

CRAFT LUMINARY PROJECT

Oral History Videos

Linda Fifield - Craft Artisan

Linda was raised in rural Kentucky with her extended family engaged in functional crafts. She began her exploration of beading after being inspired by an exhibition at Chicago's Field Museum. Linda has developed a unique method of beading. In her interview she talks about influences of place and family in the development of her career, her beading techniques, and design influences. She discusses the benefits she has derived from participation with many different craft programs in Kentucky and the region.

CLIP: *Making a Beaded Vessel*

http://www.kchea.org/craft_luminary_videos/linda_fifield

Linda discusses turning wood vessels and the application of the bead work on her pieces.

Crit Luallen - Arts Administrator

Crit Luallen was extremely instrumental during the administration of Martha Layne Collins in support for crafts programming in the Department of the Arts. She initiated the first-ever-in-the-country economic impact study on craft through an Appalachian Regional Commission grant. Through the position of Arts Commissioner and later as secretary for the Department of Tourism she advanced crafts through many programs. Crit continued to advance in many positions in state government. In her interview she talks about the importance of craft and how it impacts economic development in Kentucky and the many different ways that she encouraged crafts as worthy of government resources.

CLIP: *Taking Kentucky Crafts to Retail & Wholesale Markets*

http://www.kchea.org/craft_luminary_videos/crit_luallen

Crit discusses how the Collins Administration, through the Department of Arts, began expansion of the state's craft marketing efforts through national venues and by adding business skills training.

Art Mize - Luthier

Art Mize was raised in rural Kentucky in a religious environment that did not allow the playing of instruments and limited singing to religious hymns. In spite of this, his family quietly obtained string instruments and played together in their home. In the sixth grade his dad was transferred to northern Illinois where he had private violin lessons and played in the school orchestra. Later the family moved back to Kentucky where he encountered bluegrass, jazz and other diverse types of music. He was influenced by Ron Pen, Homer Ledford, whose band he played with, and J.B. Miller. Art discusses his personal history, his admiration and apprenticeship with JB Miller and shows samples of violins from various European countries.

CLIP: *Putting My Personality into a Violin*

http://www.kchea.org/craft_luminary_videos/art_mize

Art talks about the rewards of creating a violin from scratch and the expression of the maker that goes into the instrument, making it a one-of-a-kind piece.