

May 3rd, 2021

Gallery Directors Statement – Joliet Junior College Juried Students' Exhibition 2021

This past year was fraught with many challenges that our talented, dedicated, and resourceful visual arts students, faculty, and staff met not only head on, but with enthusiasm. During the fall we hosted our first virtual student show which had been postponed due to the pandemic from the previous spring. For that exhibition we were able to have the work photographed on campus as it had been delivered to our gallery for judging months prior, just before everything shut down.

For this exhibition, things were a little different. While this was to be another virtual exhibition this time the students themselves were responsible for photographing and digitally submitting their own work to our juror. This is an important training as it is integral to life as an exhibiting artist and our students have grown by embracing this professional practice skill. We are thrilled to present our second virtual ***Joliet Junior College Juried Students' Exhibition*** and the first in which the students were also the documentarians of their own work!

The Fine Arts Department congratulates *every* student who took the initiative to submit one or several of the 176 pieces to our juror. While not every piece makes it into the show, the act of submitting work for exhibition is an important one.

From these 176 submissions, 51 were chosen to represent our visual arts students in this year's exhibition and they showcase the breadth of our studio course selections. Three awards were selected by our Juror:

First Place - **Christopher Abram Sandoval - *Mind of an Artist***

Second Place - **Grace Sniegowski - *European Currency Triptych***

Third Place - **Cheri Tanamal - *If Angels are the Image of God, then I Fear God***

In addition to the juror's selections, three honorable mention awards were chosen by the gallery.

Honorable Mention - **Gabby Duncan – *Manifest***,

Honorable Mention - **Samantha Dan Alontaga – *Lollipop***

Honorable Mention - **Bailey Ricciardi - *Micro Macro***,

The awards for this exhibition were generously provided by the Kingsbury Scholarship. Congratulations not only to our award winners and student exhibitors but to *all* of the students who submitted work to this exhibition – *we are beyond proud of you all!* Special thanks to our juror Christopher T. Wood for joining us on this endeavor. We hope you all enjoy our 2021 Joliet Junior College Juried Students Exhibition!

Suzanne M Gorgas

Director – Laura A. Sprague Gallery

Joliet Junior College

