

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Now Available: Free 5-12th Grade Lesson Plans and Educational Resources For Educators

Atlanta, GA - In connection with its touring exhibit, *Tradition/Innovation: American Masterpieces of Southern Craft and Traditional Art*, the Southern Arts Federation is offering free educational resources developed by the exhibit's education curators Martin Rollins, Isaac Shelby Elementary School, Louisville, KY, and Judy Sizemore, Kentucky Arts Council. The PowerPoint slide presentations below can be downloaded free at

<http://www.traditioninnovation.org/teach/teach.powerpoints.html>

**Basket Gallery: Three Basket Traditions:** Introduces students to three distinct Southern basket making traditions: white oak baskets of the Appalachian mountains, sweetgrass baskets of the Gullah culture, and river cane baskets of the Cherokee.

**Book Arts Gallery: Steve Miller, Book Artist** (Audio included): Shows some of the processes Miller uses for creating his unique, handmade book as well as his approach to bookmaking as a collaboration that creates a "landscape" for the reader to travel through.

**Clay Gallery: Clay Artists, Guided Discussion:** Compares and contrasts the work of one traditional and one contemporary clay artist through observation and analysis of how they apply the elements of art and the principles of design.

**Fiber Arts Gallery: The Purposes of Art** (Audio included): Compares and contrasts the different purposes for which artists create by exploring the overlap of functional, narrative, ritual, ceremonial, and expressive purposes in artwork.

**Glass Gallery: Processes in Glasswork - Richard Ritter:** A visit to the studio of Richard Ritter to observe this glass artist in action.

**Metal Arts Gallery: To Create A Masterpiece - Douglas Harling, Goldsmith:** Shows how the artist's creative and technical processes lead to his unique creations in gold.

**Wood Arts Gallery: Animal Artistry:** Compares and contrasts the styles of three wood artists who carve very different animals.

Featuring more than 100 artworks created by masters living and working in the South today, *Tradition/Innovation* will tour to nine museums throughout the Southeast, January 2008–spring, 2010. American Masterpieces, an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts, is a major initiative to acquaint Americans with the best of their cultural and artistic legacy. *Tradition/Innovation* is curated by Jean McLaughlin, Penland School of Crafts, and Kathleen Mundell, Cultural Resources.

More about the Exhibit: [www.traditioninnovation.org](http://www.traditioninnovation.org)

Read about more free education resources: <http://www.traditioninnovation.org/pdf/T.I.arts.ed.pdf>

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Tradition/Innovation: American Masterpieces of Southern Craft & Traditional Art is a project of the Southern Arts Federation, and is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art. The Southern Arts Federation, a non-profit regional arts organization founded in 1975, works in partnership with nine state arts agencies to build on the South's unique heritage and enhance the public value of the arts in our communities by promoting and supporting the arts in the South; enhancing the artistic excellence and professionalism of Southern arts organizations and artists; and serving the diverse population of the South. Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee are partnering states. SAF is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, member states, foundations, businesses and individuals. Visit [www.southarts.org](http://www.southarts.org).