MID-AMERICA ARTS
ALLIANCE/NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
FELLOWSHIP AWARD
WINNERS—CRAFTS 1985
NOVEMBER 7-DECEMBER 13, 1987

Two of the Fellowship Award winners of 1985 in the crafts medium will be exhibiting new works at the museum as a result of a grant from the Mid-America Arts Alliance. Marjorie Schick of Pittsburg, Kansas, is known as a “trail blazer” in contemporary jewelry making, and is well known in the craft world for her brightly painted wooden jewelry constructions.

Her early works were abstract metal pieces, but she turned to larger, more complex, linear constructions of painted dowel rods which were made to be worn as brooches, bracelets and necklaces.

More recent works have become even larger, and Schick has named them “Bodyworks” or wearable sculpture. These large necklaces and shoulder-to-toe body pieces will be on exhibition along with wall and pedestal constructions.

Currently Professor of Art at Pittsburg State University, Schick has been a Distinguished Member of the Society of North American Goldsmiths since 1979.

MARJORIE SCHICK

Laurie Spencer, Center Hut, 1986, clay

LAURIE SPENCER

The only NEA fellowship grant to an Oklahoman in 1985 was awarded to Laurie Spencer of Tulsa. An instructor at Rogers State College, Claremore, as well as Philbrook Museum and the Johnson Atelier, Tulsa, Spencer has been an Artist-in-Residence in Tulsa schools since 1975.

Spencer’s first mature works were ceramic whistles cast from fresh vegetables. Because she wanted an enclosed place in which to play them, she began constructing mud huts or meditation chambers that were large enough to be entered.

For two weeks this fall, beginning the week of October 26 and continuing through November 6, Spencer will be on the second level Sculpture Court of the museum constructing a site-specific work. Clay Dome Installation will be built of large clay coils which are formed into a beehive or honeycomb. Students from the School of Art will assist in the building of the environmental clay dome. The work will remain on public view after completion, and Spencer encourages viewers to enter and experience the complex designs on the interior walls and the sounds made by the wind passing through the door and the carved-out light holes.

Marjorie Schick, Necklace, 1986, painted wood