

Handcrafted Gifts for the Holiday Season at the Ohio Craft Museum

Columbus OH
Nov 14 - Dec 23, 2008

The Ohio Craft Museum will present "Gifts of the Craftsmen," the ninth annual holiday exhibition and sale of fine crafts, November 16 - December 23. Holiday shoppers looking for unique gifts this season will discover handcrafted jewelry, pottery, art glass, baskets, clothing and more, all created by nearly 50 fine craft artists from across the United States. All works are suitably priced for gift giving, ranging in price from \$4 "stocking stuffers" to \$15 earrings and exquisite glass paperweights at several hundred dollars.

"Gifts of the Craftsmen" offers shoppers the opportunity to purchase handcrafted items that are both thoughtful and meaningful. Among the items offered are carved wooden bowls by James Eliopoulos, colorful blown-glass ornaments by Shawn Messenger, Joseph Bower's ash-glazed ceramic bowls and canisters, fine metal jewelry with semi-precious stones by Maryann Posch and John Gulyas, segmented wood bowls and bottle stoppers by **Don Leman**, Carol Stolte's decorative woven baskets, and Mark Nafziger's mugs and platters. "These handmade objects are sure to be treasured by

family and friends for years to come," notes museum director Betty Talbott. Many of the items can not be found elsewhere in the Columbus area.

Unlike crowded malls, the museum offers a relaxing and stress-free shopping experience, with free parking conveniently located next to the building. Talbott recommends shopping early for the best selection: "These are one-of-a-kind and limited-edition items, and some tend to sell out quickly." An opening reception will be held on Sunday, November 16, from 1 to 4 p.m. Proceeds benefit Ohio Craft Museum exhibitions and education programs.

During "Gifts of the Craftsmen," the museum will be open Monday - Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 - 4 p.m. Admission and parking are free. The Ohio Craft Museum is located at 1665 West Fifth Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43212. Regular hours are Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Sunday, 1 - 4 p.m. Closed Saturday. Telephone (614) 486-4402, or see their website ohiocraft.org for further information. The museum is owned and operated by Ohio Designer Craftsmen and receives ongoing funding from the Ohio Arts Council, the Greater Columbus Arts Council, and the Columbus Foundation. •