

STATE OF COLORADO

COLORADO COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

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Bill Owens
Governor
Don Bain
Chair
Fran Holden
Executive Director

March 18, 2002

Charles Ruggles
13641 West Cedar Drive
Conifer, CO 80433-5310

Dear Charles,

On behalf of the Colorado Council on the Arts, I am pleased to inform you of your **2002 Artist Fellowship** award. This award is based upon the artistic quality of the sample work you submitted, as determined by a panel of experts. You are one of 22 Colorado artists chosen for recognition this year among the 298 artists who applied. (See enclosed lists of panelists and award winners.)

Your award acknowledges outstanding artistic accomplishment. We hope that it encourages broad public recognition of your work. Therefore, we ask you to submit a brief narrative describing the impact of receiving the fellowship at the end of the award period in March 2003.

Enclosed are two copies of your fellowship contract and a W-9 form. Please read them carefully. Sign both copies and the form, and return them as soon as possible. Once your signed contract has been returned, we will begin processing your award. (This may take up to four weeks.) A fully executed copy of the contract will be returned to you for your records, along with your award check.

As you know, national polls attest to the American's support of public funding of the arts. Yet, the future of arts funding depends upon our elected representatives knowing how the funds they appropriate the Council are being used. Therefore, we strongly encourage you to notify your state senator and representative of this award and its impact on your artistic development. You can provide legislators with an opportunity for experiencing firsthand the importance of public support of arts in Colorado.

Thank you for the important work you do, ensuring Colorado's creative future.

Sincerely,



Fran Holden
Executive Director

Enc.

Literature: Play/Screen Writing (3 Awards)

Paul Andersen, Basalt. Panelist described his work as "well-written . . . used sound historical research in an interesting manner . . . strong story . . . vivid imagery that sticks with you."

Dwight Beck, Aurora. Panelists commented on his "well-structured . . . interesting story . . . a fascinating 'slice of life' . . . whose characters haunt you . . . well crafted."

Terry Dodd is a playwright from Denver. Comments from the panel included: "a great story...strong writing ... interesting characters ... used period information well ... I could not put the script down."

Folk Arts (4 Awards)

Doug Krause is a horsehair hitcher from Eaton, near Greeley in Weld County. The panel viewed his ropes and other ranch equipment, and said, "Gorgeous ... stunning... truly inspirational ...incredible attention to detail ...he lives his heritage ... a magnificent marriage of function and aesthetic ... nationally competitive."

Catherine Robles-Shaw is a *santera* – a traditional Hispanic carver/painter – from Nederland. The panel described her work as "exquisite... exemplifies all three components of our definition of excellence ... nationally competitive with work in this tradition ... glorious detail ... bases her pieces upon a great deal of careful research ... carving and painting are both strong ... she *is* her work."

Charles Ruggles is from Conifer; he is a master organ-maker. His skills include the entire range of building one-of-a-kind organs, including designing the instrument to blend with the architecture of a space and respond to its acoustics; carving the cabinetry; building and fine-tuning the pipes; custom-building the organ's mechanical system to respond to the shape of that particular organ. Of him the panel said: "he is a master of multiple skills...his artistry is impressive ... he melds new techniques and traditions passed on from medieval guilds...his instruments have glorious tone."

Mark Wells is from Walsenburg; very elderly now, he is a former cowboy who has spent a lifetime carving animals and scenes of ranch life. Of him the panel said: "this is a person who has recorded the life of his community ... a lifetime of work ... great expression ... excellence in the naïve tradition."

Literature: Poetry (7 Awards)

Kathryn Stitt Bass, Englewood. Panelists praised this poet's lyricism and "odd, quirky" and "deft" writing that they found "risky and innovative," "complicated in elegant ways" and "a joy to read." Kathryn received a Ph.D. in English, Creative Writing and Literature from the University of Denver.

Stephanie Heit, Boulder. Panelists reported being incredibly engaged by this poet's work, which they found "risky," "strange" and "visceral." Stephanie has B.A. in InterArts Studies/Dance from Naropa University and she's also attended the Jack Kerouac School of Disembodied Poetics Summer Writing Program. Her two chapbooks are *Quiet Anatomy* and *Glide Trackless Night*.

Mark Irwin, Englewood. Panelists were drawn to this writer for the "passionate" "compelling" and "singular" voice exhibited in the writing, and they praised the "beautiful music" and "urgency of the line" of his work. Mark is the author of four books of poetry, most recently *White City* (BOA Editions 2000), a 2001 Colorado Book Award recipient. Previous recognition for his work includes two Pushcart Prizes and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship.