

THE BIGHAM AWARDS®

"Artistic Awards & Gifts"



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Unity Globe Award

The "Unity Globe" was handcarved from the wood of the Sese tree by the Fulani People of Ghana, West Africa.

The three human figures with their raised arms supporting the globe symbolizes unity in the universe, oneness of the family, friendship and community spirit, and an entire village working together to achieve community goals.

This award recognizes outstanding leadership, togetherness, teamwork, and high accomplishments.

Designed by William H. Bigham Galleries

The Bigham Awards is an exclusive collection of creative artistic award presentations. The bronze, wood, and other mixed media art sculptures selected for the awards are all individually handcrafted by national and international artists. Their skilled craftsmanship is uniquely displayed in custom acrylic, glass, and metal award presentations.

Our mission is to design awards that promote the history and culture of authentic African Art and African American art.

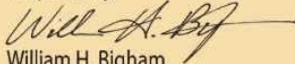
The Bigham Awards exemplify the beauty, richness and legacies of art. Our awards introduce artistry, craftsmanship with the highest quality.

- Reward excellence with culture
- Create lasting impressions forever
- Recognizes acknowledgements of personal achievements
- Guarantees your next promotion or business gift, the best ever.
- Prestigious expressions of achievements.

Create an identity for your organization. Commissioned projects are welcomed.

Reflect your highest honor with The Bigham Awards.

Respectfully,



William H. Bigham
President & Owner

Hand Carved Sculptures



Female Ebony Strength Award 24"

This "Female Figure" was hand carved from the wood of the Sese tree by the Fulani People of Ghana, West Africa. The lady bearing the pot on her head represents a lady holding symbols of life; symbols of holding power and beauty, bringing food and water for life to her community. The silver metal represents coolness, peace and wealth. The color ebony represents the richness and power of the African Woman.

This figure recognizes exemplary performance, outstanding endurance, and superior nurturing of one who exceeds all standards.



Rhythm Pounder Award 24"

Tribes used rhythm pounders during agricultural ceremonies. They were pounded on the ground to the rhythm of the drums and chanting to symbolically till and revitalize the earth. Its human form was pared down to simple geometric shapes.

This pounder conveys excellence in leadership, outstanding endurance and acknowledges one, who establishes the beat, pace, and rhythm for others to follow.



Unity Globe Award 22"

The "Unity Globe" was hand carved from the wood of the Sese tree by the Fulani People of Ghana, West Africa. The three human figures with their raised arms supporting the globe symbolizes unity in the universe, oneness of the family, friendship, community spirit and an entire village working together to achieve community goals.

This award recognizes Outstanding Leadership, Togetherness, Teamwork and High Accomplishments.



Bronze Sculptures



Queen Mother Commemorative Head
Benin Kingdom, Edo Peoples, Nigeria. 28"

The Head was placed at the altar by the king, in honour of his mother. The Queen Mother was considered the mother of all kings. A life-sized female head, with a tight collar of thirty two strips of beads indicate the early 16th century Benin period.

The head is recognized because they always have a long hairstyle that rises in a peak above the head. The lattice-work pattern crowning the female hair-dress corresponds to the jasper, coral and carnelian beads worn by rulers as emblems of their authority.

Bronze symbolizes richness, royalty, power, wealth and status. This award recognizes leadership excellence, respect, vision, outstanding achievements and community engagement.



Lady of the Royal Court / Female Trailblazer Award

The "Lady of the Royal Court" was created in bronze by skilled metalsmiths from the Benin People of Nigeria, West Africa. This female figure represents royalty; her posture with her cupped hands is a symbol of formality, honor, respect and pride. She was appointed within the Royal Family for her ability to make important decisions within the inner circle and for her continuous demonstrated commitment and support for family, life and village values. This beautiful lady princess is depicted with symbols of high social status: a royal elaborate headdress and a royal dress embraced with elegant cording.

Bronze symbolizes richness, royalty, power, wealth, and status.

This award recognizes continuous support above and beyond the call of duty, superior leadership, outstanding achievements and contributions to mankind.



Female Bronze Strength Award

This "Female Figure" was created in bronze by skilled metalsmiths from the Burkina Faso People of West Africa. The lady bearing the pot on her head represents a lady holding symbols of life; symbols of holding power and beauty, bringing food and water for life to her community. This statue symbolizes the richness and power of the African Woman.

Bronze symbolizes richness, royalty, power, wealth, and status.

This figure recognizes exemplary performance, outstanding endurance, superior nurturing and one who exceeds all standards.



Food For Life Warrior 13"

The "Food for Life Warrior" was created in bronze by skilled metal smiths from the Burkina Faso People of West Africa. The statue symbolizes a strong male carrying symbols of new life; vision, continuous rebirth and vitalization to the community.

Bronze symbolizes richness, royalty, power, wealth, and status.

This award recognizes outstanding achievements and contributions, support above and beyond the call of duty, and exemplary leadership.



Hunter/Rising Star Award 14"

The "Hunter" was created in bronze by skilled metalsmiths from the Burkina Faso People of West Africa. The hunter with his forward outstretched arm holding the hunting knife represents strength, pride, honor and protection. The hunter walked in processions near the king to protect him from all harm.

Bronze symbolizes richness, royalty, power, wealth, and status.

This award recognizes continuous support above and beyond the call of duty, outstanding achievements and contributions to mankind, entrepreneurs and positive role modeling.



Drummer Award 12"

The "Man Carrying the Drum" was created in bronze by skilled metalsmiths from the Burkina Faso People of West Africa. Drums were used to send messages to other tribes.

The statue symbolized celebration, happiness, and togetherness. The drummer led and established the rhythm at the procession for the king.

Bronze symbolizes richness, royalty, power, wealth, and status.

This award recognizes outstanding achievements and contributions, creativity, innovativeness, and leadership.

Custom Acrylic Plaques



Portrait Mask, Africa 30"



Portrait Mask, Diamond 13"

Portrait Mask Award

The "Portrait Mask" was created in bronze by skilled metal smiths from the Baule People of West Africa. The mask is regarded as a "portrait" of a previous king or queen, and carried or worn by a high ranking Baule nobleperson as a commemorative, protective ornament. The mask was also worn during festivals related to important dignitary's visits to the village.

The "Portrait Mask" symbolizes naturally occurring beauty, effort, empowerment, purpose, richness, and royalty. The mask evokes individual character and personal accomplishments.

This award recognizes one who shares wisdom and knowledge, one who is devoted to family, lived fully, and gained respect from their outstanding accomplishments, relative experiences, and contributions to mankind.



Bronze Door 13"

Bambara People, Mali, West Africa

This "Door" was handcrafted in bronze by skilled metal smiths from the Bambara People of West Africa. These doors protected the window-like opening into family's grain storage building. This door is decorated with figures of ancestors, primordial beings, Kanaga masks, and scenes of life.

Doors were placed at village entrances to represent openness and peace within the community to visitors. Doors signify new beginnings, harmony, and unity.

This award recognizes one who provided continuous support above and beyond the call of duty, distinguished leadership in breaking down barriers, increasing access and providing new opportunities for all mankind; entrepreneurship and positive role modeling.



Adinkra Plate 18"

The "Adinkra Plate" was handcrafted by skilled artisans from the Akan People of Ghana, West Africa. These artful creations were crafted from natural clay and soil from the mother land, adorned with Adinkra symbols, and fired with African wood in a small kiln. Adinkra symbols signify good luck and today are used for many business loggos. These beautiful rustic plates were used in African rituals as well as for home decorations. Adinkra plates were given to individuals to honor their accomplishments and given as gifts for good luck.

"Adinkra Plates" symbolize unity in the universe, naturally occurring beauty, purpose, history, religion and community spirit. The plate evokes individual character and personal accomplishments.

This award recognizes one who shares wisdom and knowledge, one who is devoted to family, and has gained respect from their outstanding accomplishments, relative experiences, and contributions to mankind.



Plate 18"



Plate 12"



Vision, Classic 10"



Vision, Diamond 13"



Map Indiana 24"x20"



Plaque, Basic 8"



McDonald's Classic 18"



Sese Worman 13"

Custom Acrylic Plaques



Plate 18"



Plate 12"

Adinkra Plate 18"

The "Adinkra Plate" was handcrafted by skilled artisans from the Akan People of Ghana, West Africa. These artful creations were crafted from natural clay and soil from the mother land, adorned with Adinkra symbols, and fired with African wood in a small kiln. Adinkra symbols signify good luck and today are used for many business logos. These beautiful rustic plates were used in African rituals as well as for home decorations. Adinkra plates were given to individuals to honor their accomplishments and given as gifts for good luck. "Adinkra Plates" symbolize unity in the universe, naturally occurring beauty, purpose, history, religion and community spirit. The plate evokes individual character and personal accomplishments. This award recognizes one who shares wisdom and knowledge, one who is devoted to family, and has gained respect from their outstanding accomplishments, relative experiences, and contributions to mankind.



Vision, Classic 10"



Vision, Diamond 13"



Map Indiana 24"x20"



Plaque, Basic 8"



Arches, Classic 18"



Drummer, Jimbe 13"

Framed Artworks



Royal Beaded Belt 48" x 22"

"Royal Beaded Belts" are handcrafted by skilled artisans from the Yoruba People of West Africa. These artful creations were crafted from natural beads and fiber from the mother land. The design and symbols portray history, art, culture and our great heritage.

Yoruba beaded belts are among the most colorful African works of art. They were worn across the shoulder by kings and queens and were often given as presents to important visitors.

This belt symbolizes history, art, culture and our great heritage.



Adrina Plate 16"



Kente Cloth, Portrait Mask 13"



Granary Bronze Door 13"



Sports Memorabilia



**Mudcloth, (Bogolanfni) 24"x20"
Bamana People, Mali, West Africa.**

Mudcloth is a rich fabric dyed with the mud from the rivers of Mali. Mudcloth is created in bold geometric patterns that carry messages for the informed observer. Some cloths are made to honour leaders, others for initiation ceremonies. This cloth symbolizes history, art, culture and our great heritage.

This presentation recognizes one who shares wisdom and knowledge, one who is devoted to family and community, and has gained respect from their outstanding accomplishments, relative experiences.



**Professional Cross 24"x24"
Ethopia People, East Africa**

For the Ethiopia church, the cross is not merely a symbol of Christ's suffering and death but, more importantly, a mark of resurrection. The intricate interlocking design echoes decorative forms found on the screens and friezes of Ethiopian medieval churches.

Hand Carved Sculptures



Sisterhood I 20"

The "Elephant Statue" was handcarved by skilled artisans from the Akan People of Ghana, West Africa. Sisterhood is about sharing a history, common goals, friendship and trust, hopes and dreams, growing together and becoming strong as one. The elephant is a symbol of good luck and strength. Elephants were given to individuals to honor their accomplishments and given as gifts for good luck.

"Sisterhood" is about guidance, encouragement, academic excellence, assisting in changing public perception on working women and improving working conditions and career opportunities.

This award recognizes one who shares wisdom and knowledge, one who is devoted to family, and has gained respect from their outstanding accomplishments, relative experiences, and contributions to mankind.



The Hornbill 12"

Statues of the hornbill were hand carved by the Ghana People of West Africa and set up in the sacred grove, where initiations into adulthood and other important poro organization rites took place. Hornbills are placed at village entrances as protective figures. Hornbills mate for life. The bird with its beak pressed against its stomach represents the male role in the communal feed routine, while the enlarged stomach represents the mother carrying the chicks.

This award recognizes new beginnings, mentoring productivity, and rebuilding the soul.



Sisterhood II 22"

The "Elephant Statue" was handcarved by skilled artisans from the Akan People of Ghana, West Africa. Sisterhood is about sharing a history, common goals, friendship and trust, hopes and dreams, growing together and becoming strong as one. The elephant is a symbol of good luck and strength. Elephants were given to individuals to honor their accomplishments and given as gifts for good luck.

"Sisterhood" is about guidance, encouragement, academic excellence, assisting in changing public perception on working women and improving working conditions and career opportunities.

This award recognizes one who shares wisdom and knowledge, one who is devoted to family, and has gained respect from their outstanding accomplishments, relative experiences, and contributions to mankind.



Female Carrying Pot 9"

This "Female Carrying Pot" was hand carved from the wood of the Sese tree by the Fulani People of Ghana, West Africa. The lady bearing the pot on her head represents a lady holding symbols of life; symbols of holding power and beauty, bringing food and water for life to her community.

This figure recognizes exemplary performance, outstanding endurance, superior nurturing and one who exceeds all standards.



Sankofa 12"

The "Sankofa" was hand carved from the wood of the Sese tree by the Fulani People of Ghana, West Africa. Sankofa is an Akan word that means, "We must go back and reclaim our past so we can move forward; so we understand why and how we came to be who we are today."

This award symbolizes community, family and cooperative economics.



Thinking Female

The "Thinking Woman" was hand carved from the wood of the Sese tree by the Fulani People of Ghana, West Africa. This sculpture with its abstract contours defines the form of a person deep in thought. Slender and graceful, he rests her chin on one hand in a pose that heightens the impact of her posture.

This award symbolizes leadership and vision.



Thinking Male 9"

The "Thinking Man" was hand carved from the wood of the Sese tree by the Fulani People of Ghana, West Africa. This sculpture with its abstract contours defines the form of a person deep in thought. Slender and graceful, he rests his chin on one hand in a pose that heightens the impact of his posture.

This award symbolizes leadership and vision.

Corporate, Personal & Retirement Gifts



In Harmony 24"

These male and female figures were created by the Bassam People of the Ivory Coast. The figures symbolize Togetherness, Union, and Harmony as they journey through life together.

An excellent anniversary or wedding gift.



Praise Shadow 20"

This sculpture is an abstract of the shadow of an angel profile hand carved from the wood of the Sese tree by the Fulani People of Ghana, West Africa. This intricate carving signifies Faith, Love, and Family.

This award recognizes Care, Compassion, Family, Nurturing and Outstanding Endurance.



Eternity Sculpture 11"

"Eternity Sculpture" are hand carved from polished rapoka stone, by the Shona People of Zimbabwe, South Africa. The sculpture symbolizes "loving ones dancing as they celebrate the different stages of life" and radiates Energy, Joy, Togetherness, and Harmony.

An excellent anniversary or wedding gift.

Executive Gemstone Globe Pens



Fountain & Ball Writing Pens.

Onyx, Lapis, Jade, Mother-of-Pearl, Green Jasper, Coral, Turquoise, Goldstone.

Pendant



Male, Female Couple 3"

Totes & Garment Bags



Travel Garment Bag 72"

Mortar & Pestal



Testimonials

"We would like to express our sincere appreciation for your years of commitment and dedication to meet the needs of our awards program. The Unity Globe award has truly created an identity for our organization. Our recipients enjoy them dearly." **Mr. John Mitchell, Chief of Staff and Director of President's Scheduling, Rainbow/PUSH Coalition & Citizenship Education Fund.**

"It has been a pleasure working with you. You have created an amazing venue of awards for our organization. We are so pleased with your service, quality of work and closeness to detail. Your creations are so unique, visually captivating and tells their own story. Look forward to our continual partnership". **Yvonne Jones Elsav - General Motors Corporation- Chairperson Black History Celebration Committee**

"You have played a major role in re-defining our awards and recognition program. Your award presentations continue to be the anticipated highlight for our guests and sponsors at our Annual Corporate Luncheon and the President's reception." **Joyce Q. Rogers, Esq., President/CEO, Indiana Black Expo, Inc.**

Let me say, "The awards were a success at our conference, a job well done this year as well." Your hard work and loyalty are greatly appreciated. Again, thank you." **Curtis A. Pettaway, M.D., Associate Professor of Urology, National Medical Association.**

"Thank-you for you quick response to our most recent request for awards for our upcoming conference. The awards were very sleek and elegant. We received several favorable comments from our speakers and we look forward to using The Bigham Awards for our conferences in the future." **Chereese V. Johnson, Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University Program Committee.**

"On behalf of the directors and staff at Mercy Hospital, I want to thank you for the splendid job you did in framing the certificates for our Physicians Appreciations luncheon. Many thanks." **Terry Mason, M.D., Chief Urologist, Mercy Hospital.**

"Congratulations again on a job well done! As usual, the awards were a big hit. The presidents and all the staff thank you for your responsiveness and for your great work." **Avenia R. Albright, Kitty Gains, Awards Committee, National Dental Association.**

Highlights



"EBONY" magazine featured William H. Bigham Galleries in the "Dreams Come True" feature story, "The Big Risk: From Corporate America to Business on Their Own". (January, 2007)



Ebony/Cobb



The Business Ledger, The Business Newspaper for Suburban Chicago, presented William H. Bigham Galleries the 2003 Annual Award for Business Excellence for Business Excellence for a Minority-Owned Business. (April 10, 2003)

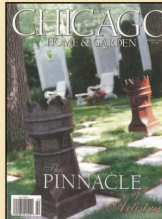


Annual Awards for Business Excellence
EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS
MINORITY - OWNED
COMPANY

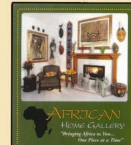


The BeaconNews

"The Beacon News" featured William H. Bigham Galleries for his commissioned project to design a Lifetime Achievement Award for the President of the United States. "Presidential Commission: Aurora Artist Creates Work on Display in the White House". (August 14, 2005)



The "CHICAGO Home & Garden" magazine, Summer 2002 issue featured William H. Bigham Galleries and the African Home Gallery in the "Fine Arts in Chicago" Special Features article. (June 2002)



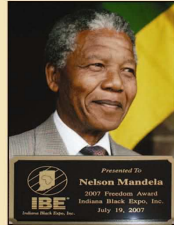
Client List



"Redirecting Technology to Serve Community Needs"



Award Recipients



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