



For Immediate Release
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For More Information
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Milwaukee Arts Board Recognizes Outstanding Artists of the Year

The Milwaukee Arts Board will honor the recipients of its Outstanding Artists of the Year award on Tuesday, March 8, 2011. Awards of \$1,500 will be presented to **Debra Loewen**, Wild Space Artistic Director, and artist **Richard Taylor**.

The awards program and reception will take place in the Rare Books Room of the Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave. and will begin at 4:30 p.m. after the Arts Board meeting. **Media coverage is invited.**

Alderman Michael J. Murphy, chair of the Arts Board, said the board was pleased to again recognize two individuals who embody the deep well of artistic talent that Milwaukee is so fortunate to have. "Ms. Loewen and Mr. Taylor are both passionate in their artistic pursuits and are known nationally and internationally for their work," he said. "We are very lucky to have their creative, mind and soul-enriching work touch our lives, and to count them as contributors to the City of Milwaukee. I'm proud to be a part of an organization that recognizes the importance of the arts, especially in challenging economic times."

Debra Loewen, Wild Space Artistic Director

Founder of Wild Space Dance Company in 1986, Loewen has been named the "Dean of Milwaukee Choreographers" by reviewers and creates work not only in traditional settings but also espouses non-standard and outdoor venues.

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Arts Board to Honor Artists/ADD ONE

A champion of uniquely Milwaukee venues and our local history, Loewen uses Turner Ballroom, the Marsupial Bridge, the Menomonee Valley, Pier Wisconsin, Jones Island, Lynden Sculpture Garden and more as her chosen performance spaces.

Richard Taylor, artist

Richard Taylor began his formal art education in 1977 at the UWM School of Fine Arts where he earned an MFA in painting and drawing in 1991 after also studying at the Milwaukee School of Art and Design (now MIAD) and University of California San Diego.

The Milwaukee Arts Board has recognized Artists of The Year since 1995. Past recipients include: Dinorah Marquez, C. Michael Wright, Lee Erickson, Ruth Schudson & Monty Davis, Sarah Price, Jason Yi, Marie Kohler, Ray Chi, JoAnna Poehlmann, Raoul Deal, Berkeley Fudge, Mark Bucher, Kevin Stalheim, Marina Lee Meyer, Ferne Yangyeitie Caulker, James & Rose Pickering, Reynaldo Hernandez, Jill Sebastian, Terese Agnew, and John Schneider.