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Tulsa library to induct artist Ruthe Blalock Jones into Circle of Honor

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Ruthe Blalock Jones

By JAMES D. WATTS JR. World Scene Writer | 0 comments

Saturday's ceremony to induct artist and educator Ruthe Blalock Jones into the Tulsa City-County Library's Circle of Honor will also serve as the start of the library's American Indian Festival of Words.

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Jones will be inducted at a presentation beginning at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Hardesty Regional Library's Connor's Cove, 8316 E. 93rd St. Artwork by young artists inspired by Jones' work and teaching will be on display.

The award, sponsored by the Maxine and Jack Zarrow Family Foundation, Cherokee Builders Inc., American Indian Resource Center and the Tulsa Library Trust, consists of a \$5,000 honorarium and a medallion featuring the American Indian Resource Center's turtle logo.

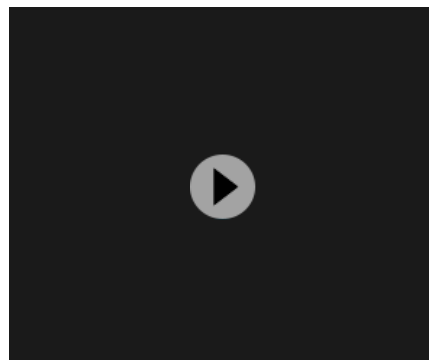
Jones, a native of Claremore, is of Shawnee-Delaware-Peoria descent. She began studying art with the late Charles Banks Wilson at age 10 and progressed so quickly that three years later, she entered her work in the Philbrook Annual, one of the nation's most prestigious exhibits of American Indian Art, and earned an honorable mention.

Jones would go on to study at Bacone College, and would later return there to teach. She is director emeritus and associate professor of art at Bacone.

Her work - which encompasses painting, drawings and printmaking - focuses on traditional American Indian ceremonial and social events.

Jones has shown her work internationally, and her art is part of the permanent collections of such institutions as the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Ariz.; the Museum of the American Indian, New York; and the National Museum of Natural History in Washington D.C.

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The events scheduled as part of the American Indian Festival of Words include:

- **"Become a Comic-Book Creator @ Your Library":** 6 p.m. Thursday, Zarrow Regional Library, 2224 W. 51st St. Learn the basics of drawing and putting together a comic book, plus take home a copy of your very own mini comic book.
- **"Native Comic-Book Workshop:** Featuring Roy Boney (Cherokee), Lee Francis IV (Laguna Pueblo), Michael Sheyahshe (Caddo) and Arigon Star (Kickapoo)": 12:30-3:30 p.m. March 8, Martin Regional Library, 2601 S. Garnett Road. Join the members of the Indigenous Narrative Collective as they discuss ways in which comics and sequential art are redefining American Indian stories for the next generation. Plus, learn from their collective experience about the joys and pitfalls of creating successful comic-book projects either online or in print.
- **"Storytelling with Mahenwahdose":** 12:30 p.m. March 18, Helmerich Library, 5131 E. 91st St. Enjoy the lively tradition of storytelling with Will Hill of Mahenwahdose.
- **"Stay and Play Storytime with Joy Harjo":** 10:30-11:30 p.m. March 19, Zarrow Regional Library. Enjoy this special storytime as families listen to Joy Harjo read her book "The Good Luck Cat."
- **"Dancing Eagles":** 1 p.m. March 20, University Village Retirement Community, Stovall Theater, 8555 S. Lewis Ave. Mike and Lisa Pahsetopah will perform spectacular Native American dances and traditional storytelling.
- **"Cherokee Pottery":** March 29, Grades 1-4: 10:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.; Grades 5-7: 2-3:30 p.m., South Broken Arrow Library, 3600 S. Chestnut Ave. Join Cherokee pottery artist Crystal Hanna for native stories and a hands-on pottery workshop.

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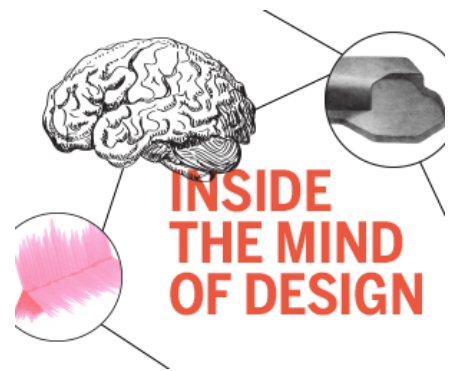
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