



**OKLAHOMA RECREATION
AND PARK SOCIETY**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Oklahoma Recreation and Park Society announces Regional Recognition for two State award recipients: Sapulpa and Stillwater Parks and Recreation.

1. Sapulpa Parks and Recreation Park Friends Grant Writing Program: Organization Citation, ORPS, Organization Citation Southwest Region. *The Sapulpa Grants Writing Program was a unique and future-visioning concept for a municipal parks and recreation department back in 1991 when staff developed the Sapulpa Park Friends. This program generated over \$5.8 million dollars in external funding since its inception. That amounts to \$305,461 per year to local parks and recreation system that would not otherwise have taken place nor exist today.*
2. Stillwater Parks & Recreation Arts Festival - Program Excellence Award, ORPS, Arts & Humanities Class III, Southwest Region. *The Annual Arts Festival is a community event that is held in Downtown Stillwater. The juried art show is a combined effort between the City of Stillwater and Downtown Stillwater. Approximately 10,000 people will visit the festival over a two day period.*

ORPS is part of a regional network of the National Recreation and Park Association that includes Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Each year ORPS awards communities for their outstanding leadership and project development at the annual State Conference. Those winners are forwarded to the regional level for consideration. The Regional Award winners are now eligible for NRPA recognition in October at the National Congress in Atlanta, Georgia.

Patty J Dixon, CPRP

ORPS

Executive Director

The mission of the Oklahoma Recreation and Park Society is to provide professionals with leadership, educational, personal and professional development opportunities in order to promote the importance of quality environmental, cultural, recreational and park services.