

Mendham artist takes home ribbon at Highlands Festival exhibition



Festival Winner

Mendham artist Maxwell Hollows' "Autumn's Call" won first place at the Highlands Festival art show.



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MENDHAM - A Mendham artist has won the top prize at the New Jersey Highlands Coalition's Third Annual Highlands Festival Juried Art and Photography Exhibit.

The photos and paintings are on exhibit at the Morris Museum in Morristown and were on display at the Highlands Festival at Waterloo Village held Sept. 19-20. The exhibit, featuring a mix of photography, oil and watercolor paintings, focuses on the landscapes, flora, fauna and historic and cultural resources of the New Jersey Highlands.

Mendham artist Maxwell Hollows took home the first place for his "Autumn's Call" an impressionistic oil painting of a Highlands landscape. Honorable Mention was given to Lauren Theis of Budd Lake for her oil on board titled, "Sunset, Budd Lake."

Nina Nemeth of Montville, received second place for her "Ramapo Valley View," a mixed media and acrylic collage featuring the bold autumn colors of a river scene in the Ramapo Mountains. And third place went to Jonathan Rush of Sparta for his photograph, "Waterloo Sunset," a black and white photograph of the canal and the mill at Waterloo Village.

Honorable Mentions also went to Leesa Beckman of Highland Lakes for her photograph titled, “Queen Anne’s Lace. Additional works featured in the exhibit include a watercolor, an oil painting, several photographs and another mixed media collage.

All artists over 18 years old, regardless of experience, were invited to enter. Accepted entries were displayed digitally during the festival. Entries will also be featured on the festival’s website and social media sites. The show was organized by New Jersey photographer Dwight Hiscano; and juried by Emmy award-winning filmmaker Elliott Ruga, policy director for the N.J. Highlands Coalition, Donna Compton, art consultant from Boonton, Morristown artist Susan Donnell, and Hiscano. Angela Sergonis-Melchion, former assistant curator for the Morris Museum in Morristown served as judge, selecting the winners from among 30 finalists.

For more information, visit the “Activities” page on the Festival website at www.highlandsfestivalatwaterloo.org.