



MEDIA RELEASE – AUGUST 1, 2016

Artists Announced for Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition 2016

Forty-nine artists have been selected for the honor of displaying their artwork in the juried exhibition for the fourth annual Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition in September in Twentynine Palms, CA.

On Friday, July 29, a selection committee met and juried 236 artwork images submitted by 92 artists from across California, the U.S., and British Columbia. The jury selected 49 artists and art pieces depicting or inspired by Joshua Tree National Park for this year's show. Artwork ranged from oil and acrylic paintings, watercolors, mixed media, and photography, to ceramic, glass, and metal sculpture.

Eleven out-of-state artists were selected for the exhibition: Naomi Brown, Queen Creek, Arizona; Laurel Cohen, Bloomington, Indiana; Robert Donsker, North Oaks, Minnesota; Frani Evedon, Colden, New York; Robert Fogel, Haughton, Louisiana; Nikki Gardner, Williamsburg, Massachusetts; Dale O'Dell, Prescott, Arizona; Larry Percy, Troy, Alabama; Rael Slick, Tucson, Arizona; Chrisanthy Vargo, Lantana, Florida; and Kim Zarney of Cleveland, Ohio.

Artists in the Joshua Tree Gateway Communities include Joshua Tree artists Doug Dolde, Frederick Fulmer, James Hammons, Jessie Keylon, Noreen Lawlor, Lenne Rosen-Kabe, Karine Swenson, and John Van Vliet.

Twentynine Palms artists selected are Penelope Benson-Wright and Chuck Caplinger.

Yucca Valley artists in this year's exhibition are Christina Cody, Janis Commentz, Bill Dahl, Tami Roleff, Laurie Schafer, Esther Shaw, Heather Sprague, Krista Wargo, Echo Westover, and Andy Willinger.

Artists from the Coachella Valley are Adam Labuen of Palm Springs, Robert Miramontes of Desert Hot Springs, and Martha Villegas-Valentin of Cathedral City.

Other California artists are: Robert Arnett of Glendora (and Twentynine Palms), Jaymie Arquilevich of Ojai, Valerie M. Birkhoff of Grass Valley, Linda Brown of Claremont, Teal Buehler of Trona, Lee Edwards of Duarte, Siri France of Los Angeles, Debra Holladay of Pomona, Chris Hubble of Los Angeles, Gerhard Kammer of Studio City, Kathy Kleinstein of San Jose, Nadine Messier of Long Beach, Chip Morton of Menifee, Jeffrey Skelly of Sunland, Sal Vasquez of Palmdale.

One piece of art from each of the 49 artists will be displayed in the juried exhibition at the historic 29 Palms Art Gallery from Sept. 2 to Oct. 2. An awards reception will be held at the gallery on Saturday, Sept. 17, from 5 to 8 p.m.

Art Exposition weekend events will take place on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 17 & 18, and will include an Art Market with artist booths, music, food and beverages on the lawn at 29 Palms Inn; free art classes and the exhibition at 29 Palms Art Gallery; art demonstrations at 29 Palms Creative Center; nature walks and talks at the Oasis of Mara and Joshua Tree National Park Oasis Visitor Center; and other activities throughout the weekend. All events are open to the public and admission free.

The 2016 Selection Committee jurors for the juried exhibition, working with facilitator John Cole and artist liaison Vickie Waite, were:



Ann Congdon, Artist, Architect, and member of the Public Arts Advisory Committee, City of Twentynine Palms.

Jeff Hafler, Owner and Curator, Beauty Bubble Salon and Museum, Joshua Tree.

Rebecca Lowry, Artist and Lecturer, Otis College of Art and Design, Los Angeles.

Terry Taylor-Castillo, Gallery Owner, Taylor Junction, Joshua Tree.

Alita VanVliet, Artist/Designer, former Morongo Basin Cultural Arts Council Board of Directors, and Hwy 62 Open Studio Art Tours Director, Joshua Tree.

The annual Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition is presented by Joshua Tree National Park Council for the Arts, in partnership with 29 Palms Art Gallery, both 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. For more information about the event, visit www.jtnpARTS.org.

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