FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OU Art Museum Receives Grant From National Endowment for the Arts

NORMAN, OKLA. – The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art at the University of Oklahoma recently received a $23,500 Art Works grant to support the upcoming exhibition, Visual Voices: Contemporary Chickasaw Art. The museum award was one of more than $80 million in grants approved by National Endowment for the Arts Chairman Jane Chu as part of the NEA’s second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2018.

The Art Works category is the NEA’s largest funding category and supports projects that focus on the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and/or the strengthening of communities through the arts.

“The variety and quality of these projects speak to the wealth of creativity and diversity in our country,” said Chu. “Through the work of organizations such as the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art in Norman, Oklahoma, NEA funding invests in local communities, helping people celebrate the arts wherever they are.”

The Visual Voices exhibition, which opens at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 7, features works by Chickasaw contemporary artists. This traveling exhibition analyzes the complex relationship between contemporary Chickasaw life and a rich tribal history and culture.
“On behalf of the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art and the University of Oklahoma, we are thrilled to receive this important grant from the National Endowment for the Arts,” said Mark White, the museum’s Wylodean and Bill Saxon director. “The NEA’s ongoing commitment to helping support public art and culture ensures that entities such as ours can continue to provide meaningful, impactful opportunities to engage our audiences, and we are greatly appreciative of their support.”

Additional information about the exhibition is available on the museum’s website at www.ou.edu/fjjma.

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art is located in the OU Arts District on the corner of Elm Avenue and Boyd Street, at 555 Elm Ave., on the OU Norman campus. Admission to the museum is complimentary to all visitors, thanks to the generosity of the OU Office of the President and the OU Athletics Department. The museum is closed on Mondays. Information and accommodations are available by calling (405) 325-4938 or visiting www.ou.edu/fjjma.

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IMAGE CREDITS

The Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art at the University of Oklahoma recently received a $23,500 Art Works grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support its upcoming summer exhibition, *Visual Voices*. The exhibition of contemporary art by Chickasaw artists, including this 2017 painting by Brent Greenwood, opens to the public with a complimentary presentation and reception at 7 p.m. Thursday, June 7.

Brent Greenwood (U.S., Chickasaw/Ponca, b. 1971)
*Gathering Medicine*, 2017
Acrylic on canvas, 40 in. x 30 in.
Loan courtesy of the artist