

February 2009

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**GOVERNOR'S AWARDS FOR
EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS ISSUE**

Dear Friends,

I hope you will join us this Thursday at Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church for the annual Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts celebration. This distinguished and important event, established in 1988, celebrates twenty-one years of recognizing the accomplishments of outstanding Mississippians.

The Mississippi Arts Commission, along with the Governor's Office, is proud to have had the opportunity over the years to recognize the gifts of some of the most talented individuals, the most giving organizations, and the most dedicated arts groups from across Mississippi.

As we acknowledge this year's deserving recipients, it is my hope that everyone in attendance will take a moment to reflect on the story of our great state and embrace what has gone before. This is an epic story of amazing people who have struggled and persevered to make Mississippi what it is today. Our arts and culture have been the clay that has molded us into a people of immense talent and great strength. From the beautifully intricate 16th Century relics that tell of a people steeped in spirituality, to the thousands of gifted artists, musicians and craftsmen who call Mississippi home today, exceptional talent has been cultivated on this fertile soil.

As we face more challenging times ahead, let us remember that our art and culture moves us, inspires us, and gives us a reason to dance.

I hope to see you on Thursday!

My best,
Malcolm



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2009

GOVERNOR HALEY BARBOUR
MISSISSIPPI ARTS COMMISSION

GOVERNOR'S
AWARDS FOR
EXCELLENCE
IN THE ARTS

Join the Mississippi Arts Commission for the 21st Annual Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts. This exciting event will be held at 1:00pm on Thursday, February 26th at Galloway Memorial United Methodist Church in downtown Jackson. The ceremony is free and open to the public.

The 2009 Recipients:



Leadership in the Arts

University of Southern
Mississippi Symphony
Orchestra, Hattiesburg
*For bringing the world to
Mississippi through the
beauty of music*



Arts in Education

WINGS Performing Arts
Program of the Lynn
Meadows Discovery Center,
Gulfport

*For enriching the lives of
young people and their
community*



Artistic Excellence in Visual Arts –

Wolfe Studio, Jackson

*For providing glorious artistic
expression for two generations
and for their indelible impression
on the world*

Calendar of Events – February

Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts

February 26, 2009

1:00pm

Galloway United Methodist Church, Jackson

Operissimo!

February 26, 2009

7:30pm

Mannoni Performing Arts Center, Hattiesburg

Tunes, Tutus & Turning Wheels

February 28, 2009

7:30pm

Belhaven Center for the Arts, Jackson

Coming in March

Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing

March 2-15, 2009

2:00pm

New Stage Theatre, Jackson

Arsenic and Old Lace

March 5-8, 2009

March 5-7 @ 7:00pm;

March 8 @ 2:00pm

The Dixie Theatre, Ripley, MS

The World Famous Glenn Miller Orchestra

Friday, March 6, 2009

8:00pm

MSU Riley Center, Meridian

Auditions for Oxford Shakespeare Festival

March 7, 2009

9 am

Isom Hall 202, Ole Miss campus, University, MS

Beauty and the Beast

March 2 and 8, 2009

7th: 7:00pm; 8th:

2:00pm

Thalia Mara Hall, Jackson



Artistic Excellence in Music

Cassandra Wilson, Jackson

For her uncommon gifts as a vocalist, songwriter, and producer of remarkable talent



Literary Achievement

John Grisham, Oxford

For his unparalleled achievements in the world of letters and his outstanding humanitarian spirit



Lifetime Achievement

Andrew Bucci, Vicksburg

For his extraordinary accomplishments as an inspired visual artist



Listen to MAC's "Mississippi Arts Hour" Sunday's at 3pm on Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Think Radio-WMPN 91.3. The show can also be heard on MAC's website and through Apple's iTunes

March 1
Malcolm White hosts with photographer Melody Golding

March 8
Larry Morrissey hosts featuring information on the upcoming Poetry Out Loud

March 15
Diane Williams hosts with the Crossroads Film Society

March 22
Mary Margaret Miller hosts with Steve Yarbrough

March 29
Malcolm White hosts with a very special show featuring MAC staff members!

When we do the best that we can, we never know what miracle is wrought in our life, or in the life of another.

- Helen Keller

The Awards:



This year's awards are specially made pieces of contemporary Mississippi folk art. The six-string guitars are fully-functional, producing an excellent acoustic blues sound. Inspired by the traditional cigar box guitar, the Super Chikan guitar body is hand-crafted by the artist from paneling and wood to create a stronger, more durable instrument.

The Event Sponsors:

The Mississippi Arts Commission would like to thank the generous sponsors of the Governor's Awards for Excellence in the Arts

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