



# June Keener Wink

Sandisfield, MA

In the early years of her adulthood, June Keener Wink discovered a passion for dance, for the freedom and openness it brought to her life. Letting go of what we've been told we are and experiencing a freedom of being became her mission, one she brought into partnership with her husband Walter's non-violent peace activism. Throughout their lives together they worked in tandem to educate and encourage non-violent activism around the world.

Walking into Wink's home you immediately realize dance is not her only passion. You are in an artist's studio with a potter's wheel, the scent of clay, and pieces of pottery in various stages of completion from initial drying to completed glazing and firing. Her work is beautiful, offering up a vision of what it means to "take off the leash." There is joy and freedom in every piece. Her business is called Wild Thyme Pottery. One cannot help but smile!

When her husband passed away in 2012 June shifted some of her focus to the local community. Today she is clerk of the South Berkshire Friends Meeting. She is a team leader at the Great Barrington food pantry, and a volunteer at the Sandisfield Arts Center. She also serves on the vision team of the Fellowship of Reconciliation USA, which is creating a year-long fellowship to be awarded to a divinity student training in non-violence, or an emerging leader creating change that challenges the powers that be. This award, the Walter Wink and June Keener Wink Fellowship, supports the further development of the work she and her husband championed around the world.

If you visit her studio you will see some of her signature pieces, Dancing Flame Oil Lamps, as well as platters with various forms of dancing figures inviting you to be a part of the dance of life. Perfect!

**Photography:** Peter Levine

**Words:** Greta Phinney