

# CITY OF CLEVELAND RETURNS TO IT'S ROOTS

With the City of Cleveland's usual venue space not available for their 2018 NAP Exhibition, Coordinator Rosa Casino seized the opportunity to bring their nineteenth annual show back to its roots at Cudell Fine Arts, the city's Cultural Arts Facility. The 'hidden gem' as Rosa lovingly referred to the historic building was transformed into a beautiful gallery space thanks in part to a lot of hard work and some extra TLC from her dedicated team.

The move back to Cudell Fine Arts proved to be an enormous success, boasting the largest display of artwork since Rosa started organizing the show four years ago. The show featured 321 pieces from city residents, a 30% increase from last year's exhibition. The surge in participation can partially be contributed to the addition of two new staff members who aided in the promotion of the show, helping to surpass the original goal set forth by Rosa and her team. In addition, the Cudell Fine Arts space received rave reviews from attendees who ranged from participating artists and their families to neighboring centers as well as the public.

Along with the attractiveness of the new location, it also allowed Rosa the opportunity to fully utilize the NAP's online registration elements by having devoted internet access along with a full-time printer that permitted her to print on the spot, both of which had previously not been available at their old location.

Even when facing unforeseen obstacles, it's dedication like Rosa's to the NAP show and its participants that truly make a venue shine.



## Jackie's Renderings

*A message from the Executive Director*

It seems like spring is loath to come to our area this year. April snow showers we are hoping lead to May flowers, but I am not so sure! Our daffodils and tulips seem to be boycotting this year and staying underground. The weather seems to be reflected on the political and social climate as well, with many issues being forced into the spotlight yet again and it is wonderful to hear all the young and old voices being heard around the country. Spring will be a welcome respite after winter here in the Northeast and I personally cannot wait.

We have luckily also had something to celebrate during these cold months with 2 National Championships here in Philadelphia since last quarter: the Philadelphia Eagles Super Bowl and the Villanova Wildcats Basketball



team. Both of these have brought great pride to our city and allowed us to celebrate with two (cold!) parades.

Hopefully everyone has spent this winter creating artworks to be exhibited in the coming months. As you all know we strive here at the NAP to get your artwork displayed in a public space and judged professionally, but there are lots of opportunities to do this outside of the NAP, so seek them out and share your talent (and pray for summer)!

## AMITA HEALTH'S 5TH ANNIVERSARY WAS A SMASHING SUCCESS

Sue Kett, the amazing coordinator of the AMITA Health National Arts Program® Exhibit, was honored this year for her five years of dedication and commitment to making this annual showcase in her words, "a smashing success"! We couldn't agree with her more about the success of this show, which included 186 artworks from 113 artists. The collection included an incredible display of talent from the AMITA community which has grown to include hospitals from their north region. Approximately 38% of the participation they had this year was from their newly welcomed facilities and hospitals. Sue commented about the growth saying, "art has a wonderful way of uniting us and bringing people together in a very special way. This was one of the highlights of this show."

The opening reception took place on February 28th and was standing room only as the participating artists were recognized for their artistic achievements. In addition to the artists, Coordinator Sue Kett was honored with an award for her commitment to the show. The award was presented on behalf of the NAP by Mike Murrill, the CEO of AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center LaGrange and Thor Thordarson, the Executive VP and Chief Operating Officer of AMITA Health.

When asked to comment on the show Sue said that "it has been a pleasure to work with your organization to bring a very meaningful program to our region of hospitals. All

elements of your program are appreciated and the funding makes it all possible ... Once again, artists are already thinking about entries for next year. The tradition continues ..."

We have truly enjoyed working with Sue and look forward to our continued partnership with AMITA Health and our common goal of bringing forth the art from their employee community.



Mike Murrill, CEO AMITA Health Adventist Medical Center LaGrange, poses with Healing Arts Consultant and NAP Coordinator Susan Kett at their 5th Anniversary Reception.

## Rutgers NJMS COO Celebrates the Art

Rutgers New Jersey Medical School Chief Operating Officer, Walter Douglas celebrated the creative talents of the NAP artists at their February 15th awards reception and presented a total of 27 awards. This was their 7th Annual National Arts Program® exhibit and the art is on display throughout B-level of their Medical Science Building until April 18, 2018. This wonderful showcase includes 220 pieces of art from 137 participants and was made up of a diverse group including employees and family members of Rutgers University



"Forevermore"; Tristan Tiffany; Youth 12 & Under, Art Education Award; Works on Paper; Relative UBHS

and employees, volunteers, retirees, students and alumni of the Rutgers Health Sciences Campus. Coordinator Noreen Gomez has always been dedicated to making this event a success

and this year was no different with an incredible collection of art professionally exhibited. It is apparent that Noreen, Walter Douglas and the University all understand the importance of celebrating and showcasing the artistic talents of this wonderful community.

## "BEST OF THE BEST" for 2017

The NAP was excited to host our Fourth Annual "Best of the Best" art exhibit and online contest on Facebook again this year. The exhibit featured forty-one unique pieces of artwork which had all been awarded 'Best of Show' at their respective participating venue in 2017.



Voting opened to the public on February 1st and ran through April 2nd, with a total of 2,518 'likes' cast during the two month period. This year, it was a very close race between the top two pieces with each displaying a major push in votes right before the deadline. In the end, the winner of this year's "Best of the Best" received a total of 702 votes. And the winner is ...

### "District Donuts" by Yonatan Kaplan

Intermediate  
Works on Paper  
Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

### First Runner-Up



"Last Ride"  
Adrian Rugas, Intermediate  
University of Maryland Medical Center, Maryland  
565 votes

### Second Runner-Up



"Explorer"  
Marisa Tolomeo, Intermediate  
AMITA Health, Illinois  
130 votes

### Fourth



David Billingsley  
Orlando, Florida

### Fifth



June Musick  
Lubbock, Texas

### Sixth



Terry Garman  
Ventura County, California

### Seventh



Jinny Tomozy  
Reno-Tahoe Airport, Nevada

## OUR BEST OF SHOW WINNERS ARE ...



### Adult Intermediate

AMITA Health - Rick Ernst  
The University of Chicago  
Medicine - Ellen Alexander  
Ventura County - Terry  
Garman

Pictured Left:  
"Dusk in the Forest" by Ellen Dorsey

### Adult Professional

Charlotte - Mecklenburg  
County - George Rivera  
Cleveland - Ellen Dorsey  
Hartford - Sean Dudley  
Johns Hopkins Medicine  
- Ann Morris  
Osceola County - Jose M.  
Feliciano  
Philadelphia - D'nae Harrison



## OUR ART EDUCATION WINNERS ARE ...

### Youth 12 & Under

Johns Hopkins Medicine  
- Crystal Wang  
Philadelphia - Grace Breslin

Charlotte - Mecklenburg County  
- Naomi Pridgen

Cleveland - Gabby Murray

Hartford - Graham Deckers

Osceola County - Nate Adair

The University of Chicago  
Medicine - Anna Frantzis

Ventura County - Emily Harris

### Teen 13-18

AMITA Health - Shannon  
Sullivan

Pictured Right: "Study of a Hand" by Graham Deckers

## IN THE NEWS THIS QUARTER

### Does Having a Day Job Mean Making Better Art?

Once upon a time, artists had jobs. And not "advising the Library of Congress on its newest Verdi acquisition" jobs, but job jobs, the kind you hear about in stump speeches.

### Crate & Barrel to launch a new line of products designed by Philly public school kids

Most kids' grade-school art projects get thrown onto their parents' refrigerator (and often later into the trash). For a group of lucky fifth through ninth graders, their hand-drawn designs are landing a spot in the "home" section of Crate & Barrel.

### Likes, comments and sometimes sales — how Instagram is shaping the art world

As a member of a millennia-old profession, 28-year-old artist Laura Rokas can do her job — painting, sculpting, drawing, weaving — without the help of most modern technology. But the Bay Area artist makes one exception: Instagram. Since its launch in 2010, the photo and video sharing app has become a mainstay in the art world.

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# THE National ARTS PROGRAM<sup>®</sup>

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The National Arts Program<sup>®</sup> was established in 1982 to identify, showcase, and reward the visual artistic talent in America. Today we sponsor 90 venues across the country with steady growth.



## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

(Clockwise from top left)

Roger Bolt, "Spring", Professional, Photography

Mary Ellen Heltzel, "Under the leaves", Amateur, Works on Paper

Yaviri Escalera, "Golden Hour", Intermediate, Photography

Rachel Vines, "The Waterfall", Youth 12 & Under, Painting

Ayla Knight, "Bare Face", Intermediate, Works on Paper

FiFi Abu, "Pup Cakes - diving", Amateur, Works on Paper

