



Raymond James Best of Show Award was presented to John Mascoll for his art in wood, by judge Perry Price and David Ramsey of Raymond James.

Ceramic artist William Kidd was awarded the Northwestern Mutual Directors' Best of Show Award by Perry Price and Angelina Leonetti of Northwestern Mutual.



Top Artists win Awards at CraftArt Festival 2017

The nation's top contemporary craft artists came from 19 states to display and sell their creations at Florida CraftArt's 20th Annual CraftArt Festival.

The two-day festival, presented by **RE/MAX METRO**, held on November 18 and 19, at Central Avenue and 5th Street in downtown St. Petersburg, kicks off the Holiday shopping season.

The juried fine craft art festival features nationally established and emerging fine craft artists with handmade works in clay, fiber, glass, jewelry, metal, paper and mixed media. Visitors enjoyed artist demonstrations, food trucks, craft beers and wine, and a kids' art activity tent sponsored by **The Don Cesar**.

The prestigious judge for the CraftArt Festival 2017 was Perry Price, the executive director of the Houston Museum of Contemporary Craft, who presented \$11,000 in cash awards to the following winners in the craft categories.

"Another group of talented artists graced the streets of St. Petersburg for our 20th Annual CraftArt Festival," said Janie Lorenz, CraftArt Festival Manager. "The artists have been delighted with the enthusiastic and supportive crowds!"

Raymond James Best of Show Award was presented to John Mascoll (Safety Harbor, Fla.) for wood.

William Kidd (Lakeland, Fla.) won the **Northwestern Mutual Directors' Best of Show Award** for Ceramics.

Duke Energy Award of Excellence was presented to fiber artist Leeann Kroetsch (Tampa, Fla.).

Ceramic sculptor Taylor Robenalt (Sarasota, Fla.) won the **Regions Bank Award of Excellence**.

Tampa Bay Times Award of Excellence was presented to jewelry

artist Obayana Ajanaku (Decatur, Ga.)

Tyrone Mazda Award of Excellence was given to artist Alan Johnson (St. Petersburg, Fla.) for ceramics.

Jewelry artist Jonathan Stopper (Sarasota, Fla.) won the **Creative Loafing Award of Merit**.

Mixed media artist Kowitz Jitraphai (Tallahassee, Fla.) received the **Jennifer and Jeff Lovelady Award of Merit**.

Trenam Law Award of Merit was presented to metal sculptor Dominice Gilbert (St. Petersburg, Fla.)

Theresa St. Romain, a jewelry artist (Tucker, Ga.) was awarded the **Souzou Asian Kitchen Award of Merit**.

St. Pete-Clearwater International Airport Award of Merit went to jewelry artist Maureen Shankey (St. Petersburg, Fla.).

The **WUSF Award of Merit** was given to glass artist Mayauel Ward (Manhattan Beach, Ca.)

Duncan McClellan of the DMG School Project presented the Emerging Artist Award to ceramic artist Colby Charpentier (St. Petersburg, Fla.).

To learn more about CraftArt 2017, visit www.floridacraftart.org, or contact Janie Lorenz at janie@floridacraftart.org, Florida CraftArt is the only statewide nonprofit organization representing established and emerging fine craft artists. For more than sixty years, it has advanced and celebrated Florida's fine crafts, in St. Petersburg and throughout the state, through exhibitions, workshops and educational programs, making it Florida's most important destination and primary authority for fine craft art. Its mission is to grow the statewide creative economy by engaging the community and advancing Florida's fine craft artists and their work. Visit Florida CraftArt at 501 Central Avenue in Downtown St. Petersburg or at www.floridacraftart.org



Jeff Baker (right) presented the Duke Energy Award of Excellence to fiber artist Leeann Kroetsch.



Stacia Schrader presented the Regions Bank Award of Excellence to sculptor Taylor Robenalt.



Tampa Bay Times Award of Excellence was presented to jewelry artist Obayana Ajanaku.



John Mascall



From left seated are Dominice Gilbert, Colby Charpentier, Taylor Robenalt; standing are Alan Johnson, Theresa St. Romain, Mayauel Ward, Judge Perry Price, John Mascall, Leann Kroetsch and William Kidd.



Perry Price, Duncan McClellan, Colby Charpentier and Kathryn Howd.



Maureen Shankey



Colby Charpentier

CraftArt Festival 2017 Awards



Theresa St. Romain



Dominice Gilbert



Mayauel Shankey



Jonathon Stopper