

MMAA CALENDAR

*OCT 1 A Noontime Return with Brian Byrn
Join Brian Byrn, former Director of the Midwest Museum of American Art, for a lively and informal ramble through art, museums, Elkhart, and the many people and experiences that have shaped Brian's years in the art world. Come curious, come ready to listen, and see where the conversation goes!

OCT 2, 16, 23, 24 & 30
Yoga in the Gallery with Jenny Nolan
Fridays and Saturdays 9:15–10:15 am
See more information in this issue.

OCT 7 Purchase Award Patron Preview Party – Selection Night

OCT 10 Opening Awards Reception - 48th Elkhart Juried Regional

*OCT 15 Highlights from the 48th Elkhart Juried Regional
Join curator, Randy Roberts and assistant curator, Chris Hall, as they share some of the highlights from this year's Elkhart Juried Regional.

OCT 15 Ladies Night (Noon – 6 pm)
In honor of October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Proceeds to benefit Cancer Resources for Elkhart County.

*OCT 22 Best of Show – Tony Bianco
Join us for a lively presentation from this year's Best of Show recipient, Tony Bianco. Tony's work emphasizes everyday scenes that are often overlooked, inviting viewers to pause and observe familiar environments in detail.

OCT 28 Steph's Story Book Signing & Reception, 4-7pm, Presentation 5:30 pm
Meet former Elkhart County educator and special education advocate Jennifer (Collins) Sager who will share the life story of her sister, Steph, who has Down Syndrome. Jennifer will make a presentation with a book signing afterwards.

*OCT 29 Dia De Los Muertos
Join Federico Rodriguez for a presentation on Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead). Discover the rich traditions, history, and cultural meaning behind this vibrant celebration honoring loved ones who have passed.

*NOV 5 A Musical Journey Along the Camino De Santiago
Join classical pianist Jorge Muniz of Indiana University South Bend and experience the beauty, history, and spirit of the Camino de Santiago through the stories and sounds of Muniz's musical pilgrimage.

MMAA CALENDAR CONTINUED

NOV 6, 13, 20 & 21
Yoga in the Gallery with Jenny Nolan
Fridays and Saturdays 9:15–10:15 a.m.
See more information in this issue.

NOV 7 MMAA Holiday Mart 10 am – 4 pm
Join us in celebrating the creativity and talent of local artisans. Visitors can expect an array of exquisite pieces, from intricate ceramics and vibrant paintings to carefully crafted textiles and jewelry.

*NOV 12 Landmarks of Justice
Join Debra Parcell, Community Preservation Specialist at the Northern Regional Office of Indiana Landmarks and discover what makes Indiana's 92 county courthouses special and irreplaceable. Explore the architecture and stories of courthouses that have been lost and restored, along with their colorful histories, unique characters, and surprising reuses.

*NOV 19 A Noontime Thanksgiving
Join Marshall V. King, award-winning journalist, author, and longtime food writer from Elkhart County as he brings a unique perspective to the history and traditions of Thanksgiving.

*NOV 26 & 27 Museum Closed
In Celebration of Thanksgiving

*DEC 3 A Noontime Carol
Join members of the Elkhart County Symphony and enjoy the sounds of classic Christmas carols performed live while discovering the fascinating stories, traditions, and origins behind some of our favorite holiday melodies.

DEC 4, 11, 12 & 18
Yoga in the Gallery with Jenny Nolan
Fridays and Saturdays 9:15–10:15 a.m.
See more information in this issue.

*Dec 10 Joseph and His Dreamcoat
Join us for a special presentation from Premier Arts exploring the story of Joseph as they are preparing to open Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat this weekend! The program will start with a discussion of Joseph, followed by a live performance from young performers starring in the upcoming show. Get a sneak peek of the excitement, music, and magic coming to the stage!

*DEC 17 Mark Vander Vinne – Best Painting
Mark Vander Vinne is this year's Best Painting recipient as well as the recipient of two purchase awards in this year's Elkhart Juried Regional. Mark is a Northwest Indiana landscape painter whose work begins with a genuine connection to the natural world. His paintings use shape, color, and composition to interpret what he sees and feels.

DEC 24 & 25 Museum Closed
In Celebration of Christmas

DEC 30 Last Day of the Elkhart Juried Regional

**Indicates Noon-Time Gallery talk every Thursday at 12:15–1:15pm*

For more information on how YOU can become a MMAA Member please visit our website at www.midwestmuseum.org

Best of Show



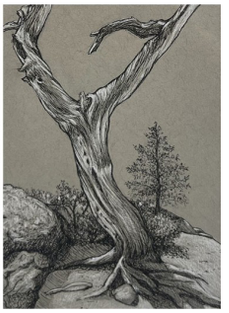
Tony Bianco, Chesterton, IN
"Washington and Wells-Chicago," acrylic

Best Drawing



Jason Keiser,
Goshen, IN
"Trail Guardians"
Ink & White Chalk





48th Elkhart Juried Regional "Best of" Category Winners

Best of Show	Tony Bianco, Chesterton, IN "Washington and Wells-Chicago," acrylic
Best Painting	Mark Vander Vinne, Porter, IN "This Feels Right," oil
Best Photography	Kay Westhues, South Bend, IN "Mathews IN," archival inkjet photo
Best Sculpture	Bill Kremer, Cassopolis, MI "Sculptural Vessel #1," woodfired stoneware
Best Ceramic	Katharine Schmidt, Elkhart, IN "White Rabbit for Our Times," ceramic with oil
Best Mixed Media	Heidi Bailey, Warsaw, IN "Haul-lelujah Free-for-All," Bricollage
Best Drawing	Jason Keiser, Goshen, IN "Trail Guardians," ink & white chalk
Best Printmaking	Alan Larkin, South Bend, IN "Card 21 of the Major Arcana – The World," etching
Best Watercolor	Brittany Stump, Warsaw, IN "No Vacancy," watercolor, gouache, colored ink

4TH QUARTER NEWSLETTER - OCT, NOV, DEC 2026

WHAT'S INSIDE

Elkhart Juried Regional Exhibition
Awards Reception & Review

Upcoming Events at the Museum:
Book Release Reception
Holiday Mart

Museum Calendar: October-December

MIDWEST MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART
Midwest Museum of American Art
429 South Main Street
Elkhart, IN 46516

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ORGANIZATION
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NEW EXHIBITS ON DISPLAY THIS QUARTER
OCTOBER 10–DECEMBER 31

48th Elkhart Juried Regional

The Midwest Museum of American Art is pleased to present the 48th Elkhart Juried Regional Art Exhibition, continuing through December 31, 2026. This juried art competition encompasses 20 Indiana counties and 4 counties in southern Michigan. The distinguished jurors for this year's exhibition were Katherine Ransbottom, Curator of Collections and Exhibitions, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts and Timothy Parsley, MFA, Assistant Professor of Painting & Drawing, Purdue University Fort Wayne. Our judges selected 182 works from the works submitted for this year's show.

The opening awards reception was held on Saturday, October 10, with more than 200 people in attendance. In addition to the "Best of" awards, there were 30 purchase awards and 3 Merit Awards resulting in over $25,000 in cash awards to participating artists.

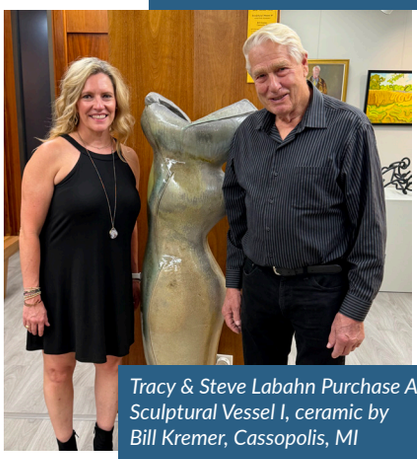
Many of the works in this year's juried regional are available for sale. Now is the time to think about adding to your art collection. A checklist with values is available at the front desk. Your purchase helps sustain the Midwest Museum of American Art and supports local artists!

The Midwest Museum of American Art continues to be committed to elevating exceptional art from our local/regional artists. We welcome everyone to experience this inclusive, family-friendly celebration of creativity and connections.

The 48th Elkhart Juried Regional is made possible by the generous support of our Presenting Sponsor, Elkhart County Convention & Visitor's Bureau, Gold Sponsor, Jack & Karen Cittadine and our Supporting Sponsors, The Children & Grandchildren of William & Jeanne Batten, Dr. Wes Mark and Dr. Mary Harder and Welch Packaging Group.



Jack & Karen Cittadine Purchase Award, "Interconnected," ceramic, Cynthia Cooper, Middlebury, IN



Tracy & Steve Labahn Purchase Award Sculptural Vessel I, ceramic by Bill Kremer, Cassopolis, MI



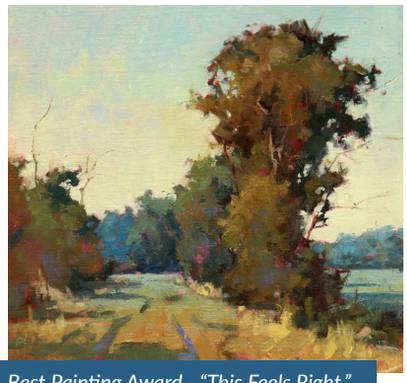
Contrasted Patina, Acrylic by Christian Smith, Elkhart, IN







Elkhart County Convention & Visitors Bureau Purchase Award: "Float Fest," oil by Lee Clark, Goshen, IN



Best Painting Award - "This Feels Right," oil Mark Vander Vinne, Porter, IN



Dr. Rick & Cynthia Burns with purchase award recipient April Kruse-Mitchell, Valparaiso, IN ("Between the Stillness and the Light," pastel)

Yoga in the Gallery

Fridays, 9:15–10:15 a.m.



Join Registered Yoga Teacher (RYT) **Jenny Nolan** at the museum where we will explore movement as art, honoring the present moment and the beauty that is present all around us. All levels are welcome.

$10 per session.
Please bring your own mat.

Contributions In Memory of

Linda Ahlborn & Will Batten
Karen Woodworth

Margaret Mathias Martin
1st Source Bank
Shawn & Marilyn Ashbaugh
Jan Atwood
Jennifer Burns Abrell
& Gordon Hughes
Susan Brotherson Swartz
Tuck & Janice Langland
Gail Martin
Nancy Nicholas
Karen Nicholsen
Richard Santowski
Thursday Club
Brenda & Mike Tudor
Dorothy Yeager

Bob & Jean Morris
Betty Morris

Contributions In Honor of

Marie Work's 107th Birthday!
Jim & Mary Rasp

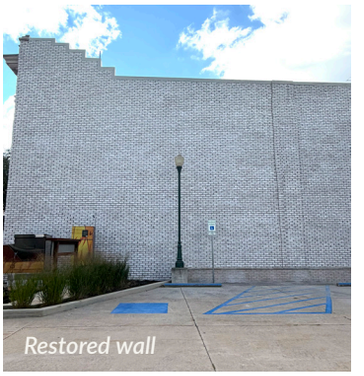


BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

North Wall Stabilization Project - Complete!

Phase I of the North Wall project, completed in 2025, included the complete removal of the plaster/stucco on the North Wall, an assessment of the wall by a structural engineer and the replacement of bricks as recommended for its immediate stabilization. Phase II of the North Wall project required the installation of a metal lath with washer in a 12 x 12 pattern through the metal lath and with a brick finish.

Many thanks to the Community Foundation of Elkhart County and the donors who made the completion of this project possible.


Restored wall


Before restoration

LOCAL ARTS & CULTURE

Book Release Reception: Local Author, Jennifer (Collins) Sager

Jennifer (Collins) Sager will be signing books, visiting with readers, and sharing stories from her recently released book, ***Steph's Story: My sister with Down syndrome finding her way toward independence***

Location: Midwest Museum of American Art
429 S Main St, Elkhart IN 46516
Date: Wednesday, October 28, 2026
Times: 4:00–7:00pm
5:30pm Author discussion

Free event, books available for purchase
Hosted by Mary Jo Sartorius

