Governor's Arts Awards
2016 Nomination Form

DEADLINE–June 26, 2015

Governor's Arts Awards 2016

*Nomination Form – Please read **all** instructions before completing this form.*

Join Us As We Celebrate the Best – Whether the late bluesman, Pinetop Perkins, the amazing actress Sela Ward, or the outstanding writer, John Grisham, Mississippians contribute to the arts like no one else. The Governor's Arts Awards honors outstanding artists and organizations while celebrating Mississippi's vast cultural heritage. Presented by the Mississippi Arts Commission, in cooperation with the Governor's Arts Awards recognizes significant contributions to the arts and cultural life of Mississippi. A panel of distinguished judges, including past Governor's Awards honorees, will select the recipients. The 2015 recipients will be notified by early fall of 2014 and **must** agree to receive the award **in person** at the ceremony to be held in February 2015 (no posthumous nominations will be accepted.)

Send Us Your Nomination - Nominating a special individual or organization for this prestigious award requires a few simple steps. Judges consider only the current year's nominees. Those who have been nominated in past years may be nominated again. However, a new form must be filled out each year and resubmitted with support materials. Please note that judges may, at their discretion, make a special award to any one of the nominees. Awards are given once, so if your nominee is a previous recipient, they are ineligible.

Five Easy Steps

1. Consider the achievements of your nominee. Are you nominating a Mississippi artist who has made an outstanding contribution to the cultural life of the nation? Or perhaps you are nominating a Mississippi organization or partnership that has used the arts to address community needs. Maybe your nominee has enhanced education in and through the arts. Does your nominee celebrate Mississippi's diverse cultural heritage? Do you know an artist whose work represents the best of the state's cultural traditions or an individual or corporation that has enhanced Mississippi through funding, support or exemplary service? These are just a few of the possibilities in which individuals and organizations across the state have made lasting and significant contributions to our artistic legacy.

2. Complete the attached nomination form. This is **required** and will be considered Page 1 of your nomination packet. Nominations that do not include the form will not be considered.

3. Compile support materials for your nomination, being sure to include the following:

- On one 8½" x 11" sheet of paper with one-inch margins, provide a one and one-half-spaced, single page narrative (this is not a signed recommendation letter) outlining reasons for making the nomination (please do not attach additional pages of narrative and do not use a font size less than 12). This is required and will be considered Page 2 of your nomination packet. ***The narrative is mandatory for consideration of the nomination***.

- Materials may also include news clippings, DVDs, CDs, photographs and no more than five letters of support. It is important to be selective in the materials you include. DVDs and CDs are played only at the judges' request.

- In order to have the nomination packet returned, **adequate postage and self-addressed packaging is required** upon submission. The Mississippi Arts Commission will be happy to enclose the packets in an appropriately sized, self-addressed, postage-paid package to be returned, but will otherwise not be responsible for these materials. If self addressed packaging is not included, materials will be discarded after February 2015.

- Also, for nominations of individuals, submit a bio or résumé of that individual.

4. Assemble the materials in a three-ring binder and label the binder with nominee's name on cover and spine.

NOMINATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT THE REQUIRED MATERIALS.

5. Mail or hand-deliver to: **Governor's Arts Awards**
Mississippi Arts Commission
501 North West Street, Suite 1101A, Woolfolk Building
Jackson, MS 39201

The deadline for submitting nomination packets is June 26, 2015. All materials must be either hand-delivered to the Commission or postmarked no later than June 26, 2015. *(It will not be possible to make exceptions to this deadline.)*

Governor's Arts Awards 2016

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mississippi arts commission

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Type or print (in black or blue ink) all three sections below. Copy the form as needed. **(Correct contact information for nominee is required.)**

Nomination Postmark Deadline: June 26, 2015. *(No nominations will be accepted after this deadline.)*

1. Nominee: _____ ☐ *Individual* ☐ *Organization or Community*

Organization's Chief Executive *(if applicable):* _____

Address: _____

City: _____ County: _____State:_____ Zip Code: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____ Cell phone:_____

E-Mail: _____

2. Nominated By: _____

Organization *(if applicable)*: _____

Address: _____

City: _____County:_____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____ Fax: _____

E-Mail: _____

3. Narrative of Nominee's Achievements: Awards are made to individuals and organizations for lasting, outstanding and visionary work in the visual, literary and performing arts, arts education, community development through the arts, patronage and Mississippi folk & traditional arts, among others. **(Artists do not have to reside in the state currently, but they must have significant ties to the state through some years of residency and they must be able to attend the February 2015 ceremony.)** The judges will select recipients who best meet the following criteria:

- Artistic excellence;
- Extent to which the nominee has had a profound and enduring effect on a significant part of local, statewide or national community;
- Extent to which the nominee's work or programs enhance(s) Mississippi's image; and
- In the case of awards given to individuals, the appropriateness of the award at this point in his/her career; the award goes to artists whose careers span a significant amount of time or body of work.

On one 8½" x 11" sheet of paper, provide a one and one-half spaced, single-page narrative which outlines your reasons for making the nomination (please do not attach additional pages of narrative and do not use a font size less than 12).

Please note: A completed nomination form and narrative are mandatory for consideration of the nomination. This information is critical as it will be used as the basis of the publicity information about the nominee if chosen for an award.

Mail or hand-deliver to: Governor's Arts Awards
Mississippi Arts Commission
501 North West Street, Suite 1101A, Woolfolk Building
Jackson, MS 39201

Nomination Packet Postmark Deadline: June 26, 2015. *(No exceptions to this deadline will be made.)* For questions, contact Public Relations Director, Susan Liles at 601-359-6030 or sliles@arts.ms.gov.