

**News from Shimpo Ceramics**

**For Immediate Release**

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## **2002 Shimpo Tradition of Excellence Award Winner!**

**ITASCA, ILLINOIS; April 1, 2002** – At this year's NCECA Conference (held in Kansas City, Missouri), Shimpo Ceramics once again presented its award for the annual Tradition of Excellence competition. The competition is open to the ceramics community in general. A color slide of the art is submitted to Shimpo for judging by a panel comprised of Shimpo Ceramics employees. The response to the competition has been very good over the past years with this year being no exception. The entries were all beautifully unique ceramics pieces making the process of selecting a winning entry very difficult. However, in the end a winner was selected.

Shimpo purchases the winning piece and places it into Shimpo's corporate collection of Tradition of Excellence winners. This year's winner, titled "Weeping Squid Flower", was submitted by Melissa Parrott of Newark, Delaware. We congratulate Ms. Parrott and would like to thank all of the other fine artists for participating in this year's competition.

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