

## PRESS RELEASE



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### Kentuck Announces 2009 Festival Awards

More than \$5,000 in awards was presented at the 38th Kentuck Festival of the Arts, October 17-18 by judges Richard Metzger and Dr. Amalia Amaki.

Richard graduated from the prestigious Art Center in Pasadena with honors and is currently the Executive Director of the Troy-Pike Cultural Arts Complex in Troy, Alabama. Before coming to Troy, Richard was the Executive Director/Curator of the Center for Contemporary Arts in Abilene, Texas for seven years. After that, he was Executive Director of Young Aspirations/Young Artists of New Orleans, Louisiana.

Dr. Amaki is an artist, art historian, curator, and scholar of American art and culture. Best known for mixed-media quilts that celebrate the lives of African-American women blues singers and button-encrusted cyanotypes, Amaki is also recognized for her numerous public commissions and scholarly activities including serving as the curator for the Paul R. Jones Collection. Prior to coming to The University of Alabama she taught at The University of Delaware, Spelman College, Morehouse College, Atlanta College of Art, Kennesaw State University and North Georgia College and State University. She holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from Georgia State University, a bachelor's degree in photography and painting from the University of New Mexico, and a doctorate from the Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts at Emory University.

Best of Show: Katy Dement, mixed media, Atlanta, Ga.  
Award of Distinction: Guadalupe Robinson, clay, Huntsville, Ala.  
Award of Distinction: Kimberly Willcox, sculpture, Gainesville, Fla.  
Merit Award: William Cowherd, mixed media, Atlanta, Ga.  
Merit Award: Aaron Hequembourg, mixed media, Monticello, Ga.  
Merit Award: Teresa Hays, fiber, Franklin, Tenn.  
Merit Award: Joanne Staley, jewelry, Montgomery, Ala.  
Merit Award: James Morris, photography, Tuscaloosa, Ala.  
Merit Award: Jay & Janet O'Rourke, wood, Paducah, Ky.  
Merit Award: Chris McCarthy, glass, St. Louis, Mo.  
Merit Award: Randy Gachet, sculpture, Birmingham, Ala.  
Merit Award: Heman Harris, metal, Melrose, Fla.  
Merit Award: Fleetwood Covington, two-dimensional, Florence, S.C.  
Merit Award: Bessie Johnson, natural materials, West Point, Miss.  
Merit Award: Thomas Andrew, two-dimensional, Birmingham, Ala.

An additional \$14,000 in awards was presented through the patron's purchase award program to artists. For additional information call (205) 758-1257 or visit [www.kentuck.org](http://www.kentuck.org)

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