

MEMORANDUM

TO: Patti
FR: Nicole

yes

Sm

Fill
Sept

9/27

Attached is a proposal from NEA, which you may have seen before, for a WH ceremony in September, 1995, to present the NEA Heritage Awards, their folk arts awards, to the 1995 recipients. When HRC participated in the awards ceremony last year, she suggested to Jane Alexander and others that this year, we host the awards here. The artists are all small town talents from across the country.

Sometime this past spring, the NEA had to choose a weekend during which to hold the awards presentation because they had to book the Lisner Auditorium for the evening concert that the Heritage awards recipients give after receiving their awards.

I know Melanne and HRC would like to do the ceremony here, assuming it can fit in the ever-changing fall schedule -- what do you think?

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
ARTS

The Federal agency
that supports the
visual, literary and
performing arts to
benefit all Americans

Office of the
Chairman

Arts in Education

Challenge &
Advancement

Dance

Design

Expansion Arts

Folk & Traditional
Arts

International

Literature

Local Arts Agencies

Media Arts

Museum

Music

Opera/Musical
Theater

Presenting

State & Regional

Theater

Visual Arts

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN
NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

FAX TRANSMITTAL FORM

TO: NICOLE RABNER
Name FIRST LADY'S OFFICE
Affiliation 456-6244
Fax Number

FROM: Alexander D. Crary
Chief of Staff & White House Liaison

RE: HERITAGE AWARDS

DATE: 5-31-95

MESSAGE:

The Heritage Awards Ceremony can be
scheduled at The White House on either:

Sep 27, Wednesday - 1st Choice

or

Sep 28, Thursday - 2nd choice

Number of pages (including cover sheet): 3
Please call (202) 682-5652 if you do not receive all the pages.
Our Fax Number is: (202) 682-5063.

Hold For Release:
 June 1, 1995

Contact: Cherie Simon
 202-682-5570

The Federal agency
 that supports the
 visual, literary and
 performing arts to
 benefit all Americans

**NATIONAL HERITAGE FELLOWSHIP AWARDS GRANTED TO
 TWELVE MASTER TRADITIONAL ARTISTS**

Washington, D.C. -- The National Endowment for the Arts announced today twelve recipients of 1995 National Heritage Fellowship awards, its highest honor in folk and traditional arts. Among those chosen were a Delta blues guitarist, a cowboy balladeer, a Navajo basketweaver, a Filipino instrumentalist, and an Irish step dancer. Each a guardian of a generations-old folk arts form, the Heritage Fellows hail from cities, rural communities, and Indian reservations located in eleven different states and represent many threads of America's cultural fabric.

"The National Heritage Fellowship awards celebrate the lifetime achievements of America's masters of folk and traditional arts," said Jane Alexander, Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. "Each of these extraordinary artists has tapped a great personal store of creativity to lead their communities in preserving and revitalizing traditions built by countless others. The group chosen is a snapshot of this country at its best, offering a positive vision of who we are and what we can be."

The twelve 1995 National Heritage Fellowship recipients are:

- **Bao Mo-Li**, Chinese American *jing erhu* player, Flushing, New York
- **Mary Holiday Black**, Navajo basketweaver, Mexican Hat, Utah
- **Lyman Enloe**, old-time fiddler, Lee's Summit, Missouri
- **Donny Golden**, Irish American step dancer, Brooklyn, New York
- **Wayne Henderson**, luthier, Mouth of Wilson, Virginia
- **Bea Ellis Hensley**, blacksmith, Spruce Pine, North Carolina
- **Nathan Jackson**, Tlingit Alaska Native woodcarver, metalsmith and dancer, Ketchikan, Alaska
- **Danongan Kalanduyan**, Filipino American *kulintang* musician, San Francisco, California
- **Robert Jr. Lockwood**, African American Delta blues guitarist, Cleveland, Ohio
- **Israel "Cachao" López**, Afro-Cuban bassist, composer, bandleader, Miami, Florida
- **Nellie Star Boy Menard**, Lakota Sioux quiltmaker, Rosebud, South Dakota
- **Buck Ramsey**, cowboy poet and singer, Amarillo, Texas

- more -

Arts in Education

Challenge &
 Advancement

Dance

Design Arts

Expansion Arts

Folk Arts

International

Literature

Locals

Media Arts

Museum

Music

Opera-Musical
 Theater

Presenting &
 Commissioning

State & Regional

Theater

Visual Arts

National Heritage Fellowships, p. 2

Since 1982, the Endowment's Folk & Traditional Arts Program has awarded 185 National Heritage Fellowships. Artists are nominated by fellow citizens and selected by a panel of folk arts advisors on the basis of artistic excellence and contributions to the preservation of this nation's cultural heritage. In addition to recognition for their artistry, National Heritage Fellows are acknowledged for their work as teachers, role models or mentors, and innovators. Each artist also receives a one-time Fellowship award of \$10,000.

The Fellowship awards will be presented in an official ceremony in Washington, D.C. during the week of September 25, 1995, coinciding with the National Endowment for the Arts' 30th Anniversary. The artists will also appear the same week in a free public concert at George Washington University's Lisner Auditorium. The National Endowment for the Arts is an independent federal agency located in Washington, D.C.

For more information on the National Heritage Fellowship awards, a full list of recipient biographies, upcoming related events, and the Folk & Traditional Arts Program, please contact the Office of Communications at the National Endowment for the Arts at 202-682-5570.

###