



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

NEWS RELEASE

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GOVERNOR ANNOUNCES 2008 AWARDS IN THE ARTS

(BOISE) – Governor C.L. "Butch" Otter today announced the recipients of the 2008 Governor's Awards in the Arts. The Idaho Commission on the Arts established the biennial awards in 1970 to elevate recognition and awareness of Idaho arts and artists. Idaho was among the first states to establish such a program.

Commissioners forwarded their selections for the Governor's independent decision. In announcing the awards, Governor Otter said, "We celebrate the art and artists of Idaho because they personify the creative spirit of our state while bringing reality to dreams and dreams to reality."

Governor Otter and First Lady Lori Otter will present the recipients with silver medallions, designed by Idaho artist Elizabeth Wolf, at a ceremony at 7 p.m., October 6, at the Willard Arts Center, 498 A St., Idaho Falls. For additional information or tickets, call the Commission office manager Maria Estrada at (208) 334-2119.

The 2008 Governor's Awards in the Arts recipients are:

Excellence in the Arts

John Collias, painter, Boise
Becky Gili, former dancer, dance instructor, Twin Falls
Cynthia Guild Stoetzer, painter, Driggs
Coeur d'Alene Summer Theatre, Coeur d'Alene

Excellence in Folk & Traditional Arts

Gary Keithley, silversmith and saddlemaker, Melba
Nahum Hersom, blacksmith, Boise

Support for the Arts

The Idaho Community Foundation, Boise
Susan Jacklin, Post Falls

Excellence in Arts Education

Rick Hansen, orchestra director, Madison School District, Rexburg

Excellence in Arts Administration

Julie Kilgrow, former executive director, Opera Idaho, Boise

Lifetime Achievement Award

Horace Percy Axtell, Nez Perce elder, Lewiston

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