

MEMO

August 15, 2010

To: Educators in the ARC Counties

From: First Lady Marsha Barbour

Re: Mississippi Governor's Mansion 2010 Christmas Ornament Competition

At the beginning of the summer I asked for your help with a project that I am very excited about for the fall 2010 school year. Having the ARC to be the first to participate in this project is very meaningful to me and I hope that it will be for you as well.

I would appreciate any help that you can offer by distributing this information to teachers especially art teachers in grades 6-9. Of course, we welcome class participation on an individual basis if your school does not have an art teacher.

Please do not hesitate to call my office if you have any questions about the project. Contact information is listed below along with the announcement that was sent out back in May. Thanks again for your help and I can't wait to see the designs. As Edgar Degas said, "Art is not what you see, but what you make others see."

Best wishes for a successful fall 2010.

With warm regards,

Marsha Barbour
First Lady, Mississippi

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mississippi's First Lady Marsha Barbour wishes to announce a Fall 2010 Design Competition/Contest. The First Lady will be asking students in Northeast Mississippi School Districts, grades 6-9, to submit drawings/designs for the 2010 Governor's Christmas Tree Ornament. Each Christmas, Mrs. Barbour decorates the Governor's Mansion and designs a tree ornament based upon a different region of the state. This year the theme will be, "The Appalachian Region of Mississippi," and the ornament will symbolize something the student believes makes this region unique. Students will be asked to submit designs created from their ideas. To guide teachers in assisting students with the project, a historical review of each Christmas theme during the years of the Barbour administration will be provided.

Guidelines will be disseminated to those participating districts on August 15, 2010. Schools and districts will determine district winners by October 15, 2010. These submissions will be sent to the Governor's Mansion where a panel of judges composed of Mississippi Artists will select the State Winner. First through Third place State Winners will be recognized at a reception at the Mansion and receive monetary awards. The design of the Governor's 2010 Christmas Tree Ornament will be based on the State Winner's submission.

For questions regarding the project please contact:
Cora Gee: (601) 359-6420 or cgee@governor.state.ms.us