

Thirty-Six Talented State Employees and their Family Members Honored

Division of the Arts announces award-winning artists in its annual Delaware State Employee Art Exhibition reception & award ceremony

Dover, Del. (March 18, 2019) – The talented state employees and their family members were recognized for their artwork exhibited at the eight annual Delaware State Employee Art Exhibition sponsored by the National Arts Program® reception and award ceremony held on Sunday, March 17. Featured guests and speakers included the First Lady, Tracey Quillen Carney and Delaware Division of the Arts Deputy Director, Kristin Pleasanton.

Twenty-eight awards were given out in five categories—Professional, Intermediate, Amateur, Teen (13-18 years old), and Youth (12 years and under). Other distinguished awards included the: Best of Show Award, Two People’s Choice Awards (calculated by most number of “likes” on Facebook and entries by email and in-person ballot votes at the Gallery), Art Education Award (up to \$200 reimbursement for arts instruction and materials), and four Special Award categories. 2019 Artwork is available on [Facebook](#) and reception and award ceremony photos will be available on Flickr at the end of the week.

Below is a list of all award winners who were recognized at the 2019 reception and awards ceremony.

2019 National Arts Program Award Winners

Best of Show: Stephanie Silverman, Wilmington

People's Choice Award (Facebook): Parker Ellis, age 6, Newark

People's Choice Award (Ballot): Madison Barbuto, age 9, Camden

Art Education Award: Brandi Nichols, age 18, Magnolia



Stephanie Silverman, "Submerged," Works on Paper, Wilmington

Special Awards

Special Award, Animals: Jocelyn Zonick, age 17, Newark

Special Award, Abstract: Michael Fleishman, Milford

Special Award, Landscape: Anthony Burton, Camden

Special Award, Monochromatic: Justyn Foth, Viola



Justyn Foth, "Waiting,"

Viola

Professional

1st Place: Robert Palandrani, Wilmington

2nd Place: Chad Cortez Everett, Landenberg, PA

3rd Place: David Huynh, Odessa

Honorable Mentions:

Suzanne Oliver, Wilmington

Shelley Koon, Dover

Daniel Faison, Newark



Robert Palandrani,
"Drawing with
Abstract Assem.,"

Mixed Media,
Wilmington

Intermediate

1st Place: Owen Napier, Wilmington

2nd Place: Bruce Wyngaard, Wilmington

3rd Place: Jacqueline Carmean, Milford

Honorable Mentions:

Brian VanDrunen, Harbeson

Rick Burrow, Camden Wyoming



Owen Napier,
"Untitled," Mixed
Media, Wilmington

Amateur

1st Place: Dominick Giroso, Felton

2nd Place: Nicole Brown, Felton

3rd Place: Kathy Joseph, Woodside

Honorable Mentions:

Briana Rodriguez, Townsend

Jake Mottola, Wilmington



Dominick Giroso,
"SEAcrets,"
Sculpture, Fention

Teen (13-18 years old)

1st Place: Emily Torres, age 17, Middletown

2nd Place: Sara Paulish, age 16, Dover

3rd Place: Cathryn Shahan, age 18, Clayton

Honorable Mentions:

Emily Egloff, age 14, Middletown

Allyson Johnson, age 13, Ocean View

Jahsiah Sealy, age 14, Bear



Emily Torres, "Bus,"
Works on Paper,
Middletown

Youth (12 years and under)

1st Place: Caleb Fenton, age 10, Middletown

2nd Place: Elizabeth Dierkes, age 9, Clayton

3rd Place: Mia Ericksen, age 10, Smyrna

Honorable Mentions:

Liliana Gatti, age 7, Wyoming

Lillette Hastings, age 11, Millsboro

Maggie Wieber, age 8, Marydel



Caleb Fenton, "The
Beef Boss," Works on
Paper, Middletown

Sponsored by the National Arts Program in support and cooperation with the State of Delaware and the Delaware Division of the Arts, the exhibit is judged by professional artists and visual art professionals. The Delaware State Employee Art Exhibition is designed to give artists at all skill levels a unique opportunity to exhibit their creative work and to compete for cash prizes.

Participants must be a current employee or immediate family member of a current employee of the State of Delaware. All entries must be the original work of the applicant and completed within the last three years. View last year's

participant [artwork](#).

[More information](#)

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