

Guild member, Melinda Newton, recently visited the Renwick Gallery in DC. She wanted to share some of the photos she took.

From Melinda, “I was at the Renwick Gallery in DC for the State Fairs: Growing American Craft exhibit a few weeks ago and took some photos of the beautiful baskets there.



The exhibit is incredible for so many different reasons and is not to be missed. It ends on September 7th.”

Here is the website: [Visit Renwick | Smithsonian American Art Museum](https://www.sdmuseum.org/visit-renwick)

Anyone thinking road trip? Melinda has graciously offered her contact info for best metro stops/parking ramp to the gallery. It's very close to the White House. Melinda's contact info is:

cinnaminda1@yahoo.com
410-415-3530



Wolfram Krank

born 1941; resides Albuquerque, NM

Basket #16

1964

reed and raffia

Wolfram Krank devised his own basketry technique to make intricate designs, like this Nordic-style tree of life. He studied European folk-art textile designs in Austria and adapted them to basketry. A longtime resident of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Krank showed his baskets in the 1967 New Mexico State Fair.

Smithsonian American Art Museum, Gift of the artist, 2025.9.2



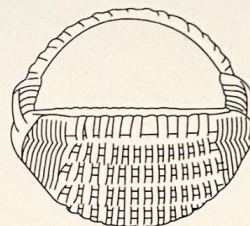
Ira Blount

1918–2020; resided Washington, DC

Melon-Shaped Basket with Side Handles

1995

wood splint, reed, twigs, and dye



Basketry was just one of fifteen different crafts that Ira Blount explored during his lifetime. Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Blount attended Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University) for two years, until he was drafted into the US Army in 1941. He moved to Washington, DC, in 1950 and began teaching himself numerous crafts. Blount shared his quilting, woodworking, and basketry skills with his local community, inspiring others—particularly senior citizens—to “create, to challenge themselves.”

This basket won first prize at the Maryland State Fair in 1995, introducing Blount’s work to a wider audience.

Courtesy of Anacostia Community Museum, Smithsonian Institution, Gift of Ira Blount

