

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Headline suggestion: Art Along the Alley draws record number of artists and attendees

Art Along the Alley, Blacksburg's annual celebration of visual art by regional artists, enjoyed beautiful weather and a record number of exhibiting artists and attendees on Saturday, July 19. More than thirty artists working in a wide range of media participated in the event, sponsored by the Downtown Merchants of Blacksburg. Enthusiastic attendees appreciated works in watercolor, oil, pastels, acrylics, glass, wood, copper, photography, stone, clay and collage.

The first place award of \$150 was presented to James Underwood of Bedford for his pastel work "Reflections of Other Days." Judge Martha Preston, an artist and art instructor active in the Pulaski Fine Arts Center, described Underwood's use of pastels as "amazing." "There is so much going on in the work, so much detail," commented Preston.

Second place was awarded to Nancy Norton of Blacksburg for her three-dimensional stained glass panel entitled "Transformation." Third place was awarded to Carol Wolfe of Blacksburg for her photograph "Reeds and Reflection." The second and third place prizes were gift certificates for \$100 and \$50, donated by Mish Mish, an artists' supply store in Blacksburg.

The variety in media displayed was further illustrated in three honorable mention awards presented to Suzanne Brooks of Blacksburg for her work "Acrylics and Dyes on Piece of Canvas;" Sal Corral of Roanoke for his large colorful work in oils entitled "Viola;" Sue Brozovsky of Catawba for her stone carving entitled "Evita;" and Susan Hensley of Blacksburg for her abstract watercolor collage entitled "Boutique."

Judge Preston said her only regret is that there were not more prizes to be awarded given the variety and high quality of the works on display. "There is so much artistic talent in this area. Blacksburg is a wonderful place to display and encourage the arts."

The event is held in conjunction with Breakfast at the Farmer's Market, providing a feast for the body, eyes and spirit.

BRAA Members are highlighted in yellow.