

Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters

Now in its 36th year!

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2014 Award Winners Honored

The Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters (MIAL) held its 35th Awards Banquet on June 7, 2014, at the Mississippi Museum of Art in Jackson, Mississippi. The weekend included readings and performances by MIAL winners at Lemuria Books in Jackson and the annual membership meeting in addition to the banquet.

Receiving the Noel Polk Lifetime Achievement Award was Greenville native William Beckwith of Taylor, Mississippi. Mr. Beckwith, a sculptor and teacher at the University of Mississippi, has produced public and private bronzes for over forty years, including such icons as William Faulkner, Elvis Presley, B. B. King, Eudora Welty, Jim Henson, and Coach Margaret Wade.

A Special Achievement Award was presented to The Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi for *The Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, a work in 24 volumes. Receiving the award on behalf of the Center were editor Charles Reagan Wilson; managing editor James G. Thomas, Jr.; associate editor Ann Abadie; and Center Director Ted Ownby.



MIAL President George Bassi with Charles Reagan Wilson, William Beckwith, Ann Abadie, and James Thomas, Jr.

Steve Yarbrough, a native of Indianola and professor at Emerson College in Boston, accepted the Fiction Award for his novel *The Realm of Last Chances*. The Nonfiction Award went to Tulane professor Jesmyn Ward of Pass Christian for *Men We Reaped: A Memoir*. Derrick Harriell, assistant professor of English and African American Studies at the University of Mississippi, won the Poetry Award for *Ropes*.

Starkville native, graduate of Mississippi State University, and composer in residence at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, Quincy C. Hilliard

was awarded the Music Composition Award (Classical) for his work *Kojiki*. Jackson native Claire Holley of Los Angeles received the Music Composition Award (Contemporary) for *Powdercoat*.

Mississippi Delta native Milly West, Oxford, won the Photography Award for her collection of photographs in *Cuba for Keeps*. Pass Christian resident JJ Foley, a graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, received the Visual Arts Award for *Altering the View*.

Sponsors for the cash awards to this year's winners included: Fiction, *The Mississippi Quarterly*; Nonfiction, Pass Christian Books/Cat Island Coffeehouse; Poetry, Mary Thompson, Jenny Long, and Damian Augsberger in honor of Samuel William Long; Musical Composition (Classical), the Family

of Keith Dockery McLean; Musical Composition (Popular), Nan and Mike Sanders; Photography, Jean and Tim Medley; Visual Arts, Gemma and David Beckley in memory of Gwendolyn Magee. Sponsorship of the Noel Polk Lifetime Achievement Award is given by Dr. Polk's children, Scott E. Polk and Jennifer Polk Heidelberg. We are very grateful to these sponsors for their continued support of the talented and creative MIAL winners.

All award recipients must have significant ties to Mississippi and are nominated in their respective fields by members of MIAL. For information on membership and a nomination form visit the MIAL website at www.ms-arts-letters.org. Nominations for the 2015 Awards must be postmarked on or before January 15, 2015.



2014 MIAL Award winners: Derrick Harriell (Poetry), Caroline Foley (accepting for JJ Foley, Visual Arts), Steve Yarbrough (Fiction), Claire Holley (Music/Contemporary), Milly West (Photography), and Quincy C. Hilliard (Music/Classical); not pictured: Jesmyn Ward (Nonfiction)



2014 MIAL winners received a cash award and a sculpture of O. C. McDavid, designed by Dr. Samuel Gore, 2012 MIAL Lifetime Achievement Award winner. In addition to being a journalist, artist, and sculptor, O. C. McDavid had a special gift for encouraging other Mississippi visual artists, musician, and writers, just as the yearly awards presented by the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters offer encouragement.



At the annual membership meeting, newly elected officers for 2014-2015 are (L-R): Nancy Guice of Laurel, archivist; Margaret Robbins of Pontotoc, secretary; Donzell Lee of Alcorn State University, president; Jan Taylor of Jackson, treasurer; Swan Yerger of Jackson, vice-president; and George Bassi of Laurel, immediate past president.

Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Award Nomination

MIAL members are encouraged to make nominations to honor the artistic achievements of living Mississippians (current residents or former ones with continuing, significant ties to the state). Judges will consider only work shown, published, or performed in **2014**. Members may nominate more than one individual in any category. One page of comments may be included in support of nomination. Nominations should include place and date of birth. Please make additional copies of this form if needed.

Only MIAL members may nominate.

Award Categories:

VISUAL ARTS (painting, sculpture, drawing, print, graphic arts, etc.) Eligible are thematic bodies of work, or up to 15 individual pieces, first publicly shown or published in 2014. Submit CD, slides, prints, or published work.

PHOTOGRAPHY (color, black and white, combination) Eligible are thematic bodies of work, or up to 15 individual photographs, first publicly shown or published in 2014. Submit CD, slides, prints, or published work.

FICTION (novel, short story collection, etc.) Eligible is work first published in 2014. Submit author’s name, publisher, title of publication, and date of publication.

NONFICTION (any literature that is not fictional) Eligible is work first published in 2014. Submit author’s name, publisher, title of publication, and date of publication.

POETRY Eligible are up to 15 poems published individually for the first time in 2014, or a collection of at least 15 poems published in book form for the first time in 2014 (poems in the collection may have been first published earlier than 2014). Submit complete tear sheets or publication.

MUSIC COMPOSITION—CONCERT (song, opera, composition, instrumental music, etc.) This award is for works first published or performed publicly in 2014. Submit evidence of initial performance or publication (book, CD, tape, score) in 2014.

MUSIC COMPOSITION—POPULAR (blues, country music, jazz, rock, etc.) Submit published scores or the commercial recording first released in 2014. (Songs in a collection may have been first published earlier than 2014.)

Deadline: Nominations must be postmarked on or before **January 15, 2015**. Attach the artist’s representative work (slides, photographs, CD’s, etc.). Please mail the nomination to the appropriate address according to the awards category entered or e-mail to **ms.arts.letters@gmail.com**.

POETRY
Jenny Long
991 County Road 188
Greenwood, MS 38930
Jb_long@hotmail.com

MUSIC COMPOSITION—POPULAR
Lawrence Deas
653 Highland Circle
Tupelo, MS 38804-2003
Lawrence@deaslawfirm.com

VISUAL ARTS
Marjorie Selvidge
405 Lakeview Dr.
Oxford, MS 38655
marjorieselvidge@gmail.com

NONFICTION
James G. Thomas, Jr.
310 Dogwood Dr.
Oxford, MS 38655
jgthomas@olemiss.edu

PHOTOGRAPHY
Robin Dietrick
401 Mallory St.
Clinton, MS 39056
robindietrick@yahoo.com

MUSIC COMPOSITION—CONCERT
Ann Abadie
2238 Lee Loop
Oxford, MS 38655
aabadie@olemiss.edu

FICTION
Scott Naugle
1302 East Second Street
Pass Christian, MS 39571
Naugle@live.com

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

NAME OF **MIAL MEMBER** MAKING NOMINATION: _____

NOMINATOR’S ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: HOME _____ WORK _____ E-MAIL _____

AWARD CATEGORY: _____ MEDIUM: _____

TITLE OF WORK: _____

FIRST SHOWN/PUBLISHED/PERFORMED: _____

NAME OF **NOMINEE**: _____ NOMINEE’S ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: HOME _____ WORK _____ E-MAIL _____

NOMINEE’S DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: _____

NOMINEE’S EDUCATION (SCHOOLS AND DATES GRADUATED): _____

MEMORIALS

Contributions received in Memory of

Josephine Haxton (Ellen Douglas)

Marj Haydon

Contributions received in Memory of

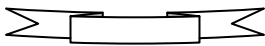
Dr. Chester McLarty

Judge and Mrs. Swan Yerger

Please consider the MIAL Endowment Fund in your estate planning, as well as with your memorial gifts. Notes of acknowledgement for your gift will be sent to the family. Contributions to MIAL are recognized by the IRS as tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Donations may be made on-line from our MIAL website www.ms-arts-letters.org or by mailing to:

MIAL Endowment Fund
Jan Taylor
P. O. Box 2346
Jackson, MS 39225-2346

Please indicate that your donation is intended for the Endowment Fund and if it is a memorial gift.



Welcome to Newly Elected MIAL Board of Governors Member

Jennifer Polk Heidelberg, Jackson, daughter of founding member Dr. Noel Polk, was recently elected to the MIAL Board of Governors. We welcome Jennifer and look forward to having her join our board.

While we welcome a new board member, we are sad to report the resignation of our dear friend, **Dr. Peggy Prenshaw**, Ridgeland. Dr. Prenshaw has been a valued member of our board for a number of years, and we appreciate the many contributions she has made to MIAL.

THANK YOU, DONORS AND FRIENDS

MIAL's Board of Governors is grateful to the following friends, businesses, and institutions for support in 2013-2014:

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Perkinson
Mississippi State University, Starkville
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Square Books, Oxford
Tougaloo College, Jackson
University of Mississippi, Oxford
University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg
University Press of Mississippi, Jackson
William Carey University, Hattiesburg

Previous Winners

1980

Literature: Ellen Douglas
 Music: Luigi Zaninelli
 Art: Ed McGowin

1981

Literature: Walker Percy
 Music: James S. Sclater
 Art: Ray Parrish

1982

Literature: Ellen Gilchrist
 Music: William Grant Still
 (posthumously)
 Art: Valerie Jaudon

1983

Literature: Ellen Douglas
 Music: Patrick Houlihan
 Art: George Wardlaw

1984

Literature: Rebecca Hill
 Music: Patrick Houlihan
 Art: James L. Seawright, Jr.

1985

Literature: Ellen Gilchrist
 Music: Luigi Zaninelli
 Art: William Dunlap

1986

Literature: John Stone
 Music: Samuel Jones
 Art: Kenneth W. Marlow
 Photography:
 Robert Townsend Jones, Jr.
 Special Writing Award: Dorothy Abbott

1987

Literature: Richard Ford
 Music: David Caudill
 Visual Art: Ke Francis
 Photography: Birney Imes, III

1988

Literature: Walker Percy
 Music: Milton Babbitt
 Visual Art: Zarah Maranian
 Photography: Maude S. Clay
 Lifetime Achievement: Eudora Welty

1989

Literature: Larry Brown
 Music: Paul Overstreet
 Visual Art: Mildred Nungester Wolfe
 Photography: Rita Dewitt
 Lifetime Achievement:
 Walter Anderson (posthumously)

1990

Literature: Rick Bass
 Music: James S. Sclater
 Visual Art: Randy Hayes
 Photography: William Eggleston
 Special Achievement: William Ferris
 Charles Reagan Wilson

1991

Literature: Ellen Gilchrist
 Music: Samuel Jones
 Visual Art: Birney Imes, III

1992

Fiction: Lewis Nordan
 Nonfiction: Michael B. Ballard
 Visual Art: Ron Dale

1992 contd.

Photography: Maude S. Clay
 Music: Luigi Zaninelli
 Career Achievement in the Performing
 Arts: Jane Reid Petty

1993

Fiction: Donna Tartt
 Nonfiction: Chalmers Archer
 Clifton Taulbert
 Visual Art: Jere H. Allen
 Photography: Allen Frame

1994

Fiction: Barry Hannah
 Nonfiction: Willie Morris
 Visual Art: Greely Myatt
 Photography: Tom Rankin
 Music: Douglas McConnell

1995

Fiction: Beverly Lowry
 Nonfiction: Mary Garrard
 Visual Art: Sylvain Klaus
 Photography: Birney Imes, III
 Music: James S. Sclater
 Lifetime Achievement:
 Franke and Bern Keating
 Citation of Merit:
 ETV and Public Radio in Mississippi

1996

Fiction: Lewis Nordan
 Nonfiction: David Herbert Donald
 Visual Art: Charles Carraway
 Photography: Milly Moorhead
 Music: Laurence M. Oden
 Lifetime Achievement:
 Lee and Pup McCarty

1997

Fiction: Cynthia Shearer
 Nonfiction: Stephen Ambrose
 Visual Art: Valerie Jaudon
 Photography: Marion Brown
 Music: Mark Howell
 Poetry: Paul Ruffin

1998

Fiction: Wylene Dunbar
 Nonfiction: Will D. Campbell
 Visual Art: William Dunlap
 Photography: Hubert F. Worley, Jr.
 Music: Luigi Zaninelli
 Poetry: Angela Ball
 Special Achievement: Marion Barnwell

1999

Fiction: Ellen Douglas
 Nonfiction: Patti Carr Black
 Visual Art: Jean Cappadonna-Nichols
 Photography: Lucinda Devlin
 Music: James Sclater
 Poetry: John Stone

2000

Fiction: Steve Yarbrough
 Nonfiction: Edward Cohen
 Visual Art: Paula Temple
 Photography: Maude Schuyler Clay
 Music: Luigi Zaninelli
 Poetry: D.C. Berry
 Lifetime Achievement: Leontyne Price
 Citation of Merit:
 University Press of Mississippi

2001

Fiction: Howard Bahr
 Nonfiction:
 Jeff Durstewitz and Ruth Williams
 Visual Art: Collier B. Parker
 Photography: Eudora Welty
 Poetry: Natasha Trethewey

2002

Fiction: Barry Hannah
 Nonfiction: Bobby DeLaughter
 Visual Art: Sheila Stott Gourlay
 Photography: John D. Lawrence
 Music: Michael Kimber
 Poetry: Brooks Haxton

2003

Fiction: Brad Watson
 Nonfiction: Minor Ferris Buchanan
 Visual Arts: Gwendolyn Magee
 Photography: Jack Kotz
 Music: Samuel Jones
 James Sclater
 Poetry: Natasha Trethewey
 Lifetime Achievement: Mimi Garrard
 and James Seawright

2004

Fiction: Tom Franklin
 Nonfiction: Christopher Maurer
 Visual Arts: Wyatt Waters
 Music: Logan Skelton
 Poetry: Ann Fisher-Wirth
 Lifetime Achievement: Shelby Foote

2005

Fiction: Margaret McMullan
 Nonfiction: Timothy B. Smith
 Visual Arts: Sam Gilliam
 Photography: Gretchen Haien
 Music: Justin Sharp
 Poetry: Brooks Haxton

2006

Fiction: Tom Bailey
 Nonfiction: Suzanne Marrs
 Visual Arts: Thomas Nawrocki
 Photography: Robyn Moore
 Music: Andrew Owen

2007

Fiction: Richard Ford
 Nonfiction: Jere Nash and Andy Taggart
 Music: Samuel Jones
 Photography: Debra Ferguson
 Poetry: Natasha Trethewey
 Visual Arts: William Dunlap
 Lifetime Achievement: Morgan Freeman
 & Myrna Colley-Lee

2008

Fiction: Margaret McMullan
 Music: Albert Oppenheimer
 Nonfiction: Joseph Crespino
 Photography: Talbot Easton Selby
 Poetry: Angela Ball
 Visual Arts: Carlyle Wolfe
 Lifetime Achievement: Ellen Douglas

2009

Fiction: Howard Bahr
 Music (Classical): Steve Rouse
 Music (Contemporary): 3 Doors Down
 Nonfiction: Douglas A. Blackmon
 Photography: Jane Rule Burdine

2009 contd.

Poetry: Brooks Haxton
 Visual Arts: H. C. (Chris) Porter
 Lifetime Achievement:
 Marshall Bouldin III
 Elizabeth Spencer

2010

Fiction: Frederick Barthelme
 Music (Classical): Shandy Phillips
 Music (Contemporary):
 Caroline Herring
 Nonfiction: Charles W. Eagles
 Photography: Michael Loyd Young
 Poetry: D. C. Berry
 Visual Arts: Charles Crossley
 Special Achievement:
 The Passions of Walter Anderson, a
 creative collaboration.
 Lifetime Achievement Award:
 William Ferris

2011

Fiction: Brad Watson
 Music (Classical): Samuel Jones
 James Sclater
 Music (Contemporary): Eden Brent
 Nonfiction: Natasha Trethewey
 Photography: Oraien Catledge
 Poetry: Ava Leavell Haymon
 Visual Arts: Rolland Golden
 Lifetime Achievement Award:
 Mary D. Garrard

2012

Fiction: Michael Kardos
 Music (Classical): Shandy Phillips
 Music (Popular): Kate Campbell
 Nonfiction: Susan Haltom
 Photography: Betty Press
 Poetry: T. R. Hummer
 Visual Arts: Rod Moorhead
 Lifetime Achievement Award:
 Andrew Bucci
 Samuel Gore

2013

Fiction: Richard Ford
 Music (Classical): Steve Rouse
 Music (Popular): Caroline Herring
 Nonfiction: Joseph Crespino
 Photography: David Wharton
 Poetry: Catherine Pierce
 Visual Arts: Lee Renninger
 Noel Polk Lifetime Achievement Award:
 Patti Carr Black

2014

Fiction: Steve Yarbrough
 Music (Classical): Quincy C. Hilliard
 Music (Popular): Claire Holley
 Nonfiction: Jesmyn Ward
 Photography: Milly West
 Poetry: Derrick Harriell
 Visual Arts: JJ Foley
 Special Achievement Award:
 The Center for the Study of Southern
 Culture
*The Encyclopedia of Southern
 Culture*, 24 Volumes
 Noel Polk Lifetime Achievement Award:
 William Beckwith



Pictured at the recent MIAL Board of Governors meeting held in Jackson at the Mississippi Museum of Art are board members for 2014-2015. (Back row L to R): Donzell Lee, Alcorn; Lawrence Deas, Tupelo; Aubrey Lucas, Hattiesburg (Emeritus); George Bassi, Laurel; Sandra Shellnut, Pass Christian; Swan Yerger, Jackson; Marjorie Selvidge, Oxford; Jan Taylor, Jackson; Mark Wiggs, Jackson; JoAnne Morris, Jackson; Scott Naugle, Pass Christian; Jennifer Long, Greenwood; (Front Row L to R): Nancy Guice, Laurel; Robin Dietrick, Clinton; Peter Halverson, Jackson; Margaret Robbins, Pontotoc; Mary Thompson, Clarksdale; Bridget Pieschel, Columbus; Dorothy Shawhan, Cleveland; and Marion Barnwell, Jackson.

Other members not pictured: Ann Abadie, Oxford; David Beckley, Holly Springs; Jay Dean, Hattiesburg; Jennifer Polk Heidelberg, Jackson; Beth Kander-Dalphin, Chicago, IL; Nancy LaForge, Cleveland; Jean Medley, Jackson; James Thomas, Jr., Oxford; Leila Wynn, Greenville; and Cora Norman (Emerita).

2014-2015 MIAL Membership Form

Please complete and return this form. Payment may also be made from our website www.ms-arts-letters.org/join

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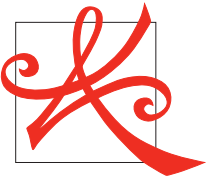
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- Individual \$35
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- Sustaining \$125
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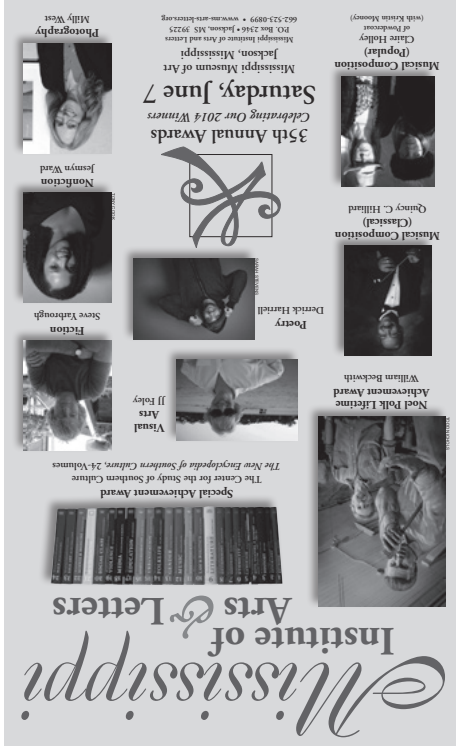
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2015 Awards Banquet – June 6, 2015
Hattiesburg, Mississippi!
 Chairman Dr. Aubrey Lucas and his committee are busy making plans for the 36th Awards Banquet. Plan to join us for this festive gala at the Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg on June 6, 2015.

MIAL Call for Nominations
 Nominations are due **January 15, 2015**, for this year's awards. Members only are allowed to nominate individuals for awards. MIAL welcomes new members, and anyone may join. Please see the Membership and Nomination form in this newsletter or visit our website at www.ms-arts-letters.org. For more information contact Margaret Anne Robins, Executive Secretary, 662-523-0899 or ms.arts.letters@gmail.com.