

5 artists receive state awards

Five distinguished Michigan artists have received the first Michigan Arts Awards at ceremonies held Wednesday in Lansing at the Center for the Arts.

Helen Miliken, the governor's wife and Michigan Foundation for the Arts President Philip H. Power, Observer & Eccentric co-publisher, presented checks for \$2,500 each to the five winners.

Those receiving the honors are George Elyane Bick, a weaver from Lambertville,

Joe Kinnereb, a sculptor from Grand Rapids; Aris Koutroulis, a painter and printmaker from Detroit; Dudley Randall, a poet from Detroit; and David Sime, a painter from Detroit.

SPONSORED by the Michigan Foundation for the Arts, the Michigan Arts Award will be given annually to one or more Michigan artists who have brought distinction through their artistic work to themselves and to their state. The purpose of the awards is to give recognition to outstanding Michigan artists and to promote development of a supportive arts environment in the state.

An additional award, Michigan Patron of the Arts, was conferred at the same ceremony on Mrs. Edsel B. Ford of Grosse Pointe Farms. The patron award also is presented annually to an individual who has performed outstanding service to the state in support of the arts as a specially designed commemorative tile of Pewabic pottery.

Selection of the award winners was carried out by the board of directors of the foundation from a list of nominations solicited throughout Michigan in conjunction with the Michigan Council for the Arts.

In addition to Power, trustees from the Observer & Eccentric area include Mrs. E. Dawn Deer of Birmingham, Mrs. C. Allen Harris of Bloomfield Hills, Grand Jewell of Bloomfield Hills, Carl Luckenbach of Birmingham and Rabbi Sherwin Wine of Birmingham.

AFTER THE awards presentation award recipients and guests listened to a short recital by Sime and a brief reading of Randall's poetry. A champagne recep-

tion followed where guests viewed works by Mrs. Bick, Kinnereb and Koutroulis. Mrs. Bick, a French native of Algeria, learned jewelry design and weaving technique through apprenticeships in art schools and textile centers. Today, her work encompasses weaving and weaving tapestries for museums, galleries and private collections. It will be conducting seminars, consulting, and restoring classic tapestries for famous museum collections.

Kinnereb is a sculptor whose recent fish ladder sculpture in Grand Rapids has received national acclaim. His attempt to change state and national bureaucracies dealing with natural resources represents a enormous effort on the part of an individual to bring his vision to the public, the foundation says.

He was one of the first artists-in-schools. He does extensive architectural consulting and has made a film about innovative design principles while he was attending the Communications Institute. Kinnereb has a distinction rare to young sculptors. Some of his work is exhibited at the Guggenheim Museum and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

KOUTROULIS CAME to the United States from Greece at the age of 15. At 21 he was honored as one of the first fellows for the Tarnand Photography Workshop. After that, he ran film and did graduate work at Cranbrook, after joining the faculty at same State in 1964. He helped establish the Michigan Workshop of Fine Prints.

Randall is a lyric poet who has published five books of poetry. He is the founder of Broadside Press which this year cele-

brates its 10th anniversary. He has worked hard to encourage the works of poets generally, but has been particularly active among black writers. He has received numerous awards for his poetry and was poet-in-residence at the University of Detroit from 1969-1974.

Sime, 28, currently plays under the Southwest Pianists Foundation, the organization founded and continued under the leadership of his principal mentor, the distinguished pianist, Dr. Dan Marsh. Sime grew up in Detroit, attended Cass Technical High School and studied with Mascha Kottler for seven years. He has appeared as an orchestral soloist with Detroit orchestras, among others.

The Patron of the Arts award recipient, Mrs. Edsel B. Ford, has been extremely generous as a philanthropist. At age 15 she gave dancing lessons to children of foreign born families at Franklin Settlement. There is no way to estimate how much support, both in wisdom and finance, she has given to the Detroit Symphony, the Detroit Institute of Arts and civic and social organizations. She is Michigan's first lady of the arts according to the foundation.

The patron award tile was developed at Pewabic Pottery and represents "freedom of spirit." Ella Peters glazed the tile with what is as close to Mary Chase Stratton's unduplicatable skill as is possible. Mrs. Peters worked with Mrs. Stratton for 30 years.

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Sesvold leads new county arts council

Ronald Sesvold has been named chairman of the new Oakland County Creative Arts Council.

Sesvold will hold office for one year under appointment by Alexander Perinik, chairman of the county board of commissioners.

old Purling of Bloomfield Hills, Portia Creative Arts Council; and Margaret Hill of West Bloomfield, vice president of the West Bloomfield Symphony Women's Association.

Others on the committees are Lorraine Chamber-McCarthy of Royal Oak, Jean Harding Brown of Royal Oak, Clifford Scherer of Milford, and Martha Segal of Oak Park.

County commissioners created the council Feb. 20 in a resolution sponsored by Commissioner Lawrence Perinik (D-Southfield). The resolution followed a recommendation of the Interlocal Study of Oakland County. "Preparing for Change in Oakland County 1970-1980," which charged the council "to study, promote and improve culture in Oakland County."

SESVOLD, DIRECTOR of the Twelve Mall and a West Bloomfield resident, said the first six months will be devoted to setting up the working mechanism for the council preparation of bylaws is under way.

The new chairman said he believes the council can act to draw more money and grants into the county for the arts. Gordon Hobbs will assist the council in seeking grants and funding, as he does for other county agencies.

Additionally, the council can serve community arts councils by assisting them in obtaining exposure and support. The development of a countywide arts calendar also will be a council project.

The council, meeting monthly, has created committees to handle scheduling, models for program development of an audience, centralized printing and mailing, liaison with news media, facilities, development of a talent register, subsidies and volunteerism.

AREA PERSONS on the committees include: Marlow Belanger of Farmington Hills, president of the Farmington Community Arts Council; Nancy Bishop of Rochester, artist; Robert Daenitz of Rochester, special assistant to the president of Oakland University; Jenny Jones of Birmingham; Henry Hogan of Birmingham, co-publisher of Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

Marie Looftbourrow of Bloomfield Hills, arts patron; County Commissioner Lillian Moffitt of Birmingham, Commissioner Perinik of Southfield; Dr. Betty Setz of Bloomfield Hills, director of Oakland Community College public relations; Dr. Har-

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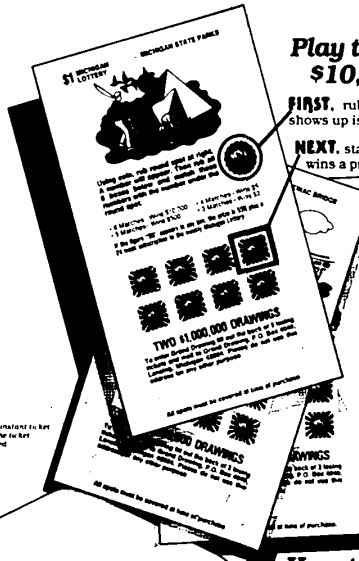
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