

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Carol Fusaro **P:** 617-737-2900 **E:** carol@sullivancreative.com
Photos available via email **For release:** July 2011



***Nature's Adornment* Selected as the League of NH Craftsmen's 2011 Annual Ornament**

CONCORD, NH – Walker Boyle's handcrafted pewter ornament, called *Nature's Adornment*, is the League of NH Craftsmen's Annual Ornament for 2011. *Nature's Adornment* is a pewter pinecone – a traditional decorative motif for wreaths and decorations that will have you “pining” for the holidays. The ornament is Walker's unique interpretation of a white pine tree's pinecone that has shed its seeds. A frost blue ribbon is attached to the top of the ornament so it can hang on a tree or wreath.

A juried member of the League of NH Craftsmen since 2000, Walker designs and creates pewter and metal figurines and ornaments in his home studio in Antrim, NH. “My collection of pinecones was the inspiration for this ornament. It is specifically modeled on pinecones from trees that you see throughout New Hampshire,” said Walker. To create his pieces, he uses the ancient lost wax method of casting, as well as modern techniques of metal working. “It took me close to two years to get this pinecone design to a point that I could reproduce it,” said Walker.

He grew up in Rhode Island and studied painting and sculpture in art school. He liked working with bronze and other metals, and decided to become a mold maker. In 1998, he moved to New Hampshire to work with his brother in a casting company. Four years later, decided to pursue a career making fine craft and set up shop. “I have been coming to New Hampshire my whole life and really enjoy its natural beauty,” said Walker. “Nature is a great inspiration for my work, as well as literature and art.”

(more)

His brother introduced him to the League of NH Craftsmen. “He brought me to the Annual Craftsmen’s Fair and I thought it was great,” said Walker. “I am so happy to now be a juried member and be part of this wonderful, supportive community. The League provides great marketing and networking opportunities for people like me.”

Walker works with a variety of metals, but has concentrated on pewter for the past eight years. “It is easier for me to work with pewter in the space that I have. It has a considerably lower melting point (500 degrees) compared to silver, gold and bronze,” says Walker. “I enjoy creating and bringing my pewter pieces to life. Each piece seems to take on a certain vibration and personality, and that’s what makes it fun.”

The League’s annual ornament selection, now in its 24th year, is open to all juried League craftspeople. The ornament is selected by the managers of the eight League of New Hampshire Craftsmen Retail Galleries, which are located in Center Sandwich, Concord, Hanover, Littleton, Meredith, Nashua, North Conway, and Wolfeboro.

Nature’s Adornment ornaments are sold exclusively by the Retail Galleries, and at the League of NH Craftsmen’s Fair, August 6-14, 2011. Each ornament is numbered as one of a limited edition. The ornament comes beautifully gift-boxed and sells for \$22.50. Major credit cards are accepted for ordering the ornament by telephone from any Retail Gallery.

League of NH Craftsmen Retail Galleries:

Center Sandwich, 32 Main St., 603-284-6831

Concord, 36 North Main St., 603-228-8171

Hanover, 13 Lebanon St., 603-643-5050

Littleton, 81 Main Street, 603-444-1099

Meredith, 279 Daniel Webster Hwy., Rte. 3, 603-279-7920

Nashua, 98 Main St., 603-595-8233

North Conway, 2526 White Mountain Hwy., Rte. 16/302, 603-356-2441

Wolfeboro, 15 North Main St., 603-569-3309

(more)

About the League of NH Craftsmen

The League of NH Craftsmen is a non-profit, craft education organization. Its mission is to encourage, nurture and promote the creation, use and preservation of fine contemporary and traditional craft through the inspiration and education of artists and the broader community. The League represents the *signature of excellence* in fine craft, through the work of its juried members, and its rigorous standards for self expression, vision, and quality craftsmanship.



The League of NH Craftsmen is supported in part by a grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.



For more information about the Fair, or the League of NH Craftsmen, call 603-224-3375, email nhleague@nhcrafts.org, or visit the League's website at www.nhcrafts.org. You can also find the League of NH Craftsmen, the Annual Craftsmen's Fair, and each of the League's eight retail galleries on Facebook.

###