

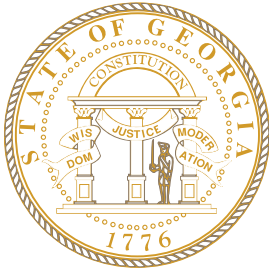


GOVERNOR'S
AWARDS

FOR THE ARTS
HUMANITIES

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2024 Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities

December 5, 2024

Opening	Lyrika Holmes
Welcome	Tina Lilly, Executive Director, Georgia Council for the Arts Mary McCartin Wearn, President, Georgia Humanities
Remarks	Christopher Moses, Jennings Hertz Co-Artistic Director of the Alliance Theatre
Impact of the Arts and Presentation of Awards	Pat Wilson, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Economic Development
Closing	Tina Lilly and Mary McCartin Wearn Aurora Theatre

The Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities honor outstanding individuals and organizations who have significantly contributed to Georgia's civic and cultural vitality through excellence and service to the arts and humanities. Presented by the Office of the Governor in partnership with Georgia Council for Arts and Georgia Humanities, the Governor's Awards recognize the value of the arts and humanities in creating a thriving economy and their contributions to education, innovation, growth, and quality of life. The Governor's Awards pay tribute to the most distinguished citizens and organizations that have demonstrated a lifetime commitment to work in these fields.



Georgia Council for the Arts (GCA) empowers the arts industry in Georgia and artists around the state to cultivate healthy, vibrant communities that are rich in civic participation, cultural experiences, and economic prosperity. As part of the Georgia Department of Economic Development, Georgia Council for the Arts provides grant funding, programs, and services statewide that support this vital industry, preserve Georgia's cultural heritage, and create increased access to meaningful arts experiences. Funding for GCA is provided by appropriations from the Georgia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts.



Georgia Humanities connects people and communities to encourage understanding and inspire hope. Through grantmaking and public programs, Georgia Humanities engages people of all ages and backgrounds to explore what shapes us as individuals and binds us together as Georgians. Funding for Georgia Humanities is provided by the Georgia General Assembly, the National Endowment for the Humanities, foundations, donors, and partners. To learn more, visit georgiahumanities.org.

2024 AWARD HONOREES



Elizabeth DuBose
Savannah

Elizabeth DuBose has led the Ossabaw Island Foundation (TOIF) since 1998. As Executive Director, she has focused on sharing Ossabaw Island's natural and cultural resources and history. Ossabaw is a state-owned barrier island set aside for natural, scientific, and cultural education, research, and study. DuBose supervised the restoration or stabilization of 12 historic buildings on Ossabaw, including the award-

winning restorations of three mid-19th century tabbies. Island visits have risen from 500 in 1999 to 3,000 in 2024 during DuBose's tenure. TOIF's Public Use and Education Programs now offer trips focusing on indigenous, African American, and coastal Georgia history, creative arts, and indigo dyeing.

Under DuBose's leadership, TOIF partners with many universities' departments, including archaeology, museum studies, historic preservation, coastal ecology, marine biology, education, fiber, and fine arts. DuBose has facilitated historic research about Ossabaw's former residents, especially the lives of hundreds of African American enslaved people, Freedmen, and their descendants. DuBose's favorite Ossabaw tradition is Heritage Day, when Ossabaw descendants and their families are invited to the island to share their stories.



Derrick J. Jackson
Atlanta

Derrick J. Jackson is a distinguished artist, dedicated educator, and clinician, renowned for his significant contributions to Georgia's artistic landscape. He has over 25 years of experience as a professional trombonist, with performances in theater, film, television, and recordings across various genres. His unique sound and passion for music have highlighted the African Diaspora's influence on American music, particularly through Jazz, Swing, and Hip Hop.

Jackson served as band director and curriculum developer in Clayton County Public Schools for over 20 years and is currently the Director of Bands at Charles R. Drew Charter School (Junior and Senior Academies) in Atlanta. Jackson's students have gone on to achieve national and international acclaim, and he has shaped music education curriculum through the National Association of Schools of Music (Georgia Music Education Taskforce) and the Georgia Assessment for the Certification of Educators (Music Education Taskforce). Jackson is also a member of the Georgia Professional Standards Commission's Fine Arts Task Force.

Jackson is on the Georgia Council for the Arts' Teaching Artist Roster and has worked with the Shuler Hensley Awards (Georgia High School Musical Theatre). He has also served as a radio talk show host, highlighting various topics in music education and local artists. Jackson is currently writing two books aimed at guiding young musicians and educators.



Jon Ludwig
Atlanta

Jon Ludwig is Emeritus Artistic Director at the Center for Puppetry Arts. Ludwig began his career at the Center in 1978, the year the Center first opened and Kermit the Frog with Jim Henson cut the ribbon. Ludwig was named Artistic Director in 2010, and in October 2024, he became emeritus.

Across 46 years of awe-inspiring productions seen by millions who have attended shows at the Center, Ludwig created over 30 of those shows, including works for children and adults.

An accomplished performer, director, and theater designer who has worked in Atlanta, New York, and abroad, Ludwig is recognized as an innovator in the field of puppetry. Ludwig wrote, designed, and puppeteered the shadow puppet portions of The Jim Henson Company's "Bear in the Big Blue House," and received an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Directing in a Children's Series for his work on Disney Channel's "The Book of Pooh." Nine of Ludwig's Center productions have received Citations of Excellence from UNIMA-USA, the U.S. branch of the international puppetry organization Union Internationale de la Marionnette. Lauded locally by the Charles Loidans Foundation (Arts Medal, 2007) and the Suzi Bass Awards (Lifetime Achievement, 2022) for his contributions to Atlanta's artist community and cultural life, Ludwig was honored with the President's Award from Puppeteers of America in 2013 for lifetime achievement of extraordinary contributions to of the art of puppetry and to the community of puppeteers.



Melanie Pavich
Macon, St. Simons Island, Athens

Melanie Pavich is an Associate Professor of History and Interdisciplinary Studies in the Department of Liberal Studies at Mercer University. Her research and writing are focused on race and gender in the American South during the 19th and early 20th centuries. She is a published author, and her research on Anna King and Retreat Plantation on St. Simons Island, Georgia, formed the basis of an art installation

produced in collaboration with artists Lisa Tuttle and Lynn Marshall Linnemeier. The installation focused on the lives of the indigenous people, the enslaved, and the enslavers who lived and worked on the land that became Retreat. It was exhibited at Atlanta’s City Hall East Gallery, Atlanta Contemporary Art Center, and Clark Atlanta University Art Museum and was the basis of another artist’s book.

Pavich also teaches courses centered on a research-based service-learning project, The Coastal Georgia Research Initiative, which provides the opportunity for Mercer students to work with and serve the St. Simons Island African American Heritage Coalition by conducting oral history interviews and producing digital stories to preserve Gullah-Geechee and African American history on the Georgia coast.



Garry Pound
Columbus

In addition to being a sought-after portrait artist in his hometown of Columbus, Georgia, Garry Pound is also well known for his landscape work and illustrations. He has lent his talent as an illustrator to a popular children’s book titled “Oliviatown,” architectural guides, nonfiction books, and other published pieces – the majority of which feature Georgia and Columbus. Pound is active in the Columbus community as

a lifelong parishioner of Trinity Episcopal Church, lending his voice as a proud member of the choir. He gives his time and talents to various art organizations, most recently as a board member of the Columbus Museum and the Columbus Symphony. He is especially proud of his close association and work with the Historic Columbus Foundation. Pound has served on the board in various capacities for 40 years, is a past president, and is now Director Emeritus.

Additionally, Pound has personally invested in and renovated 13 historic properties in Columbus’ original Historic District, including a former synagogue that he transformed into a vibrant art studio. He was named the featured artist for the 2024 Steeplechase – an annual fundraiser for the arts, is a past recipient of the Sarah Turner Butler Award for Historic Preservation, was the 2021 honoree for Columbus State University’s Broadway Ball benefiting the university’s dance program, and was featured in the Amazon series “The Story of Art in America.”



William Fred Scott
Atlanta

William Fred Scott is a major force in the musical community of Atlanta. Invited by Robert Shaw to join the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra (ASO) as Associate Conductor in 1981, Scott led hundreds of concerts with ASO each year. On the death of Robert Shaw, Scott was asked to preside over “Christmas with the Atlanta Symphony” concerts. The roster of soloists who performed with Mr. Scott during his years

with the ASO includes Kiri te Kanawa, Itzhak Perlman, Earl Wild, Ella Fitzgerald, Don McLean, and Judy Collins.

Following his tenure with the orchestra, Scott was Artistic Director and sole conductor of The Atlanta Opera, a post he held for 20 years. On “retiring” from the opera, Scott held the position of Director of Choral Activities at the Westminster Schools in Atlanta. He also served as Music Director of Chanticleer, a San Francisco-based choral group.

Scott is a native of Thomasville, Georgia, a graduate of Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service and an active member of the (Episcopal) Cathedral of St. Philip in Atlanta.



Dr. Randell E. Trammell
Atlanta

Long involved in youth development, Dr. Randell E. Trammell heads the Georgia Center for Civic Engagement, which he founded in 2017. In October 2021, Trammell was recognized by Georgia Trend’s “40 Under 40” list, which honors the state’s best and brightest leaders. Trammell was also recognized as the Bill Bolling Nonprofit Leader of the Year Award Recipient by

TechBridge in 2021.

In 2022, Trammell was appointed to the Georgia Commission for Civic Education as well as named as its chairperson by Governor Brian P. Kemp. He was also awarded the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award through Points of Light for his service in the community. In 2023, Trammell was selected to be a part of the Presidential Leadership Scholars program through the Johnson, Bush 41 and 43, and Clinton Presidential Libraries.

Trammell is a member of Reinhardt University's Board of Trustees; the CivXNow national coalition; the Northwest Georgia Community Foundation corporate board of directors and the local affiliate Bartow-Cartersville board; Georgia's Coalition for Civic Education; Georgia's Commission for Civics Education; Solomon's Quest; and the Presidential Leadership Scholars Alumni Board. He also serves as Georgia's public representative member on the Board of Trustees for Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Trammell and his family are very active in their church, where he serves in leadership capacities. Trammell is a published author of six children's books.



Patricia Webb Blue Ridge

Patricia Webb grew up in Tifton, Georgia, graduated from Georgia State University, and built a career in banking and financial services in Atlanta. She served on the Atlanta Board of United Way, held season tickets to three theaters, and immersed herself in the nonprofit and arts communities. She retired to the rural mountains of north Georgia. In the late 1990s, as a non-paid volunteer, Webb helped

found Blue Ridge Community Theater (BRCT) and has been the primary leader since. As a regional theater innovator, she grew the community into one that thrives on live theater.

Main Stage, Sunny D Children's Theater, Black Box Theater, and Live Music Is Better Concerts now involve hundreds of volunteers, creating more than 145 live performances each year. BRCT owns its own building and has over \$1 million in equity. Sunny D Children's Theater Summer Camp attracts between 100-140 students supported by 50 volunteers, creating six full-length plays in two weeks with multiple public performances of each play. Webb has led, directed, mentored, taught, and mothered Blue Ridge Community Theater for almost 30 years.



The Art Center (formerly the Johns Creek Art Center) Johns Creek

The Art Center, a 501c3 nonprofit, has been bringing arts education and cultural experiences to north Fulton and its surrounding communities since 1996. The Art Center offers a wide range of art classes and camps for youth and adults of all ages and skill levels, curates free on-site gallery exhibitions every year, and presents year-round exhibitions at Emory Hospital Johns Creek and at Johns Creek City Hall. The Art Center provides creative outreach programs to underserved students at The Drake House and the Title 1 schools in the area, offers scholarships, and presents art classes at a local senior center, as well as provides a weekly adaptive ceramics program.

The Art Center participates in numerous public events in the community, including the Johns Creek International Festival, a Lunar New Year celebration, Juneteenth, the Diwali Festival, and the Johns Creek Literary Fair, bringing free art activities to over 7,000 youth. The Art Center's newest offering, a free weekly Creator Circle, gives community members a place to connect with other creative minds and freely explore new media. Through all programming, The Art Center aims to create an accessible space for artistic growth through arts education, exhibition opportunities, and employment for teaching artists. The Art Center is a Legacy Partner with Fulton County Arts & Culture.



South Georgia Ballet (SGB) Thomasville

South Georgia Ballet (SGB) provides exposure, enrichment, and education of dance and the performing arts to southwest Georgia to improve quality of life for the community. SGB was founded as a regional pre-professional ballet training program in 1998. Today, SGB not only offers exceptional dance training, but also develops and performs three high-caliber productions each year and engages a diverse community with educational and performing arts enrichment experiences and programs. South Georgia Ballet offers dance instruction to burgeoning students, including to those who cannot afford dance training. SGB seeks to bring dance training and performances to audiences of all ages and socioeconomic backgrounds and believes that a thriving arts program greatly enhances the community.

2024 AWARDS ARTIST



Charles Pinckney
Athens

Charles Pinckney is a contemporary artist focused on constructing jewelry and small sculpture from metal, stones, bone, and wood. A primarily self-taught artist, the imagery Charles depicts is abstractly related to memories of childhood.

About the award:

The piece is of a moment of awareness that occurred when I was nine or 10 years old and lived in South Carolina. The city playground didn't allow colored people, so my playground was a wooded area near my home. I had climbed my favorite tree and was sitting on the highest branch I dared climb up to. It was so peaceful. The sound of the breeze through the leaves. The swaying of the tree and the amazing light made me know, without understanding why, that the moment was special. I believe that it was a whisper from God as to my life's journey, its purpose.

This award asks each recipient to reach into their hearts and minds to find their own moments of awareness and appreciate the profound gift we were given. Just as that wonderful tree gave shade to my body, so too does the tree of the arts and humanities give shade to our very soul.



Photo credit: Ben Pinckney

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