

GALLERY 1 SHOW

October 2025, Judge Brian Sauerland
Chasing the Light

BEST OF SHOW

Debbie Birhanu, "Autumn Leaves," colored pencil

"Beautiful composition! There is a wonderful balance of quiet areas that contrast the more detailed and complex rendering of the autumn leaves. A strong technical mastery is evident in how the colored pencil is handled throughout the drawing. This drawing is a gem."

BEST THEME

M.L. Sullivan, "Oak Leaves," pastel

"Love the square format and small size of this pastel painting. The viewer is invited in to explore the subtle shifts in color temperature. There is a nice feeling of depth with the soft blue sky combined with a variety of hard and soft edges. Wonderful color harmony as well."

SPECIAL MERIT AWARDS

Tom Finn, "The Inside Story," scratchboard & watercolor

"The dramatic light pulls the viewer in from across the room. Even the shadows, while dimly lit, provide enough information to describe the form of the pumpkin. Strong technical skills are displayed throughout the artwork."

Fran Puglise, "First Day of School - circa 1959," pastel

"The strong horizontal format invites the viewer to take a closer look. I love how the balance of the red car on the left compliments the warm colors in the figures on the right. You can feel the strength of the mother and how she seems to be protecting her children. Nice execution of pastel and play of light and shadow."

Beth Berry, "Whispers into the Forest," Gouache

"The light in this painting really caught my eye. Love the soft color play that happens in the distant trees. The color harmony between the blues and yellows balance well. Another painting that shows a strong composition as well as technical expertise of handling the medium."

MERIT AWARDS

Diane Peterson, "Queen of Autumn," watercolor

Jacqueline DeClute, "Where the Light Fell," watercolor

Nawrocki, "Field of Flowers," fabric stitchery

Evelyn Holy, "You Don't Belong Here," acrylic

Helen Reed, "Gloaming," oil on panel

Marge Hall, "Yellow Rose," oil

Robert Koch, "Shadows El Saito, Mexico," watercolor

Rebecca Schobel, "Boca Stephenica," pastel

Candace Olander, "Last Hurrah," watercolor

Kathy Olson, "Hobson Road Barn," pastel

Mary Dorrell, "Golden Moment," oil

M. Alvis, "Heartland in Gold," photograph