

John Phillip (JP) Begley: Louisville artist, curator and former gallery director, BFA with Distinction, University of New Mexico, 1969; MFA, Indiana University, 1975) retired from the Hite Art Institute at the University of Louisville in 2014. Now working as an independent artist/curator I currently maintain an active individual art practice that combines a variety of my interests and training. One such project is AFLOAT: An Ohio River Way of Life, a celebration of the river inspired by Harlan Hubbard that began in 2018 and continues through today to be an advocate for the river's aesthetic, economic and cultural importance as well as pointing out its many challenges. Hubbard with his writings plus his almost daily watercolor journals of his riverine environment and he and his wife Anna's conscientious lifestyle, created a legacy that is an important model for future interactions with Louisville's and indeed the entire river valley's most important physical asset. The impact his legacy carries for a sustainable future is immense. Having met Hubbard not long before his death, although admiring him long before that meeting, and knowing his assistant and artist Paul Hassfurther who has maintained the Hubbard homestead at Payne Hollow since Harlan's death in 1988, I realize it is now critical to pass this duty to preserve, maintain and expand this legacy to a more institutional partnership to ensure its continuation for future generations.