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Quilts, Basketry and Iron at Winthrop University Galleries

Winthrop University

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Eleanor McCain, a practicing internal medicine physician in Fort Walton Beach, Fla., has been producing art textiles for more than 10 years. Her work has been shown in venues nationally including the Columbus Museum of Art, the Museum of American Folk Art and the Mint Museum of Craft and Design. Her exacting yet improvisational quilts are featured in collections internationally.

John L. Skau lives and works in Archdale, N.C. He holds a M.F.A. from Cranbrook Academy of Art and a B.F.A. from Northern Illinois University. He has taught at Ball State University and the Penland School of Crafts. He has combined traditional basketry techniques and contemporary sculptural forms to produce beautiful work that has been shown throughout the country.

"Iron: A New Vocabulary" is a traveling exhibition of contemporary American ironwork curated by Penland Gallery at North Carolina's Penland School of Crafts. The exhibition has a mission to feature artists who are bringing a new aesthetic to the field of studio iron, through both ideas and tools. Twenty-one artists in the exhibition include L. John Andrew, Wis.; Michael Bondi, Calif.; Elizabeth Brim, N.C.; Wendell Broussard, Texas; William Brown Jr., N.C.; Sean Calyer, N.Y.; Gordon Chandler, Ga.; Jim Cooper, N.C.; Frederic Crist, Va.; Maegan Crowley, N.J.; Paige Davis, N.C.; Hoss Haley, N.C.; Scott Lankton, Mich.; Andrew Macdonald, Ill.; Marc Maiorana, N.C.; John Medwedeff, Ill.; John Rais, Pa.; Christina Shmigel, Mo.; Rick Smith, Ill.; Pamela Wallace, N.Y.; and Stephen Yusko, Mo.

A preview reception is slated for Friday, Feb. 11, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Rutledge and Patrick Galleries. Related educational programs feature lectures by Eleanor McCain on Feb. 10; John Skau, Feb. 17; Elizabeth Brim; Feb. 24; and Hoss Haley, March 3. All lectures are scheduled for Thursdays at 2 p.m. in Rutledge and Patrick Galleries in the historic Rutledge Building on the campus of Winthrop University in Rock Hill. The exhibition and related programs are open and free to the public.

Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, call Tom Stanley, director, at 803/323-2493 or check out the Galleries' website.