

# Selma Burke Arts Gallery Opens

Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) has opened its Selma Burke Arts Gallery with a salute to the internationally renowned black artist. Tribute came from the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources, the City of Winston-Salem and several other groups and agencies during a formal dinner September 24.

The Selma Burke Gallery, located in Carolina Hall on the campus, features 106 works created or collected by Dr. Burke. The collection of sculpture, drawing, paintings and pottery is valued at \$250,000.

Dr. Burke donated the works to WSSU in appreciation for the affection she was shown while a student at Slater Industrial and State Normal School (now WSSU). "I

made up my mind that I would do something with my life. I thought that if I had something to return for what I had received, Teachers College (WSSU) deserved more than anybody," she said.

The 83 year old artist is probably best known as the winner of the 1943 Fine Arts Commission for the District of Columbia Competition for her portrait of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. It is this profile which is used on the dime. Her talent has earned her several fellowships and numerous honorary degrees and awards, most recently the North Carolina Award in Fine Arts in 1982. She studied ceramics under Provoleny in Vienna, Austria and sculpture under Maillat in Paris, France.

One of 10 children born to an Episcopalian minister and his wife, Dr.

Burke is a native of Mooresville, NC She now lives in New Hope, PA.

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