

MYSTIC MUSEUM OF ART



JUROR STATEMENT

Dayne Rugh

Director of the Slater Memorial Museum

The following are statements made by this year's juror:

The metaphor of a bridge is a powerful one. Bridges can take many shapes and forms both physical and theoretical while drawing attention to themes of connection and separation. In conjunction with the momentous 100th anniversary of the Mystic Bascule Bridge, the works of this show highlight exactly how bridges can form connections between people, places, and things. The works that stand out the most were particularly strong in communicating these themes, often using simple and delicate techniques. I hope viewers may feel inspired by these works to build their own bridges and connections that further unite us as people.



Best in Show

Randy Richards, *Bascule Bridge*, Mixed media

This piece is a captivating mosaic that perfectly illustrates the theme of building bridges. By representing the subject matter in multiple different ways, the artist has drawn the viewer deep into the metaphorical tapestry we know as life. Life itself is experienced by people in different ways, but the bridges ultimately connect us. The artist's technique is spot on, and shows the viewer something complex, but utterly seamless.



Second Prize

Lisa Miceli, *The Weight of Light*, Watercolor

Bridges not only connect places and things but people. I loved how this piece both looks and feels immersive. The everyday hustle of life can often take away from the meaningful connection that keep us together, but this piece reminds us to never lose focus on those you meet at each stage of life.

Third Prize

Lisa Lyman Adams, *In Their Shoes*, Acrylic

The artist has done a commendable job in putting an entirely new spin on how bridges connect people without actually depicting a traditional bridge. Messaging is an extremely important component in this show's theme and this piece is particularly insightful.





Mary Barthelson Pastel Award

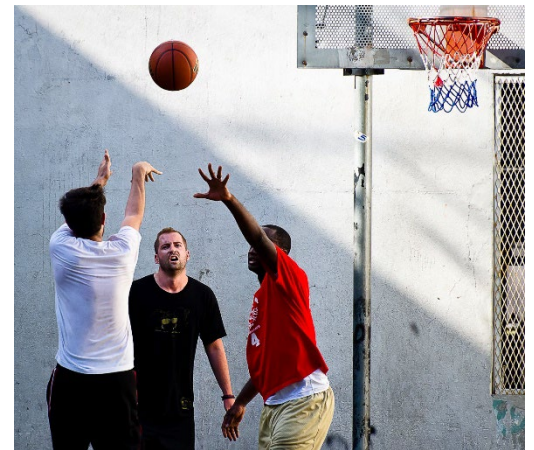
Diana Rogers, *Getting to the Other Side*, Pastel

Subtlety greatly defines this piece. The rich pigment creates both form and abstraction that itself is a bridge well represented.

Otto E. Liebig Photography Award

Paul M. Murray, *No Way...*, Color photographic print on archival paper

It takes finesse to capture a photo that can convey movement and tension with such fidelity. Well done on representing the unifying theme of sports as an integral bridge that connects cultures worldwide.



Pamela J. Nelson Watercolor Award

Charles McCaughtry, *Beach Walk III*, Watercolor

The composition of this piece is breathtaking. Just as the theme of connection is important to the show, the theme of separation is also just as important, and far more difficult to represent.

The scale and precise technique are exquisite.



Honorable mentions

Will Holub, *Field Signs*, Acrylic and collage on canvas panel



Beth Gaucher, *Sail Away*, Acrylic

Henie Kurzman, *Brooklyn Bridge*, Acrylic

Jeff Lodge, *Mystic River Bridge*, Acrylic on panel

The artists collectively created pieces that demonstrate skill in visual storytelling using simple yet refined techniques. There was always more to meet the eye when studying these works.

