

# The Importance of Art and Aging





Willie Jones  
Fiddler  
Old Town, Florida



Hilward Morgan teaching  
water divining, White Springs,  
Florida

JP "Curly" Deckle  
Whip Maker  
MacClenny, Florida



Sallie Jones  
Quilter  
White Springs, Florida.





Stewart Pacetti  
Cast Net Maker



Ted Henderson and  
Martine Young

“About the  
**best day** of  
my life.”

– Glenn Hall





## **We will Learn:**

- **How the arts support the wellbeing of older adults,**
- **How creative practices increase social engagement in later life,**
- **How creative endeavors provide elders with a sense of purpose , and**
- **How art and music making supports intergenerational bonds**



“Often when older people are recognized for outstanding work, they are typically regarded as exceptions to the rule—as if creativity and outstanding performance were not significant parts of aging. But when you can identify an entire field like folk art that is dominated by older people, then outstanding performance by various older individuals cannot be trivialized as atypical or an exception to the rule. Folk art makes a profoundly powerful statement about the inherent capacity for creative expression throughout the entire life cycle.”

--Gene Cohen 2005



“I became a drummer, like everybody else in my **family**. That was a long time ago.”

Prince Julius Adeniyi





“I Play out about  
16 times a  
month—**not**  
**counting Church.**”

Helen Keisel





**“I’m the last.”**

**-Junie Theoharris**


“The **joy** I get  
from playing  
music, I should  
**share** that”

Manjeet Singh





**Isolation**  
**Boredom**  
**Helplessness**

A photograph of Roy Spight, an older man with a grey beard and glasses, wearing a dark green patterned shirt with gold embroidery and a black cap with gold patterns. He is holding a small green book or tablet and looking down at it. In the foreground, a young girl with dark braids and blue face paint is looking at the book. To her right, a young boy with blonde hair is also looking at the book. In the background, a woman with blue face paint and other people are visible under a white tent. The scene is outdoors with greenery in the background.

“I want to put  
a part of  
**myself** in the  
drum”

Roy Spight



# Social Connections vs. Isolation





MADE IN ENGLAND





“Each one  
**teach** one.”

Sisters of the  
Cloth Quilting Guild





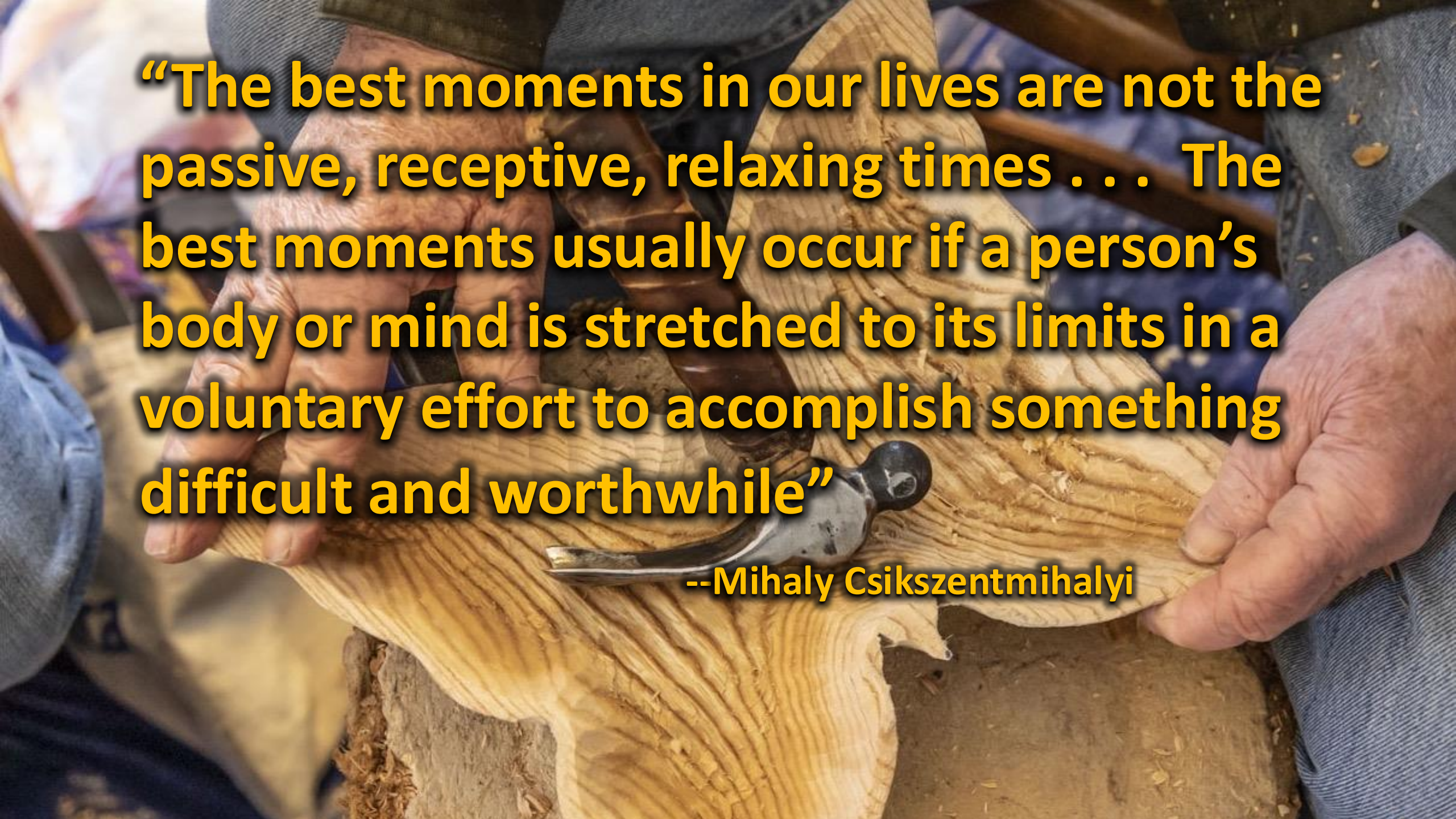


Kathy Rucker  
Clogger





**Flow vs.  
Boredom**



**“The best moments in our lives are not the passive, receptive, relaxing times . . . The best moments usually occur if a person’s body or mind is stretched to its limits in a voluntary effort to accomplish something difficult and worthwhile”**

**--Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi**

“It keeps my  
**mind** busy.  
It keeps me  
**going.**”

John Schoolman





INHB

ADA

1985





MEMORIES

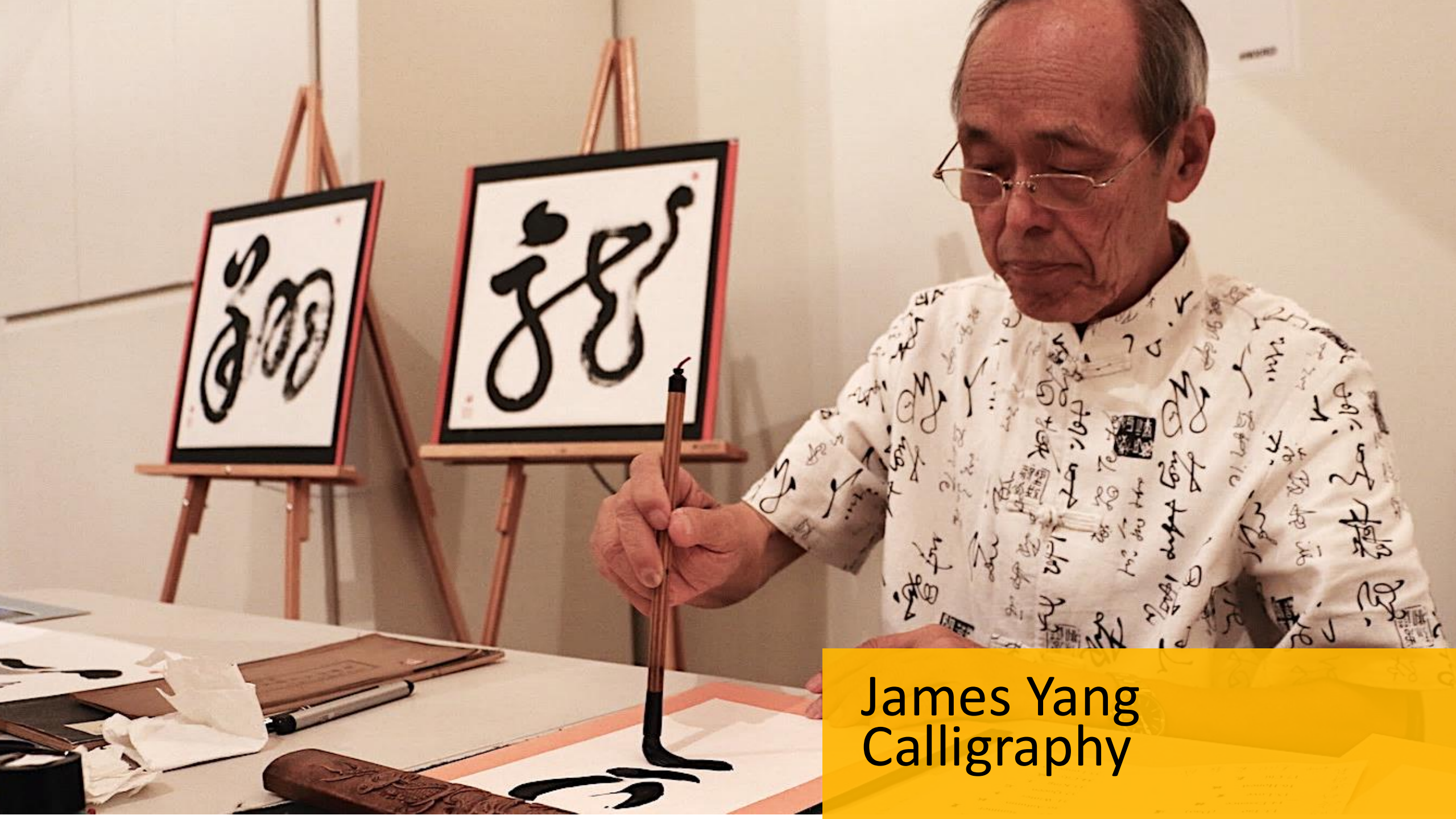


**Dee Nierman  
Rug Weaver**





# **Mastery vs. Helplessness**



James Yang  
Calligraphy

“It’s the  
cheapest hobby  
and the most  
**time** consuming”

Ruth Neuouser





Jan Boettcher  
Rosemaller



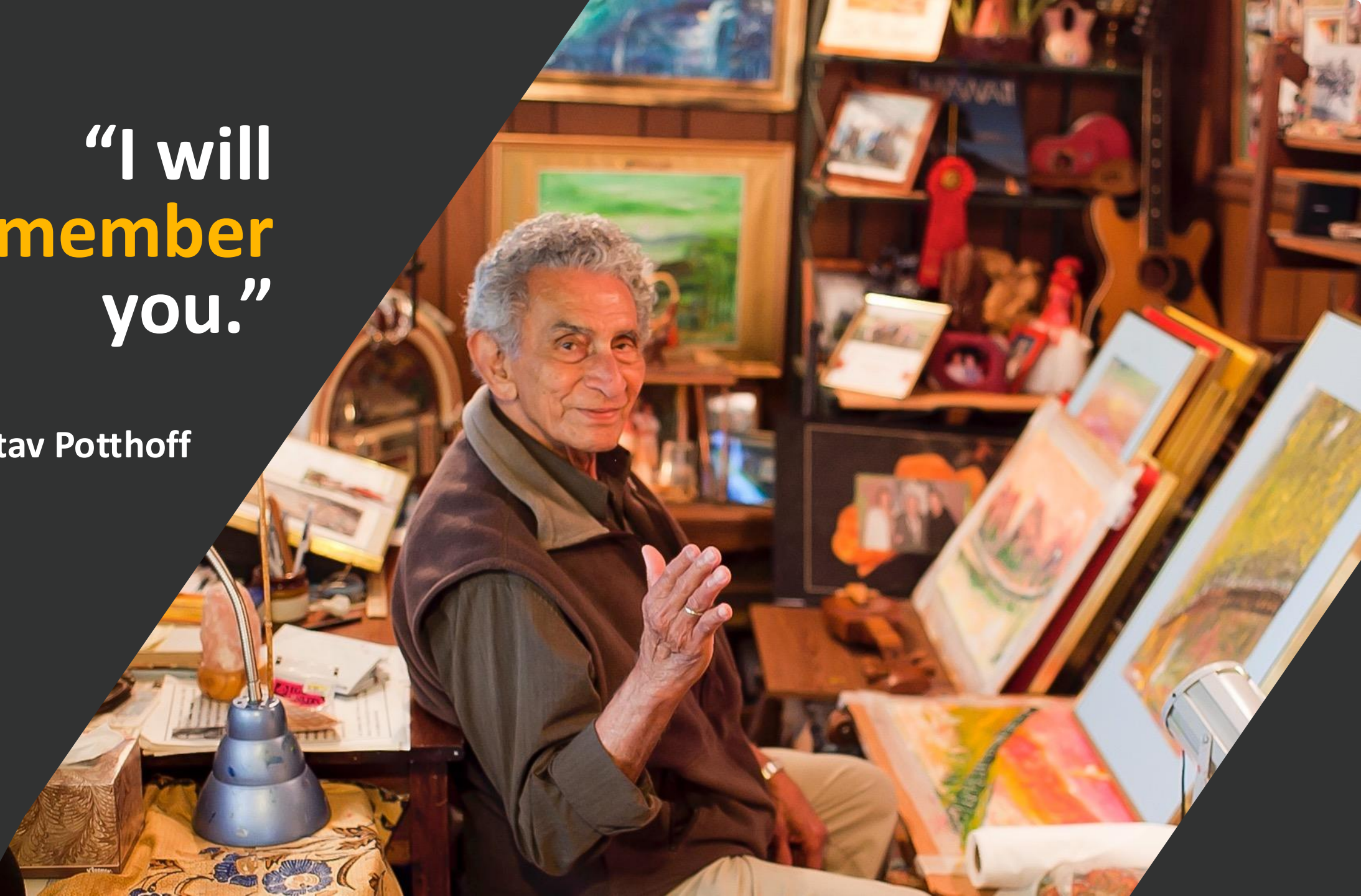




Jim Smoak  
Banjo Player

**“I will  
Remember  
you.”**

**Gustav Potthoff**





ANDERSON  
\$28

1941 SAND FIGHT DURING 1945

TOMMY

PT-10



# Harold Williams



# Harold William

*Memory, Place, and Mini*





**Celebrate Mastery**



Blaine Berry  
Bowl Hearer  
West Terre Haute, IN



Michael Combs  
Bowl Hearer  
Unionville, IN



Dale Findley  
Bowl Hearer  
West Terre Haute, IN



**Generativity**





*Archie Krout*



*Pi Hniang Ki*



*Rev. Cue Hlei*



*Amelia Culpher*



*Denzil McKim*



*James Yang*



***Bob Taylor***

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