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Fine Arts Associate Professor Recognized for His Contributions to Art Education

Winthrop University

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RESTON, VIRGINIA - The National Art Education Association recently gave Winthrop University Associate Professor Seymour Simmons, III its 2015 South Carolina Art Educator of the Year Award.

This prestigious award, determined through a peer review of nominations, honors an outstanding member from each state or province association whose service and contribution to art education merits recognition and acclaim. The award was presented March 27 at the association's national convention in New Orleans.

Association President Dennis Inhulsen said: "This award is being given to recognize excellence in professional accomplishment and service by a dedicated art educator. Seymour Simmons exemplifies the highly qualified art educators active in education today: leaders, teachers, students, scholars, and advocates who give their best to their students and the profession."

Simmons came to Winthrop in 1993 from Cambridge, Mass., where he taught art education and foundations at Massachusetts College of Art and did research at Harvard Project Zero.

He has taught undergraduate and graduate art education courses at Winthrop, as well as studio classes in drawing and illustration. He is the co-author of Drawing: The Creative Process (Prentice-Hall, 1976); co-editor of the Arts PROPEL Visual Arts Handbook (Harvard University, 1993); and co-editor of The Heart of Art Education: Creativity, Connections, and Transformation (National Art Education).

His research, publishing, and presentation interests include: art education, creativity, drawing, experiential education, and multiple intelligence theory. In addition, Simmons and his wife, Martine, lead summer trips to France to study painting, photography, and French culture and cuisine.

The National Art Education Association is the professional association for art educators. Members include elementary, secondary, middle level and high school art teachers; university and college professors; education directors who oversee education in our nation's fine art museums, administrators and supervisors who oversee art education in school districts, state departments of education, arts councils; and teaching artists throughout the United States and many foreign countries.

For more information about the association and its awards program, visit its web site.