

Beckwith to Receive Frederic Albrecht Award

February 23, 2007

Mary Ann Beckwith, professor of visual arts, will receive the Frederic Albrecht Award for her painting, "Longing," during the American Watercolor Society's 140th Annual Exhibition in New York City, a four-week event which begins on March 27. The award includes a medal, certificate and cash prize. AWS also notified Beckwith that she is qualified to apply for the Society's designation of signature membership, given to a small group of artists of national and international distinction. She is currently an associate member of AWS, North America's oldest and most prestigious organization of artists working in watermedia.

In a separate judging process, "Longing" was selected for the American Watercolor Society's 140th annual Traveling Exhibition, which will tour the United States after the close of the New York show on April 22.

On February 15, Beckwith received the designation of active member from another of the country's most select associations of artists, the New York-based Allied Artists of America, Inc. All the good news came at once, and without warning, so Beckwith admits to feeling a little dazed. "I'm overwhelmed," she says. "These are the things one dreams of."

Beckwith's paintings have been chosen for many juried national shows over the years, among them the Audubon Artists of America, the Allied Artists of America, and the American and National Watercolor Societies. She is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society and International Society of Experimental Artists, in addition to a number of other national and regional artists' associations. She is currently president of the International Society of Experimental Artists.

Beckwith has taught at Michigan Tech since 1973, establishing the university's visual arts program. She is the author of two books on watermedia techniques, and *International Artist* magazine recently showcased her work. She frequently serves as juror for exhibitions and is a well-known presenter of invited workshops for artists throughout the U.S. Examples of her work can be seen on the web at www.fa.mtu.edu/~mabeckwi/.