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For Immediate Release

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Crystal King Pottery – Seagrove Folk Potter

Seagrove, NC - Born and raised in Whynot, North Carolina, from a very young age, Crystal King knew that she wanted to be a potter. Her parents, Terry and Anna King, are also potters, so she grew up in that environment. They created functional ware, and also face jugs, following in the folk art traditions. Crystal enjoyed the folk art as well, and started creating little clay animals. When she was 14 years old, a family sent to her a post card with a picture of a lion on it, and they asked her to make one out of clay for them. People began to recognize her lions, so she soon began to make several of them. That led her to creating more of the animals from Noah's Ark. Soon Crystal had a following! People wanted her animals, and she had to set up a waiting list to fulfill the requests. "I have a sense of pride in the heritage and tradition in making animals, and making folk art pottery. I decided to do it full-time as a living, when I was a junior in high school. I can't imagine doing anything else", explained Crystal as she worked on creating the body to one of her signature lions. "I can't imagine living anywhere else either. My family members are all here in the Seagrove area. There are very few of us potters that still do the traditional pieces". She has been in her current location on Highway 705 for 11 years. "I am so very fortunate. I have my own shop. My parents have their own shop too, just a few miles up the road. I wanted to come up with my own style to sell along side their pots. I didn't want to compete with my relatives and their every day wear", she explained.

Crystal uses the same stoneware glaze and clay that her parents use in their pottery. Once or twice a year she does fire her animals in a wood fire kiln, the rest of the year she uses an electric kiln. Due to the popularity of her animals and figures, she does have a waiting list. She asks that her clients look at her website to see her designs, and then place an order with her. She also attends several festivals and pottery shows, so you can see her creations up close.

"The Seagrove area is the only place in North America with a continuously handed down tradition in pottery and contemporary art. You have to have the experience of it. Come and see our small scale works of art, and take home a treasure with you!!" For more information regarding Crystal King Pottery, please call (336) 879-6990, or visit her web site, www.crystalkingpottery.net.

For a listing of all the members and the events presented by the Seagrove Area Potters Association (SAPA), please go to www.discoverseagrove.com. Explore America's Largest Community of Working Potters. Discover Seagrove.

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