

**Manchester Art Association
South Windsor Public Library
October 1, 2024 – October 30, 2024**

Judge's statement: "I am truly impressed to see such outstanding work in this members' show. It was an honor to be asked to judge, although it was difficult to select winners when I felt there were so many more deserving awards." Mary Horrigan

Best in Show

Best in Show: *First Encounter*, Jerry Madara. "The figure is perfectly executed and painted with simplicity. Kudos to the artist for making the shadow part of the figure."

Watercolor

First: *American Pie*, Judith Goldstein. "This shows a confident use of bold clear color and a masterful knowledge of drawing, especially in the hands."

Second: *Izzy*, Nancy Madar. "The self-satisfied attitude of the cat is evident the texture and coloring of the fur is well done."

Third: *First of the Season*, Mary Sullivan. "There is contrast in texture and edges; the fruit is well placed in the composition."

Honorable Mention: *A Quiet Place*, Janet Heller. "The whole painting imparts a feeling of cold, with the progression of pine trees leading the eye into the distance."

Acrylic/Oil

First: *Low Tide*, Robin Simpson. "The viewer's eye is drawn into the distance while the textural effects convey the rough terrain. The quiet sky gives contrast and rest."

Second: *Her First Apple Harvest*, Rhea Sutter. "This is a simple subject handled with simplicity. There is not a single unnecessary stroke. The handling of the hands is exquisite and the emotions in the face are conveyed with simplicity."

Third: *Copper Kettle*, Alexis Mitchell. "The artist's use of big simple shapes contributes to a pleasing painting."

Honorable Mention: *Birches in Fall*, Helena Deary. "An imaginative pattern of color creates a fantasy impression of Fall."

Photography

First: *Fall*, Jim Oliphant. “This says fall with a stream of colorful leaves in the shape of a leaf — an original use of photography!”

Second: *Cape Kayaks*, Joe Madar. “A composition in shape and color.”

Third: *Still Life Composition*, Gail Crook. “Excellent presentation of textures and contrast of textures.”

Honorable Mention: *Reflections*, Mary Bollash. “This is interesting for its simplicity and contrast.”

Other

First: *Nature Meets Clay*, Louise Cooke. “The dish is attractive for its pleasing shape and color and for the detail in the veins.”

Second: *Hartford Cityscape*, Jeff Blazejovsky. “This piece is clever and original and fun to look at.”

Third: *Reactions*, Robin Simpson. “This is attractive for its color and contrasting design.”

Honorable Mention: *Nesting Hawk*, Joyce Erickson. “This piece is a winner due to its original and imaginative use of material.”

Pastel

First: *Porter Howard Residents*, Christine Larson. “The bright contrast of yellow shapes, well defined against soft background shapes, serves to invite the viewer to stay awhile and enjoy!”

Second: *Ablaze*, Carolyn Emerson. “The artist makes use of solid composition along with bold use of color, offering complementary contrast. The movement of the clouds is echoed in the movement of the birds.”

Third: *Sunlight*, Sharon Kehmna. “This is a bright and happy painting, making use of diagonal lines and a scattering of orange color that add sparkle and dynamism.”

Honorable Mention: *Breaking Through*, Louise Cooke. “The monochromatic color scheme conveys a peaceful feeling.”