

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Contact:** Carol Fusaro **P:**617-597-0072 **E:**carol@sullivancreative.com  
Photos available via email **For immediate release**

### **The League of NH Craftsmen Opens New Retail Gallery in Nashua** *Special events planned for Grand Opening on Friday, May 28*

NASHUA, NH – The League of NH Craftsmen is pleased to announce the grand opening of a new retail gallery at 98 Main Street in Nashua, NH on Friday, May 28. The League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Retail Gallery features a wide array of distinctive jewelry, ceramics, art-to-wear, prints, baskets, wood pieces, and much more. Each item is handmade by a juried member of the League of NH Craftsmen, whose standards for fine hand craft represent the highest level of excellence and creativity. The regular gallery hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm and until 9 pm on Thursdays. During the grand opening weekend, the retail gallery will be open on Friday, May 28 from 4 pm to 9 pm and on Saturday, May 29 from 10 am to 9 pm.

#### **Special activities planned for grand opening**

During the grand opening weekend, the public is invited to visit the gallery and enjoy food, refreshments, and several craft demonstrations by juried League members. Here is the schedule of activities:

##### Friday, May 28:

5 pm to 8 pm: Basketry by Lynn Goldberg

##### Saturday, May 29:

11 am to 2 pm Art Clay Jewelry by Carol Babineau

2 pm to 5 pm: Metal Jewelry by Marcie Rae

5 pm to 8 pm: Beading by Deb Fairchild and Rug Hooking by Victor Joos

#### **Retail gallery owner is also a juried craftsperson**

The retail gallery is owned by Ruth Boland, a basket maker and juried League member, who grew up in Nashua, and now lives in Merrimack. She will be teaching basketry classes from her studio, Ruth Boland Basketry, which is also located within the gallery. In the near future, Ruth plans to provide classes and workshops in other craft as well.

Opening a retail gallery in Nashua has been a long-time goal for Ruth. “I am excited to be able to bring a wide selection of one-of-a-kind, quality craft pieces to the residents and visitors to the Greater Nashua area,” said Ruth. “Many of the League's juried craftsmen live in the area, so this gallery will be a great venue for showcasing their work.”

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Ruth has bachelor and master degrees in business administration and has always been interested in art and design. She took a class in basket making in 1991 and found that she enjoyed the artistry, form, and function of basketry. “We would use patterns in class, but once I learned the technique, I started designing my own patterns,” she said. She got serious about basketmaking and became a juried member of the League in 2001.

“It is a great advantage for the League to have a retail gallery in Nashua, one of the state’s largest cities,” said Susie Lowe-Stockwell, executive director of the League of NH Craftsmen. “Nashua, like all of our retail galleries, will help generate public awareness about the value and importance of fine handcraft, while giving our talented members another venue for their work.” The other seven League retail galleries are located in Center Sandwich, Concord, Hanover, Littleton, Meredith, North Conway, and Wolfeboro.

### **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.

For more information about the League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Retail Gallery, contact Ruth at [rboland428@aol.com](mailto:rboland428@aol.com) or by phone 603-595-8233. For more information about the League of NH Craftsmen, call 603-224-3375 or visit [www.nhcrafts.org](http://www.nhcrafts.org).



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