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Winthrop University

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Christine Fisher Among 2006 Verner Awards Recipients

Quick Facts

- Christine S. Fisher, director of Arts in Basic Curriculum Project at Winthrop, has received one of the 2006 Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Awards.
- Fisher has promoted arts education in S.C. for more than 20 years.



Christine Fisher

ROCK HILL, S.C. - **Christine Sides Fisher**, director of Arts in Basic Curriculum Project based at Winthrop, is one of seven recipients of the **2006 Elizabeth O'Neill Verner Awards**, official Governor's Awards for the Arts.

These annual awards from the S.C. Arts Commission recognize outstanding achievement and contributions to the arts in South Carolina, and are the highest honor the state gives in the arts.

The honorees, in their categories, are:

- Arts in Education – Christine Sides Fisher, Rock Hill
- Arts Organization – Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, Hilton Head, S.C.
- Government – The S.C. Department of Mental Health: the Art of Recovery, Columbia, S.C.
- Individual – Marvin-Joe Merck, Clemson, S.C.
- Individual artist – Bob Doster, Lancaster, S.C.
- Special Award – Charles Wadsworth, New York, N.Y.
- Lifetime Achievement – David Sennema, Columbia, S.C.

The awards will be presented during a special State House ceremony on Wednesday, May 3, followed by an awards luncheon at the Columbia Marriott Hotel. The benefit luncheon is presented by the **S.C. Arts Foundation**.

A former music teacher, **Fisher** has been devoted to promoting arts education in South Carolina for more than two decades. **Fisher** became director of the Arts in Basic Curriculum Project in July 2001.

"Through personal experience with the arts, Christine brings to life the importance of a comprehensive sequential arts education," said R. Scot Hockman, education associate for the arts, S.C. Department of Education. "Every day of her life is spent ensuring that children don't have to wait to discover their abilities when a dedicated teacher is there to help."

Fisher continuously travels the state to make certain that comprehensive and sequential fine arts programs are in place and working effectively. She has developed several summer professional arts institutes, which covered arts integration, technology, strategic planning and curriculum development.

She has twice been selected as a school Teacher of the Year and District Teacher of the Year and twice been selected as one of the top five teachers in the state. Selected as the South Carolina Teacher of the Year in 1998, **Fisher** is the only music teacher to hold the honor in the program's 41-year history. For more information about **Fisher's** award, click [here](#).

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