

Local artist wins Lifetime Achievement Award



Artist Lynn Boggess receives his Lifetime Achievement Award from Governor Joe Manchin III and First Lady Gayle Manchin during the 2010 Governor's Arts Awards gala.

Canvas resident Lynn Boggess was honored on March 15 with the Governor's Arts Award for Lifetime Achievement by Governor Joe Manchin III and First Lady Gayle Manchin. The ceremony was held at the 2010 Governor's Arts Awards gala at the Culture Center in Charleston.

Boggess received this highest honor for his exceptional accomplishments in the arts, which include creating one of a kind artwork and art education.

Boggess graduated from Fairmont State College with a bachelor's degree in art education and went

on to attain his master's degree in painting from Cranbrook Academy of Art in Bloomfield Hills, Mich. He then worked for several years as a professor of art at Fairmont State University and finished his career at Fairmont while serving as program coordinator of the art department.

Boggess has since taken up art full time and has developed a unique style using plein-air techniques along with cement trowels and oil paint. Boggess focuses solely on landscape paintings and does nearly all of each piece of work on location instead of in a studio. Boggess explained that his reason for painting on location is to record the environment first hand, allowing the viewer to come as close to his experience as possible. He noted that painting in a studio from a photograph creates too much of a second hand experience and removes him from the elements of nature that drive him to create his work quickly and with the same dynamics of the landscape as experienced in person.

Boggess has also been honored with several other awards in his career, including the Friedland Jurors' Award from the National Park Service, Best of Show at the Tamarack's Best of WV Art Competition, WV Higher Education Art Educator of the Year, WV Visual Artist of the Year, the D. Gene Jordan Award at the WV Juried Exhibition and the WV Governors' Award for Excellence in Painting.

You can view Boggess' work and find out more about what he does by visiting his website at www.lynnboggess.com