

ZANESVILLE MUSEUM of ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 18, 2020

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Zanesville Museum of Art Holding *Ohio Annual Exhibition* Online

ZANESVILLE, Ohio– The popular *Ohio Annual* juried exhibition at the Zanesville Museum of Art will now be held entirely online. Celebrating its 75th year, hosting an online rather than an onsite exhibition was a difficult decision to make. However, to mitigate applicant exposure to the coronavirus (COVID-19) this annual juried exhibition will be online in 2020.

The ZMA sought support from former, current, and future Ohio artist applicants to determine the viability of hosting this prestigious exhibition virtually. Of those survey respondents, the majority supported an online exhibition and helped define some of the online exhibition's new features.

How the online exhibition will work

The work of those artists juried into the online exhibition will be featured in an exhibition video broadcasted on all major Social Media and will be featured in a virtual gallery on the ZMA's website.

"We hope to reach a larger regional audience with this online exhibition," stated ZMA Executive Director Laine Snyder. Most artwork featured in the exhibition will be for sale through the ZMA's website.

The museum hopes this contactless experience will encourage more artists to apply for the statewide exhibition. Artists can remain safe and won't have the added task of shipping and delivering their work. Moreover, this online exhibition allows artists to submit works they otherwise would not have been able to exhibit based on onsite size and weight limitations. The ZMA hopes to see more ceramic, metalwork, and sculpture applications for the online exhibition. The deadline to apply for this exhibition is Tuesday, August 25, 2020.

The application process for the *Ohio Annual* remains unchanged. Artists can visit zanesvilleart.org to apply for the exhibition.

The Zanesville Museum of Art ignites human imagination and understanding through the visual arts.

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Initiatives planned during the online exhibition

The ZMA is planning several exciting new initiatives around this online exhibition to ensure accepted artists receive the same or better publicity and recognition as they would in an onsite exhibition. A virtual award ceremony and online programming including lectures from award winners are planned. Moreover, enhanced Social Media marketing to broader regional audiences will ensure more viewers, potentially those who would be unable to come in person, can view all the artwork in the exhibition. The most exciting and unique initiative the museum has planned is an online gallery of the exhibition complete with images, artist bios, artist statements about their work, and a link to the artist's personal website. This unprecedented level of publicity promises that accepted artists will be seen by more viewers.

About the Juror

The ZMA is excited to welcome guest juror, Mr. Ken Emerick, to select this year's *Ohio Annual* participants and award Best in Show. Mr. Emerick was the former Ohio Arts Council's (OAC) Director of Artist Programs and the Ohio Percent for Art Program. For 35 years he assisted with the coordination and direction of the OAC's Individual Excellence Awards and had facilitated a number of artist exchanges for the OAC with national and international artist residency organizations. He also directed Ohio's public art program, the Ohio Percent for Art Program, which commissions and acquires public artworks for Ohio universities, colleges and public agencies located throughout the state. Mr. Emerick has served as a juror for a variety of exhibitions and artist awards for numerous Ohio arts organizations, colleges, and universities. He is a graduate of Otterbein University located in Westerville, Ohio.

About the Exhibition Prizes

Several cash prizes will be awarded during the *Ohio Annual* online exhibition. Best in Show in the exhibition will win \$1,000. In addition, \$100 cash prizes will be awarded in each of the following categories: Painting; Drawing, Prints, and Collage; Sculpture; Jewelry and Functional Metalwork; Ceramics; Glass; and Photography and Video. Lastly, the Beaux Arts Club, a ZMA affiliate group, will once again present the Janice Ballas Excellence in Fiber Arts award to an exceptional fiber artist. This award comes with a \$250 prize.

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