

## **Nebraska Artists and Their Work Explored in NET Television Special**

LINCOLN, Neb. (July 30, 2008) -- Thomas Thomas, a wood sculptor in Omaha, creates life-sized creatures and animals out of wood.

Leah Sorensen-Hayes, a Lincoln textile artist, works on an experimental quilt incorporating nontraditional quilting techniques, and Bob Wilson and Beth Davis, two Omaha ceramic artists, have created a series of 80 ceramic mosaic murals of some of the earliest pioneers in jazz and blues music.

These are four of several Nebraska artists featured in "Arts in Nebraska," a 30-minute special airing Thursday, Aug. 14, at 9:30 p.m. CT on NET1 and NET-HD, showcasing the diversity and innovative artistry in the Cornhusker state.

There is an explosion of artistic work occurring across Nebraska and through a series of short video segments, NET Television's "Arts in Nebraska" provides glimpses into the creative thoughts and processes that inspire this artistry.

In addition to Thomas, Sorensen-Hayes, Wilson and Davis, the program will also feature the Chiara String Quartet; Omaha painter Wanda Ewing; portraitist Mark Gilbert; Omaha performance installation artist Leslie Iwai; and Omaha-based internationally renowned sculptor Jun Kaneko.

"Arts in Nebraska" will repeat on NET1 and NET-HD on Sunday, Aug. 17, at 11 p.m. CT; Monday, Aug. 18, at 10:30 p.m. CT; and Sunday, Aug. 24, at 1 p.m. CT. It will also be broadcast on NET2 on Saturday, Aug. 16, at 1:30 p.m. CT and Thursday, Aug. 21, at 8:30 p.m. CT.

Individual artist segments will be available for viewing anytime on NET's website, <http://www.netnebraska.org/nextexit>. The segments will also be accessible to the public on several other media platforms, including YouTube and iTunes.

Through an agreement with the UNL's Colleges of Journalism and Mass Media and Fine and Performing Arts, student interns had significant participation in many of the creative and technical elements of the program, including production shoots, editing and program screenings.

Production of "Arts in Nebraska" was funded in part by the Nebraska Arts Council. NET1, NET2 and NET-HD are part of NET Television, a service of NET. For a complete program schedule, visit NET's Web site ([netNebraska.org/television](http://netNebraska.org/television)).

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### **NET Television:**

**NET1** is Nebraska's first public television broadcast service and includes PBS and award-winning, locally produced public television programming; **NET2** offers live coverage of the Nebraska Unicameral, and other news and public affairs programming; **NET3** is a 24-hour channel featuring the most popular how-to, travel and lifestyle series; and **NET-HD** presents high-definition digital broadcast programming displayed in a wide-screen format.