



NEWS AND INFORMATION

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Americans for the Arts Presents National Award for Local Arts Leadership to Massachusetts Resident

PORTLAND, OR — Americans for the Arts today presented the 2003 Selina Roberts Ottum Award to author and cultural planning authority, Dr. Craig Dreeszen of Florence, MA at its annual meeting in Portland, Oregon. This award recognizes the achievements of an individual who has made a meaningful contribution to the arts through local arts leadership.

“Craig is an extraordinarily thoughtful person whose work has benefited the community arts movement in myriad ways. His personal standards of excellence, begun when he was a traditional woodworker and ran a successful crafts business, were brought to his second career as an educator,” said Robert L. Lynch, president and CEO of Americans for the Arts. “He is a top-notch teacher, writer, and one of our nation’s leading experts on community cultural planning.”

Dreeszen has written numerous books and articles and teaches several courses and workshops on issues such as arts planning, management, and development of the arts and communities. For 12 years he directed the Arts Extension Service at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and was its Education Coordinator for the six years prior to becoming Director. In 1994, Dreeszen earned his Doctorate in Philosophy from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, in Regional Planning and conducted the first national study of the impact of community cultural planning. He also earned his Master’s in Education in Organizational Development from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, School of Education in 1990. He earned his B.A. in English and Educational Psychology in 1970 from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Americans for the Arts is the leading nonprofit organization for advancing the arts and arts education in America. With offices in Washington, D.C. and New York City, it has a record of more than 50 years of service. Americans for the Arts is dedicated to representing and serving local communities and creating opportunities for every American to participate in and appreciate all forms of the arts. Additional information is available at www.AmericansForTheArts.org.

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