

Spotlight exhibit... “The Gratitude Project: Works by Justin & Brooke Rothshank”



Justin Rothshank works on his pottery wheel in his studio near Goshen, IN.

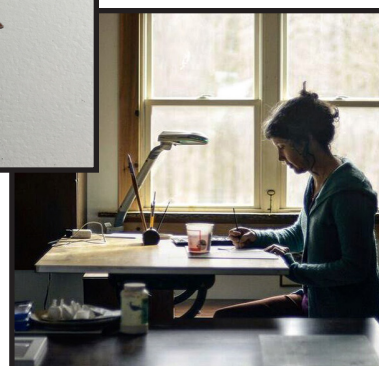
His work is represented in many galleries across the country.



The Midwest Museum of American Art is pleased to present this special spotlight exhibit opening on **November 17** in the Main Gallery titled *The Gratitude Project* featuring the artwork of husband & wife artists, Brooke & Justin Rothshank. The Rothshanks have been independently recognized nationally for their artwork; Brooke for her miniature paintings in watercolor and Justin for his unique approach to his ceramic forms displaying unusual surface decorations, artist-designed decals and incised stamping techniques.

Together they planned this collaborative project in 2017. Each week the artists created a work of art about something they were grateful for no matter how seemingly mundane. The intent was to use the project as an exercise to be present (or in the moment) during the busyness of life while being artists, parents, and members of their community.

far right: Brooke Rothshank in her studio. She created 52 miniature works in watercolor during 2017. A book illustrating those pieces is available for purchase.



It is appropriate that MMAA serve as a venue and a community catalyst for this conceptual undertaking during the Holiday Season when we should all be grateful for something that has impacted our lives in a positive way.

READ MORE ABOUT The Gratitude Project at www.rothshank.com/gratitude-project.

40th Elkhart Juried
Regional exhibit
October 6 - December 22
The GRATITUDE Project
opens November 17
FOUND at the Museum
Members receive 10% off



MUSEUM HOURS: Tues. - Fri. 10:00-4:00, Sat. 1:00-4:00, Sun. 1:00-4:00 (Free)
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Midwest Museum of American Art Quarterly Newsletter

for October • November • December • 2018

Headlines: Exhibits & Events 40th Elkhart Juried Regional *BIGGER & BETTER than ever!*

The Midwest Museum of American Art is pleased to announce the **40th Elkhart Juried Regional Art Exhibition, October 6 - December 22, 2018.**

This competition has become the most important survey of the very best of what is happening currently in the 22-county Michiana area. Now after four decades the museum has raised close to \$800,000

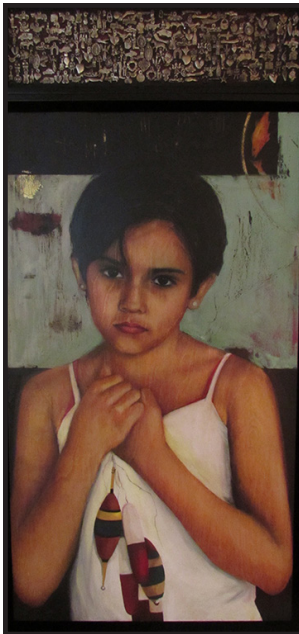
in awards monies through the Purchase Award process subsequently placing art in community homes and businesses. The distinguished juror for this exhibition was **Doug Calisch**, Professor of Art Emeritus, Wabash College, Crawfordsville, IN.

Many works in the exhibit are available for purchase. Think about adding to your art collection today. A checklist with values is available at the front desk. Your purchase helps sustain the Midwest Museum of American Art and supports a local artist!

More photos inside this issue...

right:
Sometimes I Cry,
by Mary Amador,
Goshen, IN,

This mixed media
work received
the Elkhart Art
Alliance Purchase
Award.



The Elkhart Juried Regional maintains its status as the most attended exhibit in the museum's history over the past ten years. Shown right is a diptych painting by Linda Freel, South Bend, IN, entitled, *Sentinels*. It received a Juror's Honorable Mention in the 40th Elkhart Juried Regional.

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Terry Mark, Director of Communications & Public Relations at the ECCVB (right), presents ceramic artist Bill Kremer, Cassopolis, MI, one of his two awards for the evening.



Highlights of the 40th Elkhart Juried Regional Awards Reception on Friday, October 5, 2018

Over \$28,000 in awards were given away to exhibiting artists this year at the Reception for the MMAA Elkhart Juried Regional held on Friday October 5 from 7-9 p.m. Statistics show that 255 artists brought 442 works of art to MMAA. The Juror, Doug Calisch, chose 203 works by 157 artists for this benchmark event. Here are images of award winning artists and of the crowds at the opening Awards Reception on Friday evening, October 5...



from left to right: Museum Trustees, Dr. Dan Burns, Dr. Rick Burns, & Jennifer Abrell had encouraging words for artists, members, and Purchase Patrons as they handed out the award monies during the celebration.



above: Dora Natella, Professor of Art at I.U.S.B. won the coveted Jack & Karen Cittadine BEST of SHOW Award for her sculpture titled, **Erato**. This was the artist's third time to do so in her 14 years of participating in the annual event. Congrats Dora!



left: Artist Tim Ackerson, Edwardsburg, MI, stops with his support dog, Luke, after receiving the Stan & June Disher Purchase Award for his wood-turned vessel titled, **Native American Animal Guides**.

right: Dr. Mary Harder is pleased to present ceramic artist, Bill Kremer, with her Purchase Award for one of two of his tall forms. The artist also received Best Ceramic Award for his second piece. Mary & her husband, Dr. Wes Mark, were also Silver Sponsors of the 40th EJR.



A crowd of over 250 exhibiting artists, members, & guests came to the Awards Ceremony on Friday evening.



above: A gouache & graphite work on paper titled, **Table Waitress**, by Jerry Ginther of Rochester, IN, won BEST DRAWING Award.

right: Lea Bult, Coloma, MI, received the Bill & Mary Kuhn Purchase Award for her painting, **Last Light I**.



NOON TIME TALKS

Thursday • 12:20-1:00pm



Regional Artists discuss their works in the 40th Elkhart Juried Regional exhibition every Thursday! **FREE** for Members. Guests of Members at the Family (up to three) and Society of Associate levels (up to four) are welcome. \$5 admission for the general public.

OCT 18 Dora Natella- Granger, IN

The Jack & Karen Cittadine BEST of SHOW Award winner. Natella is the second artist in the 40-year history to win this honor three times!

OCT 25 Randy Horst- Goshen, IN

Professor of Art, Goshen College will speak about his mixed media work including the triptych, *Ruth the Moabite*, which was awarded Best Mixed Media Award.

NOV 1 Mike Yazel- Mentone, IN

Yazel received Best Painting Award for his watercolor, *From the North*, in the 40th EJ.R.

NOV 8 Coleton Lunt- South Bend, IN

Graduate Student at the University of Notre Dame, Coleton Lunt, will speak about his sculptural ceramic vessels. Two were selected as the Jane & Steve Poe and Dr. Rick & Cindy Burns Purchase Awards in the 40th Elkhart Juried Regional Exhibition.

NOV 15 Lora Fosberg- Michigan City, IN

With an M.F.A from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Fosberg will introduce her background in studio art and her current endeavors as Exhibition Director for the Lubeznik Center for the Arts in Michigan City.

NOV 22 HAPPY THANKSGIVING! NO NOON TIME TALK

NOV 29 Matthew Payovich- St. Joseph, MI

Meet the Michigan artist who received an Honorable Mention, from Juror Doug Calisch, for his paintings *The Immaculate* and *High-Low Cat Girl*.

DEC 6 Merrill Krabill- Goshen, IN

Professor of Art, Goshen College will speak about his sculpture, *Loss & Redemption 60*, where the artist combines, clay, found wood roots, & photography.

DEC 13 John Blosser- Goshen, IN

Professor of Art *Emeritus*, Goshen College will speak about his long-running career as an artist and his watercolor, *Weeping Cherry - Spring*, that won the Craig Gibson Purchase Award.

DEC 20 Heidi Bailey- Warsaw, IN

This artist will discuss her mixed media work featured in the 40th Elkhart Juried Regional exhibition entitled, *Idols Come in All Disguises*.

DEC 27 NO NOON TIME TALK Have a Happy New Year!

TRIBUTES

The Midwest Museum of American Art gratefully acknowledges gifts in honor or in memory of special friends.

In Memory of:

Joyce Cleaveland

Fred & Judy Bechtold
Betty Bryant
Jane Burns
Rick & Cindy Burns
Brian & Lisa Byrn
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A gallery view of the 40th Elkhart Juried Regional with carved whirly-gig birds by Robert Hardt of Rolling Prairie, IN, and a painting of trees by Douglas Jones of Berrien Springs, MI.

A Special Note of Thanks to Docents & Volunteers

We thank all of the following volunteers who donated their time (almost 200 hours) in helping museum staff organize artwork, assisting in the inventory process, preparing & checking lists & labels, catering the reception, providing security during the reception, the friendly service to all artists who entered, and staffing the front desk during the four weeks of creating the 40th Elkhart Juried Regional. Without their help it would be impossible to manage this exhibit.

THANK YOU to...

Lisa Byrn, Sheila Cook, Sharon Feddersen, John Feddersen, Jackie Hughes, Adah Lynn, Jane Poe, Dellaura Riggle, Kathy Royer, and Kathy Zienty. Other important help supplied by Tara Bailey & Craig Culp.



below: Bryan Palmer, Goshen, IN, was selected by Susan Lehman & Connie Minzey as the 2018 winner of the Mary Feddersen Memorial Purchase Award for Photography. His work, ***Celestial Passage through the Badlands***, will become part of the MMAA Permanent Collection.



above: Sharon Chupp's painting, ***Envision***, that won the Dr. Malcom Webber Purchase Award.



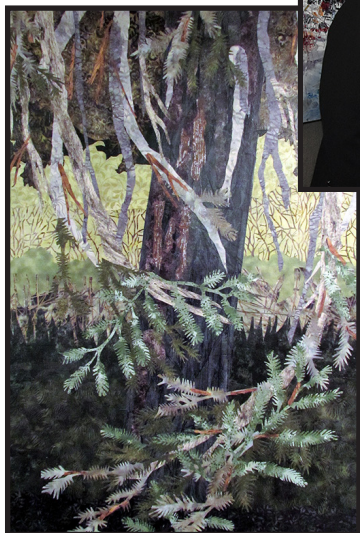
above: Julie Neises, Mishawaka, IN, poses next to her bronze work, ***The Endangered Pygmy Rabbit***, that won the Scott & Kristin Mereness Purchase Award.



above: An MMAA Member looks at Dora Natella's BEST of SHOW sculpture.

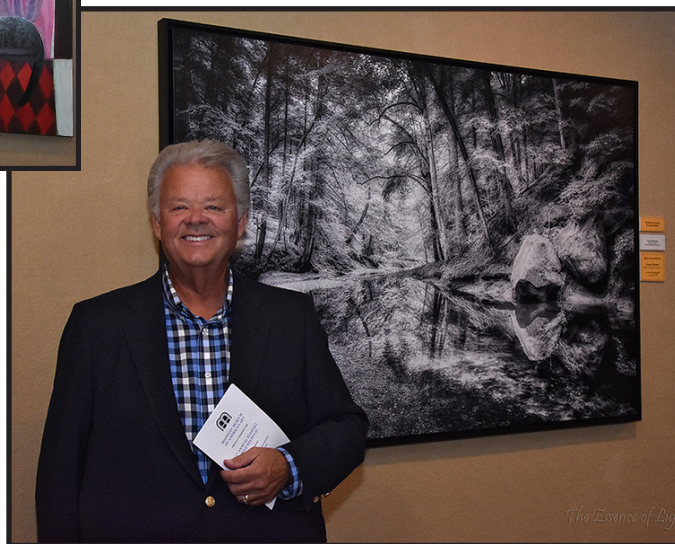
below:

Earl Vandygriff, Granger, IN, received two prestigious awards; Best Photography & the Brotherson Family Purchase Award



above: Steve & Traci Bollero selected a painting by Lea Goldman, South Bend, entitled, ***Some See Angels***, for their purchase award.

left: A fiber collage titled, ***Just Off the Trail***, by Plymouth, IN, artist Kathy Zentz, won the Robert Weed Corporation Purchase Award.



Welcome New & Renewing Members: *April 1 to October 23, 2018*

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Dear Friend of the MMAA:

As you start to plan your year-end gifts, think about a donation to the Midwest Museum of American Art. **YOUR SUPPORT HAS MADE A DIFFERENCE!** Membership is a good start. Beyond what you get and considering it takes just over \$525 per day for MMAA to exist, here's what we've been able to accomplish with your additional support:

- offer 10 FREE Sundays in 2018
- refresh/repaint gallery spaces and gift shop
- host special & extended, on-site public or parochial school visits, to interact with museum staff & the MMAA collections (i.e., Trinity Lutheran 5th Grade & Mary Beck Elementary 5th Grade in 2018)
- to present 8 'Spot Light' exhibits of never-before-seen works
- create a new website designed with more images & buttons for new and ongoing Donors & Members for easier access
- special events & collaborations with area institutions, i.e., Wellfield reciprocal visits, Art Walk extended hours, Ladies Night, Elkhart Jazz Festival art & lecture program, Lerner Public Art Collection stewardship, Gateway Mile collaborations, Elkhart Comic Con
- new film & book acquisitions for the MMAA Library & Archives (accessible to members)
- a collaborative effort to create FOUND at the Museum gift shop experience
- YOUTH ART MONTH celebration allowing FREE access to exhibiting students & all family members
- creation of a Junior Docent Program
- sustain self-guided tour materials used by visiting families
- engaging weekly gallery talks with artists for members, their guests & the public

Help us sustain what we do and make room to develop more programming in order to create a positive experience with *The Story of American Art*.

For your convenience, an envelope is enclosed for your donation. You can also visit our website and click on the 'donate' button. We appreciate & THANK you!

Sincerely,

Brian Byrn, Director & Curator