



For Immediate Release...For Your In-FAIR-mation

August 16, 2016

Contact: Erin Thompson

(505) 480-9731

PART OF STATE FAIR'S PERMANENT ART COLLECTION ON DISPLAY AT SUNPORT!

State Fair officials recently announced a partnership with the Albuquerque Sunport to display pieces of the permanent art collection for the public and travelers to New Mexico to experience and appreciate. The exhibition is located on the lower level of the Sunport and will be on display until September 29th.

Way back in 1954, the New Mexico State Fair purchased its first work of art – “Trail Life” by George Dick – for its permanent art collection and today it’s one of 25 pieces currently on display at the Albuquerque Sunport. The latest piece is from 2015 - “Courting Flute” by Ira Funmaker. The display includes oil and watercolor paintings, pottery, bronze sculptures, weaving, a carved flute, a bulto and retablo, and bas relief.

Ramona Vigil-Eastwood, Art Director for EXPO New Mexico, said that while the pieces were being installed, passers-by expressed great pleasure to witness the work of some of the greatest artists of New Mexico. The State Fair’s permanent collection consists of 269 pieces and each year the State Fair Commission, with Vigil-Eastwood’s guidance, selects other pieces to include within the collection.

“This represents a very unique opportunity to highlight one of the most important elements of the New Mexico State Fair, which is the artisans and craftsmen whose work has graced our walls and galleries for decades,” stated New Mexico State Fair General Manager Dan Mourning. “They are an important part of the traditions that make our state fair an engaging and rewarding experience for participants and fairgoers alike, and we are pleased to be able to share them with a new audience.”

The New Mexico State Fair runs September 8 – 18. Entries of new artwork to be judged and displayed in the various art buildings began earlier this month and continues through August 22, depending on the category. For more information about the 2016 New Mexico State Fair, visit our website at www.exponm.com.

30mmr