

# TEXTILE SOCIETY *of* AMERICA

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## **New Honor to Recognize Leaders in the Field of Textiles TSA Establishes Fellows of the Textile Society of America**

Berkeley, CA— The Textile Society of America (TSA) is instituting a new program to recognize and honor individuals who have over the course of their careers, made path-breaking contributions to the field, in textile scholarship, education, art, or in sustaining textile arts globally.

According to Ruth Barnes, Thomas Jaffe Curator of Indo-Pacific Art at the Yale University Art Gallery, and TSA Board member and chair of the Fellows Committee, “textile arts and textile scholarship have experienced a significant increase in appreciation over the last decades, both in the visual arts and the academic world, largely due to the creative and exacting leadership provided by exceptional scholars, practitioners and teachers in the textile field.”

Roxane Shaughnessy, President of TSA, and Curator, Collections & Access at the Textile Museum of Canada, explains that when the organization awards the distinction “of Fellow of the Textile Society of America, we are able to bestow TSA’s highest honor to those who are our leaders in the field of textiles. These individuals serve as an inspiration to many, and through their work have contributed to promoting knowledge and creative engagement with textiles around the world.”

Fellows will be selected through a nominations process. Nominations will be reviewed and selected biennially, by a special TSA Board-appointed committee. Fellows need not be nationals or residents of the United States or Canada, nor do they have to be TSA members, however nominations must come from members of the organization.

“As we honor path-breaking leaders in the field, we also foreground the diverse ways that textiles are integral to human experience, emphasize the central roles that textiles play in life, and articulate our aspirations for the field as a whole,” says Susan S. Bean, specialist in the visual arts of modern South Asia and TSA Board member.

A substantial account of the nominee’s contributions, including a brief professional biography of the nominee, as well as a listing of seminal publications, exhibitions, or history of work must be support each nomination. Two additional TSA members must endorse each submission. The submission form for nominations is now accessible on the TSA website [www.textilesocietyofamerica.org/programs/fellows](http://www.textilesocietyofamerica.org/programs/fellows). The deadline for nominations is July 15, 2015. The Textile Society of America will announce its first Fellows in the fall of this year, 2015.

“The Fellows Program is an opportunity for TSA to recognize and honor the contributions of those whose dedication and work has enlarged our knowledge and appreciation of textiles. I hope that this will be just the beginning of a number of ways in which we can acknowledge these individuals, and the many others who have spent their lives teaching, creating, researching, defining, exploring and expanding the field, and as a result, enriching our world,” emphasizes Elena Phipps, immediate Past President, Textile Society of America.

For Further information please visit [www.textilesocietyofamerica.org/programs/fellows](http://www.textilesocietyofamerica.org/programs/fellows)

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The Textile Society of America (TSA) is a membership-driven organization that provides an international forum for the exchange and dissemination of textile knowledge from artistic, cultural, economic, historic, political, social, and technical perspectives. Established in 1987 as a 501c(3), TSA is governed by a Board of Directors from museums and universities in North America and around the world. Its 700 members worldwide include top museum curators, conservators, scholars, artists, craftspeople, educators, students, dealers, collectors and textile enthusiasts.