

CURATOR BIOS

Sara Johnson is the Director of Visual Arts at the Southern Ohio Museum. She joined the staff at the museum in 1979 and since that time has held a variety of positions, including curator, exhibition designer and director of planning. An active member of the Portsmouth community, Johnson served on the Portsmouth Area Arts Council, the Chamber of Commerce and numerous community design projects. She served on several panels for the Ohio Arts Council and as a member of the Ohio Museums Association's Board.

Johnson wrote a biweekly column, "ArtBeat," from 1991 – 2002 for The Portsmouth Daily Times. She graduated cum laude with a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University.

Betty Talbott has played an important role in craft and traditional arts in Central Ohio for more than 30 years. Talbott is the director of the Ohio Craft Museum, and has served as Executive Director of Ohio Designer Craftsmen, and as an instructor at the Delaware Cultural Arts Center, Columbus College of Art & Design and the Columbus Recreation & Parks Department. Talbott served on the steering committee for Ohio's artisan center, as a committee member for Ohio First Lady's Treasures for the Tree project and as a board member of Ohio Citizens for the Arts. During the past three decades, Talbott juried or curated more than 40 exhibitions and festivals in Ohio, the United States and internationally.

As an artist, Talbott has been included in numerous exhibitions including the *Ohio Crafts Exhibition* at the Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian Institute. She has won many awards and honors, including the Greater Columbus Arts Festival Best of Show (1981), three-time Best of Show winner at the Westerville Music and Arts Festival and the Professional Division Award at the Ohio State Fair Fine Arts Exhibition. Her work is included in the permanent collections of The Ohio State University, Purdue University, *Ceramics Monthly* magazine, Sauder Museum and the Ohio Craft Museum. Talbott holds a B.F.A. from The Ohio State University.