

BEST OF THE BEST – 2024
DuPage Art League
218 W Front Street, Wheaton, IL 60187
www.dupageartleague.org

Judge: Teresa Marrandino

Retired owner of the Art Stop Gallery for 48 years. Art Stop Gallery originated in Riverside, Illinois and has been in LaGrange, Illinois for the past 23 years. She has served as an art buyer for private individuals as well as corporations and hospitals.

Teresa remarks that she's been involved in art pretty much since birth! She's judged and juried many art shows including Riverside, LaGrange, Lake View and Geneva art league shows, as well as a student show at the Art Institute of Chicago. When judging, her main focus is never the subject matter, but the technical aspects of the artwork. Subject matter is a matter of preference. She looks for the artist's command of the medium, the overall quality of the work and presentation.

Best of Show Award: **Tony Abboreno, Oak Park, IL; Elmhurst Artists' Guild, "Time Machine," 36x36", Acrylic, \$3,500**

Comments: I'm aware it's the largest piece. Shading, shadows are superb. Not muddy. Blending of color excellent.

First Place: **Gina Rende, Orland Park, IL; Lemont Artists Guild, "Wednesdays at Shirley's," 8x63", Colored Pencil & Pen & Ink, \$500**

Comments: Good use of color. Out-of-the-box thinking.

Second Place: **Sue Thomas, Lisle, IL; DuPage Art League, "Zhou Stairwell," 18x8", Pastel, NFS**

Comments: Captivating. Where do the stairs lead. Gentle medium, yet powerful. Done very well.

Third Place: **Michael Preski, Chicago, IL; Lemont Artists Guild, "Self Portrait #2," 9x19.5", Ink and Colored Pencil, \$225**

Comments: Excellent use of lines and shading. Love the pop of orange sets off the whole piece. Composition is excellent as well.

Four (4) Honorable Mentions:

Ardythe Tiesenga, Oak Park, IL; Oak Brook Art League, "Nite Nurse," 14x16", Oil, NFS

Dorothy Bury Shaw, Downers Grove, IL; Elmhurst Artists' Guild, "A Few Dead Branches," 27x20", Mixed, \$2,500

Caroline Susner, Shorewood, IL; Naperville Art League, "Cruisin'", 12x16", Watercolor, \$375

Joan Lucht, Shorewood, IL; Naperville Art League, "Song from the Sea," Mixed Media Collage, 12x16", NFS

Comments: When it comes to honorable mentions, technique is foremost. I also look for a piece that brings thought and emotion. A piece that brings me back to take another look.

A piece that makes me wonder "why," in a good way. In judging, one doesn't look at the subject matter as much as one looks at knowledge of the medium, use of the medium. Then there are pieces that resonates inside of you. Those are my mentions.