

DUPAGE ART LEAGUE
218 W. Front Street, Wheaton, IL 60187

JUDGE'S COMMENTS

EXHIBIT: **The Beautiful Still Life**
DATE: **October 2024**
JUDGE: **Rachael Corey**

BEST OF SHOW

Artist: Sue Krzyzanowski Title: Urns Medium: Pastel

Comments: The color usage here is so well executed. The layers of work do a lot to create such a realistic composition technically, but also makes it very dreamy and other-worldly. The hatch lines in the urn (right side) are the most captivating part for me.

THEME AWARD

Artist: Fran Puglise Title: Still Life in a Box Medium: Pastel

Comments: This is such a fun, unique and beautifully executed take on the theme. What stands out to me is the light and shadow and how this was so well-rendered through the use of color. There is so much fine detail work, also achieved by utilizing color. Love the glorification of the still life we see every day!

SPECIAL MERIT

Artist: Mary Dorrell Title: Winter's Bone Medium: Oil

Comments: This is a perfect title for this work. The presentation, including the rustic frame, makes me feel very sucked in to the painting. I can visualize the room and even the house where this still life sits. Light and shadow are the defining elements here. (Very Dutch!)

SPECIAL MERIT

Artist: Benita Brewer Title: Peppermint, Anyone? Medium: Watercolor

Comments: Incredible use of the theme - and quite the undertaking! I really love how whimsical this is, but when you put it in a still life setting like this, it feels a bit solemn and serious. Fun combo. The shadows are very well executed here, which I feel is its strongest point.

SPECIAL MERIT

Artist: Jeff Zawada Title: Yellow Tree Root Medium: mixed media

Comments: This work is very captivating for me. I am drawn to the pen work in the dead tree — it is mad for line work. The intentionality of the marks in the grass, especially in the foreground, is a huge key to the success of the composition as a whole.

MERIT AWARDS

1. Misty Alvis, Bounty of Reds, pastel
2. Diane Kehoe, Life is Just..., clay
3. Tom Finn, Fragrant Trio, scratchboard
4. Joan Kalmanek, Blue Bottles, photo
5. Myriam Villata-Elijah, Bodegones, oil
6. Barb Plichta, Blue Bottle Memories, watercolor
7. Gillian Vodnik, Blue Floral, acrylic
8. Christina Nicholson, Year of the Dragon, watercolor
9. J. Dalton, Sunday Afternoon, colored pencil
10. Gloria Abrahamian, Still Life with Pears, pastel
11. Diane Kulat, Autumn Has Arrived, pen, ink, watercolor
12. Nancy Anderson, Daffodils, paste