

SWOSU Receives \$10,000 Grant from National Endowment for the Arts

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Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford has received a \$10,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to support Touch and See Your Park, a series of events to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Washita River Massacre.

Principal investigator of the grant is Dr. Siriporn Peters, assistant professor in the SWOSU Department of Art, Communication & Theatre.

Southern Cheyenne artist George Levi will use ledger art, a traditional Native American art form, to create drawings interpreting the battle, as well as present a lecture on this art form.

The ledger drawings will be transformed into tactile graphics with braille, motion graphics and audio so visually impaired people can enjoy the items. A catalogue for the exhibit will also be created.

The project was among \$82 million funded for local art projects across the country, according to NEA Chair Jane Chu. The NEA received 1,728 art works applications and awarded 1,029 grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America.