

Wickford Art Association *Fur, Feathers, Fins* Exhibit
April 2020
Kendra Ferreira, Juror Notes

It was my honor to be invited to jury this exhibit and select the award winners for this exhibition centered on animals and our reactions to our furry, feathered or finned friends. I would invite viewers to look closely at each piece not just the subject matter but also the different mediums and process used to create the work of art. Besides paint and photography there are hand-pulled prints, mixed media and collaged cut papers. I chose to accept most of the pieces entered because I would like viewers to see the many diversities in this show. So congratulations to all acceptances and a special congratulations go out to the award winners; these are truly excellent works.

First Prize

Millie Reflections, oil painting

This piece attracted my eye right away. It is a nice use of complimentary color; the blues of the water against the yellow and oranges of the dog's fur and water reflections. Texture and confident brush strokes are also prominent in this piece and it is beautifully rendered. The painting contains movement and varied shapes, the viewer can feel the dog swimming through the water as well as the flow of the waves.

Second Prize

Bear Fishing, watercolor

This piece pulled me in right away also. My first thought is the great use of composition, the viewer is drawn in from the left across to the right and wondering 'what is the bear looking at?' Nice use of positive and negative shapes. Here textures and brush strokes are handled beautifully. One can determine the difference between the fur and the cold rushing water. Look closely, the bear's fur is exquisitely painted in detail.

Third Prize

Lola the Show Lobster, mixed media

Lola is a hand-crafted three dimensional fun piece of sculpture. Here she is, an organic sculptured lobster resting on her own inorganic stand, a contrast of angles and shapes. Sensing her bit of movement, Lola has plenty of personality. I admire the colors and pattern on Lola's multicolored shell and the conscientious detail taken to craft her.

Honorable Mention

Black Sheep, oil

I had to smile when I first looked at this painting. This sheep is very much in control of the viewer, there is such expression on his/her face. I admire the contrast of round versus angular shapes and textures. The unique application of paint that looks as if it was applied thinly in glazes and built upon, particularly the background. This painting touts a strong vertical composition of both subject and wooden (boards) that creates unity within the piece.

Honorable Mention

Self-Portrait with Birds, mixed media

I admire this very clever idea of the artist presenting herself in the artwork along with the birds. This piece creates a mood and causes the viewer to stop, look and wonder what the artist is thinking? Here is also a creative use and blending of different mediums, that appear to be drawing, ink stippling and intricately cut paper. There is also a nice use of black and white versus color. I admire the craftsmanship taken to construct this piece.

Judge's Award

A Family Float, photography

I felt emotion when viewing this photo. This photograph is a horizontal composition in which three large walrus are looking directly at the photographer. One can feel the large mass of the animals yet feel their personalities through their eyes. One walrus has a flipper laid upon another walrus' back creating a personal connection between the walrus as well as to the viewer. One can feel the cold ice in the foreground and the out-of-focus background enhances the subjects.

Judge's Award

Marmelade, oil painting

Very sweet little portrait of this cat. The warm tones and expression of the downcast eyes give this portrait a moody feeling. It is small in size but captivating. I also like the use of contrast in complimentary colors, the red/orange tones of cat and background assist in intensifying the green eyes and they become the focal point.

