



## **Crochet Guild of America**

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CL 2003 Conference Chair

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

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The Crochet Guild of America announces that they are pleased to have Jean Williams Cacicedo of Berkeley, CA as Keynote Speaker at the Annual Conference that draws crocheters from all over the nation and many foreign countries. To view the complete schedule and all weekend activities, visit the Crochet Guild website at [www.crochet.org/2003conf/index.html](http://www.crochet.org/2003conf/index.html). Convening on July 24, Jean will open the weekend of crochet classes and other fiber-related events with her talk, "Looking Back...Moving Forward." Her journey with fiber began 30 years ago at the Pratt Institute in New York City when she was an art student. "At that time, Jean says, "I crocheted all my class assignments."

Jean Williams Cacicedo received a BFA from the Pratt Institute in 1970 and was a recipient of an NEA Fellowship Grant in 1976. In 1985, she was awarded Artist of the Year from the Contemporary Crafts Committee of the Oakland Museum. Her work has been featured in many publications, with a cover story in both American Craft and Ornament Magazines. In Berkeley, Jean teaches classes in her studio and has been a visiting artist at California College of arts and Crafts, Penland School of Arts and Crafts in North Carolina and Split Rock arts Program at the University of Minnesota. In 1997, she lectured on her work at the closing of the American Crafts Museum National tour exhibit, "Breaking Barriers," in which her fiber art was featured.

A nationally renowned fiber artist, Jean was a prime innovator in the Wearable Art Movement of the 1970's. Known for her "signature" wool coats in crochet and fabrics, Jean has worked both on the body and off the body incorporating a special process she developed for wool. Her pieced and sewn constructions have been exhibited at the Gulbenkian Museum, Portagal, at the Art Ginza Space, Tokyo, Japan and extensively throughout the United States. Jean is represented by Julie: Artisans Gallery, NYC, and her work is in the permanent collections of several museums.

