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***Ceramic artist Sylvia Hyman honored for creativity and productivity
in her eighth and ninth decades***

89-year-old Nashville, TN resident recognized in national "Splendid Seniors Among Us" program celebrating people whose post-65 activities can inspire all ages.

NASHVILLE, TN—Sylvia Hyman is a rarity: an artist whose most important works have all been created after age 80. For her ability to inspire those who would like to surpass or defy age-related limitations, Pearlson Press has chosen the Nashville ceramic artist as its "Splendid Senior Among Us" for August 2007—just weeks before she turns 90.

Hyman's art career spans 60 years. She began working with clay in the late 1950s, but it wasn't until the 1990s that she began producing the *trompe d'oeil* sculptures—realistic, eye-deceiving arrangements of letters, scrolls, books, maps, magazines, and other objects all made entirely of clay—that have won her worldwide fame.

An exhibit of 24 of her sculptures is on display at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts in downtown Nashville until Oct. 7, 2007. Other works are in the collections of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Museum of Decorative Arts in Prague, the Tennessee State Museum, and several other institutions. Curt Hahn's half-hour documentary *Sylvia Hyman: Eternal Wonder* recently aired on Nashville Public Television and will be shown in film festivals in France and China, according to Hyman.

"I don't really think about the fact that I am the age I am," Hyman told Pearlson Press founder Peggy Elam, Ph.D. when informed of her recognition as a "Splendid Senior." "I just continue to do the best I can with the abilities I have.

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“Do what you love and do it to the best of your ability,” she added when asked if she had any words of wisdom to share with others aspiring to keep active and creative in their later years.

As the “Splendid Seniors Among Us” honoree for August 2007, Hyman receives a certificate and an autographed copy of *Splendid Seniors: Great Lives, Great Deeds* by Jack Adler, an original trade paperback published by Pearlsong Press in March 2007. *Splendid Seniors* celebrates 52 men and women throughout history who accomplished great things after age 65. Pearlsong Press is sponsoring the year-long “Splendid Seniors Among Us” program in conjunction with publication of Adler’s book in order to honor seniors who are living inspiration.

To nominate someone for the “Splendid Seniors Among Us” program, which runs through February 2008, see the Pearlsong Press website at www.pearlsong.com. The book *Splendid Seniors: Great Lives, Great Deeds* can be purchased from Amazon.com and other online booksellers as well as directly from Pearlsong Press (www.pearlsong.com/splendidseiors.htm).

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