

FCPS Exhibition Introduction

I am thankful to FCPS for trusting me to jury and judge the 2022 FCPS Member Exhibit, and would like to congratulate all the artists who entered the show and shared their creations. I really enjoyed having a private viewing of the work and loved the variety and creativity shown. I had many favorites and the selection process was difficult, but in the end I trusted my initial instincts and chose the paintings that grabbed me first. I then took time to understand why I was drawn to those particular selections.

What I look for in a winning piece is, first of all, an evocation of emotion. Then I look for the artistic elements that create good work, such as composition, value, color, shapes, edges and beauty of the strokes.

I congratulate the eight award winners for your wonderful pieces. Your skill, vision and creativity really shone. For everyone who entered, awarded or not, I encourage you to keep creating and entering your work and above all never stop learning.

FCPS Show Judging

Design

Values

Edges

Color

Application of the Pastel Medium

Draftsmanship

Shapes

BEST OF SHOW

Hanna's Dune

What first drew me to this painting was the powerful dramatic composition, created by zig-zagging diagonal shapes and high contrast. When I took a closer look, I was mesmerized by the confident beautiful lines, scratches and mark making. Looking even closer, I noticed the beautiful play of color variations in the shadows and lights.

I loved how I was led from the bottom of the painting, climbing through the sand, up through the grasses and into the sky.

This is a very successful painting that checks all the points for me.

Kudos and Congratulations!



SECOND PLACE

Ruffled Feathers

This wonderful heron portrait really caught my attention. It works for so many reasons. The gesture of the bird and expressive face is beautiful. The use of values really holds together. The turning of the bird form is very well done. The strokes are confident, interesting and beautiful.

I love the glowing warm background which reads even warmer against the cool bird. Lastly the magenta underpainting unifies the composition and is reinforced by the purples used throughout the composition.

Wonderful painting and great job!

