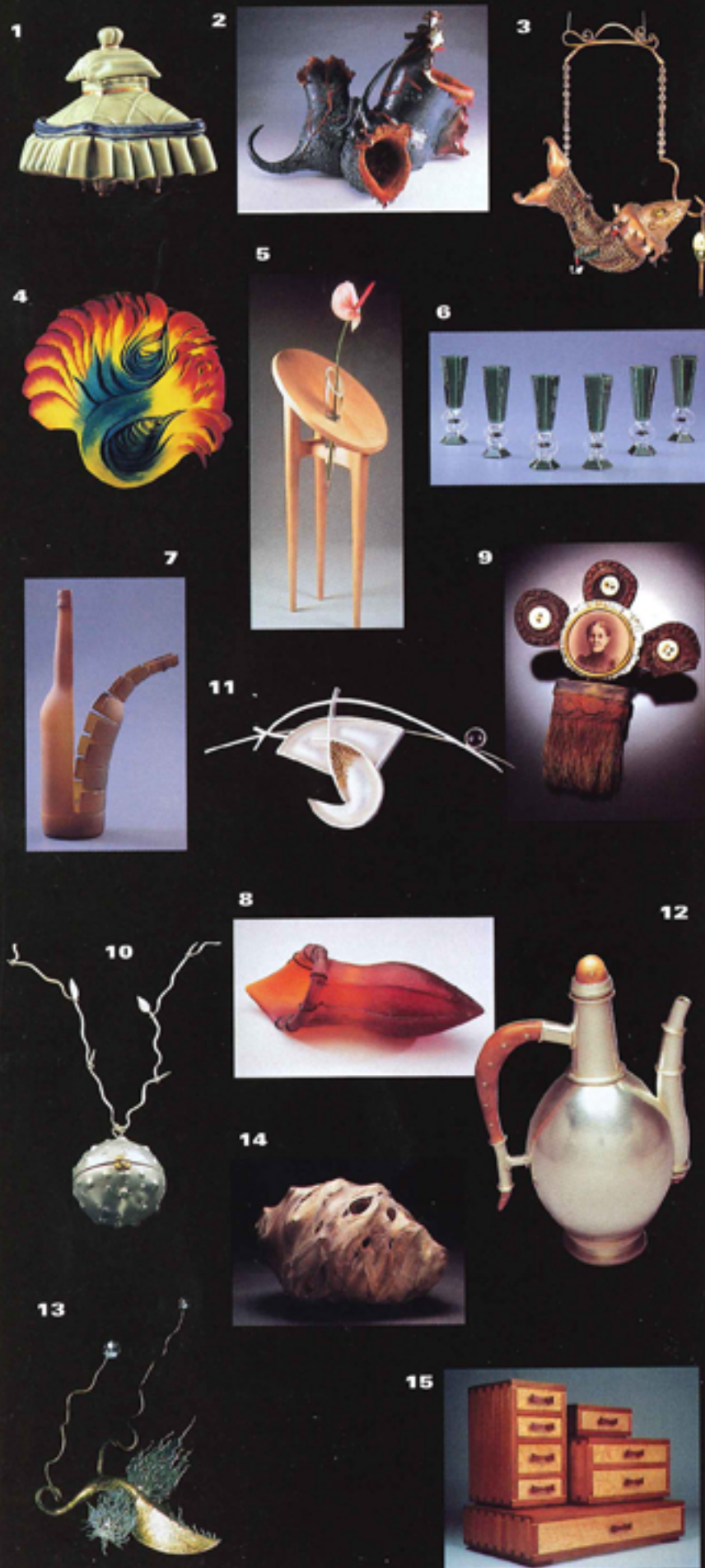
Mark Leach, director of the new Mint Museum of Craft + Design in Charlotte, N.C., accepted the 1999 NICHE Humanitarian of the Year Award on behalf of Hugh McColl, Jr., chairman and chief executive officer of Bank of America. McColl was selected for the award for his donation of the Montaldo department store building and renovation costs, projected to cost \$9.5 million, for the new museum which opened in January.

Sponsored by NICHE magazine, the professional competition drew 1,103 entries from across the U.S. and Canada, which were juried down to 184 finalists, while the student competition attracted 363 entries from 59 schools and resulted in 74 finalists. All finalists had the opportunity to display their entries at the Buyers Market of American Craft.

—Linda McCormick

1999 STUDENT NICHE AWARDS

1. **Shannon Nelson**
University of Florida
CERAMICS: FUNCTIONAL
Royal Ring Box for an Everyday Princess
2. **Celeste Boals**
University of Florida
CERAMICS: SCULPTURAL
Stren
3. **Tessa E. Rickard**
Cranbrook Academy of Art
FASHION ACCESSORIES
Bloused with Fish Bait
4. **Yukiko Nishioka**
Kent State University
FIBER
After You, I Was Born
5. **Susanne Olsson**
Rhode Island School of Design
FURNITURE
Flower Table
6. **Kerrick Johnson**
Appalachian Center for Crafts
GLASS: FUNCTIONAL
Green Goblets
7. **Kerrick Johnson**
Appalachian Center for Crafts
GLASS: SCULPTURAL (TIE)
Deconstruction
8. **Caitlin Johnston**
Massachusetts College of Art
GLASS: SCULPTURAL (TIE)
Amber Vessel
9. **Nicole Bsullak**
Maine College of Art
JEWELRY: FASHION
Laborious
10. **Michelle LaCrosse**
Savannah College of Art and Design
JEWELRY: FINE
Seed of Idea
11. **Mark Nelson**
Texas Tech University
JEWELRY: FINE WITH STONES
Fat Belly #1
12. **Benjamin Neubauer**
Oregon College of Art and Craft
METAL: NON-WEARABLE, FUNCTIONAL
Teapot
13. **Taweesak Molsawat**
University of Kansas
METAL: NON-WEARABLE, SCULPTURAL
Flow, Flow, Flow
14. **Bernice Akamine**
University of Hawaii-Manoa
MIXED AND MISCELLANEOUS MEDIA
Pod
15. **Bruce Trojan**
Rochester Institute of Technology
WOOD
Bottle Box for Jewelry



STUDENT NICHE FINALISTS

CERAMICS: FUNCTIONAL
Sandra L. Lance
University of Florida
Gerard Ferrari
Virginia Commonwealth University
Shannon Nelson
University of Florida
Laura George
University of Louisville
Suzanne Mauro*
Purdue University

CERAMICS: SCULPTURAL
Celeste Boals
University of Florida
Anna Sheffield
Academy of Art College
Jesse Blodgett
Maine College of Art
Camila Prada
Ontario College of Art & Design
Amanda Shelton
Ball State University
Celeste Boals
University of Florida

FASHION ACCESSORIES
Angela Ridge
Ball State University
Marisa Rowan
Savannah College of Art and Design
Tessa E. Rickard
Cranbrook Academy of Art
Yukiko Nishioka
Kent State University

FIBER
Briony Jean Foy
University of Wisconsin-Madison
DeAnna Rigter
Savannah College of Art and Design
Deborah Tweedy Young
California State University Long Beach
Julie Anne Whitehead
Savannah College of Art and Design
Yukiko Nishioka
Kent State University

FURNITURE
Korpon Leoppairote
Savannah College of Art and Design
Leah Stob
University of the Arts
Matthew J. Haryslak
San Diego State University
Michael Brady
Savannah College of Art and Design

* Students with two entries as finalists.

Robert Ellsworth
Bucks County Community College
Susanne Olsson
Rhode Island School of Design

GLASS: FUNCTIONAL
Kerrick Johnson
Appalachian Center for Crafts
Nicole S. Bobbin
Jacksonville University
Scott Yuseum
Tyler School of Art
Stephen Spicer
Appalachian Center for Crafts
Susan Harrington
Massachusetts College of Art

GLASS: SCULPTURAL
Caitlin Johnston
Massachusetts College of Art
Jennifer Simon
University of Kansas
Kerrick Johnson
Appalachian Center for Crafts
Nicole S. Bobbin
Jacksonville University
Susan Harrington
Massachusetts College of Art

JEWELRY: FASHION
John Myers
Iowa State University, Millennium
Ken Thibado
Maine College of Art
Maxine Rosenthal
University of Delaware
Nicole Bsullak
Maine College of Art
Trace Bunker
University of Kansas

JEWELRY: FINE
Emily Rash
University of Kansas
Greg Sims*
Ontario College of Art & Design
Ken Thibado
Maine College of Art
Maxine Rosenthal
University of Delaware
Michelle LaCrosse
Savannah College of Art and Design

JEWELRY: FINE WITH STONES
Gloria N. Shannon
Monterey Peninsula College

Greg Sims
Ontario College of Art & Design
Jim Manners
Alberta College of Art and Design
Mark Nelson*
Texas Tech University

METAL: NON-WEARABLE, FUNCTIONAL
Benjamin Neubauer
Oregon College of Art and Craft
Erika Strecker
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
Eugenia Ortiz
University of Kansas
Janna Gregonis
East Carolina University School of Art
Jeffrey Clancy
Kutztown University

METAL: NON-WEARABLE, SCULPTURAL
Amy Teran
Colorado State University
Carl Hursh
University of Kansas
Mark Nelson
Texas Tech University
Taweesak Molsawat*
University of Kansas

MIXED AND MISCELLANEOUS MEDIA
Bernice Akamine
University of Hawaii-Manoa
Carolyn Kallenborn
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Celeste Boals
University of Florida
Erika Strecker
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
Loretta Pompeii Flick
Boise State University
Mercedes Tarasovich
Savannah College of Art and Design

WOOD
Bruce Trojan
Rochester Institute of Technology
Christopher McNulty
University of Wisconsin at Madison
Jim Nash*
California State University
Ryta Roncher Weiner
Bucks County Community College