

More Regional Highlights...



CJ Rodgers, a triple-major in Studio Art Honors, Psychology, & Marketing at Notre Dame, received the **Marvin Bartel Excellence in Ceramics Merit Award**. This is a new merit award sponsored by Dick Lehman, Trevor Daugherty, Peter Olsen, and Justin Rothshank.

Watch for the *Holiday Pop-Up Shop* opening on Thursday, November 16

This extension of the 'Artists Attic Sale' reboots for the Holidays! Find gently loved ornaments and other treasures for the season. Open to the public: Nov. 16, 25, 26, 30; Dec. 2, 3, 7.



Director/Curator, Brian Byrn, (center of group) takes a moment to congratulate all of Bill Kremer's students and former students for their award winning works in the 45th Elkhart Juried Regional. Each of the five and their Professor won purchase awards or merit awards for their efforts. Outstanding!

left to right: Norah Ruth Amstutz, CJ Rodgers, Suzanne Mauro, Brian Byrn, Bill Kremer, Coleton Lunt, & Hans Miles

Other Artist News...



Bill Kremer, Cassopolis, MI, will donate a portion of his income from his annual Holiday Ceramic Sale to MMAA to support educational and preservation programming. This event is held at his studio at 65701 Oil City Road, Cassopolis, just off M-60 in Michigan. The event will be held on December 2 & 3, from 10-6 each day. The annual Kremer sale has been held for over forty-five years. **Thank You Bill!**

45th Elkhart Juried
Regional exhibit
thru December 22
Shop at FOUND AT THE
MUSEUM for the Holidays
Members receive 15% off!



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

for October • November • December • 2023

45th Elkhart Juried Regional \$27,000 given in Awards!

The Midwest Museum of American Art is pleased to present the **45th Elkhart Juried Regional Art Exhibition**, continuing through **December 22, 2023**. This competition encompasses 24 counties of Michiana.

The distinguished juror for this exhibition was

Mark Ruschman, Senior Curator of Art & Culture, Emeritus, at the Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis.

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...

Director/Curator, Brian Byrn, opened the evening followed with comments from Jennifer Burns Abrell, Chair of the MMAA Trustees. Dr. Rick Burns and Dr. Daniel Burns MMAA Trustees, gave out Purchase Awards for the evening; 33 artists received awards totalling \$27,000. There were 217 artists who entered 380 works overall from which the judge selected 164 works by 147 artists.



The Jack & Karen Cittadine **BEST of SHOW** winner, **David Allen**, South Bend, accepts his award in front of a crowd of over 200. His painting becomes part of the MMAA collection.



above: *Venetian Monkey*, an oil with handmade frame, by **Kei Constantinov**, Michigan City, IN, was selected as the first **Jane Burns Memorial Award for Artistic Expression** by the Burns Family.



The 45th Elkhart Juried Regional
is sponsored by



with additional funding from
James Rieckhoff & Janet Evanega-Rieckhoff
and **Dr. Wes Mark & Dr. Mary Harder**

Mark Ruschman's Judge's Statement:

"My approach for selecting what gets into a show is informed by my four decades in the art world. After an initial walk-through of the entries, I evaluated each piece on quality of execution, level of creativity, attention to formal elements like composition, perspective, and ultimately, whether the artist was successful in what they were trying to accomplish. The fact that 164 pieces made it into the show tells you everything about the quality of the work."

More highlights of the 45th Elkhart Juried Regional Awards Reception on Friday, October 6, 2023

A total of over 200 artists with guests, MMAA Members, Donors, and the Purchase Award patrons attended.



Mary Burke, Berrien Springs, MI, was a former Best of Show winner. This year she received the **Dr.s Dan & Linda Burns Purchase Award** for her painting, **Multiplicity**, and the **Dr. Rick & Cindy Burns Purchase Award** for a second work titled, **Scratch Pad**.



Dick Lehman, Goshen, IN, received the **Jim & Bev Haas Purchase Award** for his ceramic **Wall Platter**. Lehman remains in the top five most award winning artists in the history of the exhibit.



Hans Miles, MFA Candidate at Notre Dame, received the **Steve Bollero Purchase Award** for his ceramic wall platter titled, **Green Satellite Platter**.



Suzanne Mauro, Plymouth, IN, won the **Best Ceramic Award** for her porcelain & stoneware sculpture, **Intersection Between Heaven & Earth**. This work was purchased afterwards by Trustee, Jennifer Abrell (left) & Dr. Gordon Hughes.



The **Batten Family** comprised of three Sisters and their children sponsored the **William & Jeanne Batten Memorial Merit Award for Sculpture**. This is the largest monetary merit award that has risen in value for artists over the years thanks to two generations of family.

This year the **William & Jeanne Batten Memorial Merit Award for Sculpture** went to **Anthony Ruacho**, Three Oaks, MI, for his incredibly detailed, mixed media diorama titled, **Tuesday 1:37**.



NOON TIME TALKS

Thursday • 12:15-1:15 PM



Regional Artists discuss their works in the 45th Elkhart Juried Regional exhibition every Thursday! **FREE** for Members. \$5 admission for the general public. Maximum seating capacity will be 50.

OCT 19 David Allen, South Bend, IN
Renowned painter discusses his **Jack & Karen Cittadine BEST of SHOW** work, *Arnold Street*.

OCT 26 Norah Ruth Amstutz, South Bend, IN
Recipient of the **Stan & June Disher Purchase Award** is an MFA candidate at Notre Dame.

NOV 2 Liz Roetzel, South Bend, IN
A recently returned-to-the-region painter talks about her abstract acrylic painting, *Memory Lanes*, that received the **Best Painting Merit Award**.

NOV 9 Brooke Rothshank, Goshen, IN
The artist talks about her four-piece painting of woodland creatures titled, *A Portrait of the Viewer as a Blessing in Four Parts*.

NOV 16 Suzanne Mauro, Plymouth, IN
A returning participant in the annual EJRC exhibits, Mauro discusses her **Best Ceramic Merit Award**.

NOV 24 HAPPY THANKSGIVING!
NO NOON TIME TALK

NOV 30 Kolt Lucius Sizer, Elkhart, IN
Sizer, who is the Curator of Education at the South Bend Museum of Art, pursues his career as an artist emphasizing his drawing skills in charcoal. He will discuss his haunting, large-scale drawing, *Abaddon Ver. #1*.

DEC 7 Ruth Sinclair, Mishawaka, IN
A senior member of the regional art tribe, Sinclair has received national recognition for her work in handmade and cast paper since 1982. This year she received the **Scott & Kristin Mereness Purchase Award** for her relief sculpture, *What Lies Beneath*.

DEC 14 Jody Prokupek, Auburn, IN
The painter discusses her work, *Lake Life Reflected*, a beautiful plein air night scene. She received the **John & Nicole Disher Purchase Award**.

DEC 21 Jerry Lapp, Goshen, IN
The last speaker in the series discusses his mixed media sculpture in ceramic and wood. Lapp is a well-known wood artisan and ceramic artist who has created new sculptural works that are hybrid figures of carved & found wooden parts joined with glazed ceramic elements.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS to ALL !!

Another BIG THANK YOU!

to Michael Kelly & Robert Hohl for providing yet another \$5,000 Matching Grant for New Members & Increased or new Donations



And a BIG Thank you to all who contributed...

TRIBUTES

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

In Memory of:

Betty Kaehr
Jan Atwood

Jean Morris
Betty Jo Gawthrop Morris

Bob Morris
Betty Jo Gawthrop Morris

Dr. John Werner
Mike Wilson-Werner

In Honor of:

Marie Worth's 104th Birthday
Jim and Mary Rasp



*Alan Larkin, South Bend, received the **Best Printmaking Award** and the **Susan & Mark Henshaw Purchase Award** for his etching titled, *The Major Arcana: The Magician*.*



*David Allen, South Bend, received the **Jack & Karen Cittadine BEST of SHOW Award** for his painting titled, *Arnold Street*.*

A Special Note of Thanks to Volunteers

We thank all of the following volunteers who donated their time (over 100 hours) in helping museum staff organize artwork, assisting in the inventory process, preparing & checking lists & labels, catering the reception, providing friendly service to all artists who entered, and staffing the front desk during the four weeks of creating the 45th Elkhart Juried Regional. Without their help it would be impossible to manage this exhibit.

A BIG THANK YOU...

Ian Burns, Linda Burns, Lisa Byrn, Sheila Cook, Sharon Feddersen, Frank Hughes, Jackie Hughes, Adah Lynn, Barbara McArthur, Jane Poe, Yvonne Ransel, Kathy Royer, and Brenda Tudor.



*Mike Slaski, Cassopolis, MI, won the **Best Sculpture Award** for his carved oak sculpture titled, **Orpheus**.*

*Jody Prokupek, Auburn, IN, stands beside her painting, **Lake Life Reflected**, that received the **John & Nicole Disher Purchase Award**.*



*Steve Smith, Angola, IN, was selected for the **Connie Fulmer Purchase Award**. His ceramic piece is titled, **Franklin's Water Bucket**.*

*Margarita Kulys, Coloma, MI, received the **Jon & Meghan Wenger Purchase Award**. Her acrylic painting is titled, **Down by the River**.*



*Sunday Mahaja, Goshen, IN, received the **Dr. Wes Mark & Dr. Mary Harder Purchase Award** for his welded steel sculpture titled, **Spring Dancer**.*

Wes & Mary provide additional support for the Elkhart Juried Regional each year.



*John Mishler, Goshen, IN, received the **Jennifer Abrell & Dr. Gordon Hughes Purchase Award** for his wood & aluminum sculpture, **Moon Shadows**.*



*Kay Westhues, South Bend, IN, received the **Best Photography Award** for her color image, **Miller Farm, Kewanna, IN**.*

Welcome New & Renewing Members:***April 1 to October 10, 2023*****CORPORATE (\$500)**

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Randy Leliaert Agency
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