

NEWS RELEASE

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Photos available via email **For release May 12, 2015**

***Sweet Season* Selected as the League of NH Craftsmen's 2015 Annual Ornament**

CONCORD, NH – The League of NH Craftsmen's annual ornament for 2015 is *Sweet Season*, a cast and hand-formed pewter maple sugar tree adorned with a sap bucket. Kristine Lane and Paulette Werger, both juried in metal by the League, created this ornament to celebrate New Hampshire's spring-time tradition of maple sugaring. *Sweet Season* ornaments are sold exclusively by the League of NH Craftsmen Fine Craft Galleries (*see locations at end of release*), the League's online store (www.nhcrafts.org) and at the Annual League of NH Craftsmen's Fair, August 1-9, 2015. Each ornament is numbered as one of a limited edition and is signed by the artists. The ornament comes beautifully gift-boxed and sells for \$25.



Sweet Season is the League's 28th annual ornament. "The League's annual ornament is a great gift and is a popular collectible item," said Susie Lowe-Stockwell, executive director of the League of NH Craftsmen.

Kristine Lane explains the inspiration for the ornament. "Each year on country roads all over our state, a unique and truly iconic New Hampshire image appears. Majestic sugar maple trees are tapped and adorned with buckets to collect the sweet sap that will produce our famous maple syrup." She and Werger collaborated on two other ornaments for the League and have also

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worked together creating one of kind jewelry. They also share a love of nature. “My jewelry reflects my passion for the graceful forms found in nature,” says Lane. Werger creates works of subtle design and intriguing shapes inspired by botanical forms in her garden.

About the Makers

Kristine Lane (Andover, NH) has been working as a studio jeweler for more than 20 years. She studied painting, drawing, and sculpture at Boston University’s two-year Fine Art Core Program, and then discovered a connection to metalsmithing while pursuing a bachelor of fine arts degree in jewelry design at Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond, VA). “I was hooked instantly to the inherent strength of metal and the associated challenges of working and manipulating it to create delicate forms,” said Lane. She enjoys every aspect of creating a piece of jewelry, from design stage to fabrication. “However, there is no greater gratification in metalsmithing than being told that one of my designs has become a client's favorite piece of jewelry,” she added.

Paulette Werger (Hanover, NH) makes jewelry, vessels, and flatware that draw upon botanical imagery, mythology, and folk tales. Her neckpieces, rings, earrings and beads combine a variety of materials including gold, silver, pewter, hand cut gems and pearls. Paulette received her B.S. in painting and sculpture from the College of Saint Rose and Skidmore College in NY, and her M.F.A. in Art Metal from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She exhibits and sells her work both nationally and internationally, and teaches workshops in jewelry making and metalsmithing techniques. Her studio, Metalpeople East, is located in Lebanon, NH. She serves on the Boards of Trustees for the Society of Arts and Crafts in Boston, MA and for the Alliance for the Visual Arts in Lebanon, NH.

About the Annual Ornament

The League’s annual ornament is selected by the managers of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen Fine Craft Galleries, located in Center Sandwich, Concord, Hanover, Hooksett,

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Littleton, Meredith, Nashua, and North Conway. Major credit cards are accepted for ordering the ornament by telephone from any gallery.

League of NH Craftsmen Fine Craft Galleries:

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

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

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

Hooksett, I-93 Northbound Rest Area, 530 West River Rd., 603-210-5181

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

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 grants from the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information about the Annual Ornament or the League of NH Craftsmen, call 603-224-3375, email nhleague@nhcrafts.org, or visit the League's website at www.nhcrafts.org.



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