Spotlight: Featured Artists at the Ohio Governor’s Residence is a program created by Ohio’s First Lady Karen W. Kasich that celebrates Ohio artists by showcasing a sampling of their artworks in the Residence foyer. The program enhances the ongoing partnership between the Ohio Governor’s Residence and Heritage Garden and the Ohio Arts Council (OAC). Since 1985, the OAC has assisted in placing artwork by Ohio artists and from Ohio cultural institutions in the Governor’s Residence and throughout the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts. The “Spotlight” program offers quarterly exhibitions at the Governor’s Residence highlighted by opening receptions. Spotlight artists are selected by First Lady Kasich with assistance from the OAC. All Ohio artists are eligible to submit their work for consideration. To be eligible for the program, the artist cannot be a student enrolled in a degree-granting program and must be a resident of the State of Ohio. For details contact OAC Individual Artist Program Director Ken Emerick at ken.emerick@oac.ohio.gov and visit oac.ohio.gov/spotlight to view past “Spotlight” artists.

About the Ohio Governor’s Residence and Heritage Garden: The Jacobean Revival style home was originally built for the family of industrialist Malcom Jeffrey in 1925, and has served as the official Ohio Governor’s Residence for nearly 60 years. Examples of Ohio art, industry, and craftsmanship are showcased throughout the house while outside, the surrounding Heritage Garden reflects the state’s diverse native botanicals and landscapes. Free tours of the Ohio Governor’s Residence and Heritage Garden, 358 N. Parkview Ave., Columbus, OH 43209, can be scheduled by calling 614-644-7644 or online at residence@governor.ohio.gov.

About the Ohio Arts Council: The Ohio Arts Council is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally, and economically. For more information visit oac.ohio.gov.

CHICK MAGNET
2017, BEER CAPS ON SCRAP WOOD
24” x 17” x 2”
January – March 2018
The materials John Taylor-Lehman chooses to use in his artwork are influenced by cultures that survive by using local resources. He greatly admires the human quality of resourcefulness because it turns discarded items into beautiful utilitarian objects and pieces of art. This inventiveness has challenged him to create works that are in contrast to a "throw away" society.

Born and raised in Maple Heights, he earned degrees in the natural sciences and taught biology, chemistry, and oceanography at the secondary and college level. About 20 years ago, he became involved with a local group of artists called the Zanesville Appalachian Arts Project and began painting with acrylics and carving wood. Through experimentation with various mediums he has arrived at his current medium of choice: found objects. A strong conservation ethic pervades his art in the choice of subject matter and the raw material. Taylor-Lehman resides in Zanesville with his wife Janet, and their two cats.