



Contact: Dori Nielsen | dori@nceca.net
Candice Finn | candice@nceca.net

PRELIMINARY RELEASE- NCECA
COMES TO KANSAS CITY IN MARCH 2016
FOR IMMEDIATE CIRCULATION

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION FOR THE CERAMIC ARTS ANNOUNCES AWARDS TO BE BESTOWED DURING ITS 2016 CONFERENCE

STEVE HILTON TO BE NAMED FELLOW OF THE COUNCIL DURING
MAKERS, MENTORS AND MILESTONES

THE 50TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON EDUCATION FOR THE CERAMIC ARTS

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI - (November 10, 2016) – Kansas City, Missouri is preparing to serve as site host of the 50th Annual Conference of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts. The 2016 conference theme, *Makers, Mentors and Milestones* will explore the personal, social and aesthetic forces that animate creative work with elemental materials, methods and ideas in the midst of the information age. The conference will take place March 16-19, 2016 at the Kansas City Convention Center, 301 West 13th Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64105.

During its annual conference, the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts bestows highly selective awards to individuals who have made significant impact on the field through service, teaching, creative achievement and/or extraordinary accomplishments. Being named a Fellow of the Council is among NCECA's highest honors. No more than two individuals may receive this award in any given year. With this award, **Steve Hilton** joins a very limited list of influential and creative individuals who have inspired thousands to broaden their horizons and deepen their understanding of ceramic art, teaching and learning.

Recipients of this award have made outstanding contributions to the organization, having served the council in significant ways for at least five years. Steve Hilton served the Council first in the role of the Student Director at Large for two years, as a Presidential Appointee for one year, and most recently as the Programs Director for 6 1/2 years, constituting nearly a decade of combined service.

NCECA is pleased to bestow this honor upon Wichita Falls resident and Midwestern State University faculty member, **Steve Hilton**. After studying Environmental Geology and earning a B.S. degree at Missouri State University, Hilton went on to pursue his M.S. there in Art Education. He subsequently earned his M.F.A. at Arizona State University. His work has been exhibited throughout the United States as well as in Cuba, Japan, Portugal and China.

The many sentiments of support for **Steve Hilton's** nomination as a Fellow of the Council noted his remarkable character. An inspirational and supportive figure that sets a standard of excellence within his field, Steve "remains remarkably calm and is ever generous of spirit and good humor even in the most difficult of circumstances." "Through his service and devotion, [Steve] is a shining example of what all members of the NCECA organization should strive to be."

This award will be officially presented during *Makers, Mentors and Milestones*, the 50th annual conference of the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts. The awards ceremony will occur on Friday, March 18th at 5:15 pm in the Kansas City Convention Center, Grand Ballroom 2501B.

ABOUT NCECA

NCECA, the National Council on Education for the Ceramic Arts is the leading organization operating in the U.S. dedicated to a global perspective on ceramic arts and education. A dynamic membership organization that fosters global education and appreciation for the ceramic arts, NCECA's programs, exhibitions and public events promote and improve the field through education, community building, research and creative inspiration. For more information, visit www.nceca.net.