

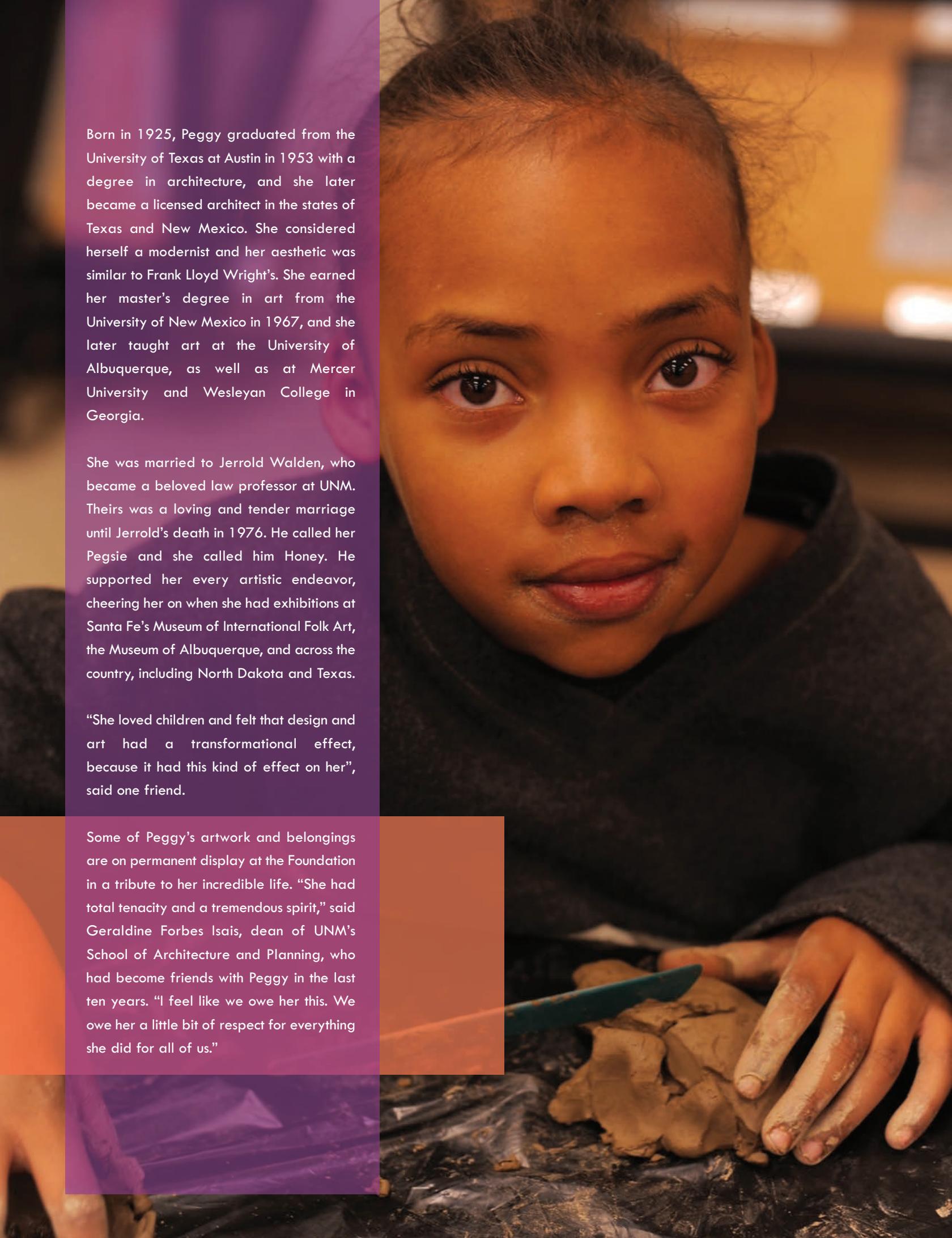
A woman with short, wavy brown hair and glasses, wearing a red jacket, is leaning over a young child. The child is focused on working with a piece of clay on a table covered with a black plastic sheet. The background is a blurred indoor setting with warm lighting.

Peggy Cavett-Walden & Professor Jerrold Walden Fund for Art & Music



Peggy Cavett Walden was an artist, an architect, a volunteer and a teacher. She was also a philanthropist, whose estate was meant to ensure that future generations have access to art. When Peggy passed away, the Foundation became home to her vision for the future.

Peggy's mind was always working, creating, planning and retooling. She saw art and potential in everything – from old milk jugs to the people she encountered. She believed that all anyone or anything needed was opportunity. Peggy tried her hand at just about every type of art and design: weaving, fabric painting, tie-dye, batik, paper crafts, origami, ceramics, jewelry, interior design, architecture and exhibit and display. She loved it all and wanted to master everything.



Born in 1925, Peggy graduated from the University of Texas at Austin in 1953 with a degree in architecture, and she later became a licensed architect in the states of Texas and New Mexico. She considered herself a modernist and her aesthetic was similar to Frank Lloyd Wright's. She earned her master's degree in art from the University of New Mexico in 1967, and she later taught art at the University of Albuquerque, as well as at Mercer University and Wesleyan College in Georgia.

She was married to Jerrold Walden, who became a beloved law professor at UNM. Theirs was a loving and tender marriage until Jerrold's death in 1976. He called her Pegsie and she called him Honey. He supported her every artistic endeavor, cheering her on when she had exhibitions at Santa Fe's Museum of International Folk Art, the Museum of Albuquerque, and across the country, including North Dakota and Texas.

"She loved children and felt that design and art had a transformational effect, because it had this kind of effect on her", said one friend.

Some of Peggy's artwork and belongings are on permanent display at the Foundation in a tribute to her incredible life. "She had total tenacity and a tremendous spirit," said Geraldine Forbes Isais, dean of UNM's School of Architecture and Planning, who had become friends with Peggy in the last ten years. "I feel like we owe her this. We owe her a little bit of respect for everything she did for all of us."