

# Musicians, writers, artists worthy of medals

■ President honors Spielberg, Tallchief, Odetta and 16 others

By ANNE GEARAN  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Hollywood filmmaker Steven Spielberg, American Indian ballet dancer Maria Tallchief and folk singer Odetta were among the musicians, writers and arts impresarios honored Wednesday as American cultural treasures.

President Clinton presented the national arts and humanities medals to 18 people and one performing arts school. The White House selects the annual winners of the National Medal of Arts and the National Humanities Medal.

Clinton read a short tribute to each winner during the ceremony at Constitution Hall near the White House, saying they "defined in their own unique ways a part of who we are as a people and what we're about as a nation as we enter a new century and a new millennium."

Odetta's 50 years of performing American folk and gospel reminds "us all that songs have the power to change the heart and change the world," Clinton said.

Clinton said "A Prairie Home Companion," the public radio show created by medalist Garrison Keillor, "is always blaring in the White House."

Tallchief helped put an American stamp on classical ballet, until recent decades a primarily European discipline, Clinton said.

"How appropriate that a Native American woman would do that," he said.

The 1999 winners of the National Medal of the Arts are:

- Arts patron Irene Diamond, who gave more than \$73 million to the arts through foundations and personal gifts.

- Designer and architect Michael Graves, who created some of the century's most admired structures, including the River-



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Clintons present honor to Garrison Keillor on Wednesday.

bend Music Center in Cincinnati.

- Odetta, the "Queen of American Folk Music," who created a groundbreaking sound with her voice and guitar.

- The Juilliard School of performing arts in New York.

- Writer and director Norman Lear, who created some of the century's most popular television social comedies, including "All in the Family," "Good Times" and "The Jeffersons."

- Actress and producer Rosetta LeNoire, who boasts a more than 60-year career that includes numerous movies, Broadway productions and television shows, including "Family Matters" and "Amen."

- Arts administrator Harvey Lichtenstein, who was president of the Brooklyn Academy of Music for 32 years and established it as a leading arts center.

- Singer Lydia Mendoza, who brought Mexican-American music to the public's attention and became famous in Latin America with her signature song, "Mal Hombre."

- Sculptor George Segal, who made a career of sculpting environments, including a life-sized bread line at the Franklin

Delano Roosevelt Memorial in Washington.

- Tallchief, who was the New York City Ballet's longtime prima ballerina.

The 1999 winners of the National Humanities Medals are:

- Librarian Patricia M. Battin, who organized a national campaign to save millions of decaying books by putting their contents on microfilm.

- Pulitzer Prize-winning writer

and journalist Taylor Branch, whose books, including "Parting the Waters: America in the King Years," made him an authority on the civil rights movement.

- New South scholar Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, who founded the Southern Oral History Project at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

- Keillor, best-selling author and radio host of "A Prairie Home Companion."

- Television anchor and editor

Jim Lehrer, host of a public television news program named for him.

- Political philosopher and author John Rawls, renowned for his views on justice, basic rights and equal opportunity.

- Academy Award-winning filmmaker Spielberg.

- Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright August Wilson whose plays, including "The Piano Lesson" and "Fences," explore the black experience in America.

**FIX THOSE FOGGED UP WINDOWS!!**

**One Day Service...**

from the area's leading manufacturer of dual pane windows.

NUMBER ONE IN QUALITY SINCE 1960

**DON'S MOBILE GLASS**

Modesto / Oakdale    Turlock / Merced    Manteca / Tracy

526-5848    667-1222    823-7685

**FREE NOKIA PHONE**

**FREE** Local Calling 916, 530, 209, 702, 775 & 559

**FREE** Roaming In CA & NV

**FREE** Answering Machine & Pager

**FREE** Caller ID, Call Waiting

Give \$20 to American Red Cross and get a FREE Nokia 5190 Pure Digital PCS Phone and receive a \$25 Lucky gift certificate.

**NOKIA** CONNECTED PEOPLE

**Lucky**

PLANS AS LOW AS \$19.95 A MONTH-PLUS 1000 SMS

**4000 WINNERS**

**MODESTO • 524-7788**  
2900 Standford @ Sisk  
By Baskin Robbins

**STOCKTON • 952-7777**  
4711 N. Pershing Ave @ March Lane

**STOCKTON • 478-6666**  
6045 Pacific Ave @ Swain Rd

**MANTECA • 824-9333**  
Main St. (Next to Walgreen's)

**TRACY • 830-9999**

**PACIFIC BELL**  
Wireless  
Authorized Agent

OFFER REQUIRES NEW SERVICE SUBSCRIPTION AND ACTIVATION OF A 1 YEAR SERVICE. ELIGIBLE RATE PLANS BETWEEN \$19.95 TO \$19.99. SALES TAX APPLIED TO FULL RETAIL PRICE OF PHONE. EXTERIOR BATTERIES SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL. \$25 ACTIVATION FEE. EARLY TERMINATION OF 1 YEAR AGREEMENT RESULTS IN \$200 FEE. SEE STORE FOR DETAILS. 10.00 PLAN FEE PER \$20.00. \$1.00 BATTERY FEE PER \$20.00 PLAN.