



## NBO 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award Joanna Schanz



Nationally-acclaimed willow basket maker and instructor from West Amana, Iowa, Joanna Schanz's adventures with willow began in 1977 when she became a student of Philip Dickel, the last active willow basket maker of the Amana Colonies (7 communal villages settled by Germans in 1855). Dickel taught her to harvest and sort cultured willow and to weave her first basket.

Since that time, Joanna has been active in teaching traditional willow styles at many events, conferences and workshops, including the first basketry conference at Arrowmont when the NBO was formed. She has organized basketry workshops in the Amanas, hosting a special exhibition at the Philip Dickel Museum there during the summer months. Joanna has worked with many students and has had several apprentices, and at the age of 75 continues to teach today working in a one-on-one study format. Her work has been selected for numerous exhibitions and can be found in the permanent collection of the Smithsonian Museum.

Joanna has written 2 books, *Willow Basketry of the Amana Colonies*, and *Willow Basketry for the Very Beginner*.

*The National Basketry Organization awarded its first, biennial Lifetime Achievement Awards in 2013. The Award recognizes those individuals whose work has influenced the field of American Basketry and acknowledges superior achievement and extraordinary contributions over the course of an entire career.*