

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 09/22/14

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**SUU ART PROFESSOR & AUTHOR DEBORAH K. SNIDER
CHOSEN BY UTAH ART EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
AS HIGHER EDUCATION ART EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR**

Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Utah: A remarkable arts educator, author, curator, community leader and artist, **Deborah K. Snider**, Assistant Professor of Art at Southern Utah University, is an inspirational force who sparks the minds of students, art patrons and community members to the joy of the visual arts. For her tireless devotion to art education and awareness, Snider has been selected by the **Utah Art Education Association** (UAEA) as the 2015 Higher Education Art Educator of the Year. The honor is especially poignant this year with the recent publication of Snider's book, *The Collages of Jonathan Talbot*. Professor Snider will be formally presented with her award at the UAEA conference in St. George, Utah, on Friday, February 27, 2015.

The **Utah Art Education Association** advocates for and increases the quality of visual arts education through professional development, collaboration and leadership opportunities.

Deborah K. Snider has directed three community art centers in Florida, Colorado, and Oregon; taught art at all age levels; and administered many programs in higher education. She is a visual artist in drawing, mixed-media, and art quilt/fabric collage whose work has been exhibited and collected world-wide. Snider has had papers accepted for publication in Art Education journals and magazines and is a Consulting Editor for The Clearing House (educational research), for whom she is guest editing a special edition on "Drawing from Within: The Arts and Animated Learning," due for publication in 2016. She is frequently invited to teach, speak, judge, and perform at local, regional, and state-wide events, and is the recipient of the 2009 Higher Education Art Educator of the Year Award from the Colorado Art Education Association. Snider holds Bachelor's and Master's of Arts degrees in Art Education, Drawing and Design (Western Michigan University Honors College, University of Colorado at Boulder) and a Master of Fine Arts in Interdisciplinary Arts (Goddard College, Vermont). She is Assistant Professor of Art Education at Southern Utah University where she curated the highly successful *Everything in Between: Art Quilts, Fabric Collage and Embroidery* at the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery in 2012. She currently serves as President of the Cedar City Arts Council.

Deborah K. Snider's new book, *The Collages of Jonathan Talbot*, spotlights one of the most influential collage artists of the late 20th and early 21st centuries. Snider's book offers an in-depth view of the artist's creative process and features full-page color reproductions of 33 Talbot collages accompanied by commentaries which offer unique insights into the evolution of the individual works. Snider includes an in-depth interview in which Talbot discusses his artistic development, what inspires him, the innovative techniques he has developed, and much more. The book is a wonderful collaboration within SUU's Department of Art and Design and includes an essay by art historian Andrew Marvick, Professor of Art, art direction by Jeffrey Hanson, Associate Professor of Graphic Design and Chair of the Department of Art and Design, and layout by senior Graphic Design student Chelsea Howells. The book is published by Royal Fireworks Press in Unionville, New York, and is available in Cedar City exclusively at Artisans' Art Gallery on Center Street.

With the announcement of Snider's UAEA Award, **Shauna Mendini**, Dean, SUU's College of Performing and Visual Arts, hailed the organization's choice, "As the 2015 Higher Education Art Educator of the Year selected by the Utah Art Education Association, it is thrilling that others have recognized what we at Southern Utah University know; Professor Snider's strong sense of mission to enrich the lives of diverse populations through art education."

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, as well as a Center for Shakespeare Studies and a graduate program in Arts Administration. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration degree. The Center for Shakespeare Studies offers a minor in Shakespeare Studies. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 550 majors in the College. Over 1100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at cpvamktg@suu.edu.