

**News from Shimpo Ceramics
For Immediate Release**

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2001 Shimpo Tradition of Excellence Award Winner!

ITASCA, ILLINOIS; June 1, 2001 – Shimpo has recently awarded Miss Lili Bruer the 2001 Shimpo Tradition of Excellence Award. Lili's winning piece, "Untitled Candleholder", was selected from the 2001 NCECA Clay National Exhibition this past March in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Originally a cash award, the Tradition of Excellence Award has evolved into a purchase award over the years and is just one of the three programs Shimpo has initiated to support ceramic artists. Each winning piece is selected for its own merits as well as its contribution to a collection of educational significance; collectively, the winning pieces constitute Shimpo's Tradition of Excellence Corporate Collection and truly represent ceramic art at its finest.

For additional information on Shimpo's Tradition of Excellence Award and other Shimpo ceramic programs, visit their website at www.shimpoceramics.com.

Shimpo Ceramics, a division of Nidec-Shimpo America Corporation, is a leading manufacturer and distributor of ceramic equipment including potter's wheels, electric kilns, pug mills, banding wheels and accessories to the pottery, school and hobby markets.