

SOUTHERN UTAH MUSEUM OF ART SHOWCASES REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ARTISTS THIS WINTER

State Bank of Southern Utah Provides Purchase Award for Premier High School Exhibit



CEDAR CITY, Utah – Jan. 8, 2020 — As the new year begins, Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA) presents its first-ever juried high school art show, *Square One: Southwest Regional High School Exhibition*. Through the museum's call for art, *Square One* features selected artworks by high school artists spanning the southwest region of Utah and is on display from now through February 15. The public is invited to a free opening reception at SUMA on Thursday, January 9 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Square One would not be possible without support from State Bank of Southern Utah (SBSU) and Southwest Educational Development Center (SEDC). As part of their sponsorship, SBSU will purchase an exceptional piece of art from the exhibition. One artist will be selected to receive the Purchase Award of \$750 and their artwork will be placed in the bank's permanent collection. Alongside this generous award, SUMA, in partnership with the SEDC, will offer additional cash prizes through a Jurors' Choice Award, five Awards of Excellence, and three Honorable Mention awards.

Through this exhibition, the museum aims to provide a unique experience for young artists to participate in a museum-level opportunity for professional growth while also providing a chance for the community to see the work of an underrepresented demographic of artists.

"I am eager to see our young artists have opportunities to exhibit and receive feedback on their artwork," says Roland Lee, local watercolor artist and *Square One* guest juror. "It may be the first time these artists have seen their work exhibited outside their own school or even community. Visitors to *Square One* will be rewarded with a variety of styles and techniques—to see the highs and lows of teenage emotions ranging from light and whimsical to dark and brooding."

After sending a call for art out to Iron, Kane, Millard, Washington, Garfield and Beaver counties, SUMA received responses from 105 students representing 171 art entries. Lee, alongside fellow jurors Christine Baczek, photographer and co-founder of Luminaria, and Stuart Robinson, assistant professor of art education at Southern Utah University, poured over the entries and through a rigorous jury process, 71 entries from 62 artists representing Iron, Kane, Millard, and Washington were selected to be featured in *Square One*. The artists selected to be in the exhibition are as follows:

Gaylen Bailey Abigail Bonham Korbin Burton Anni Campbell Kayla Campos Katelyn Church Spencer Corry Kennedy Cosson Macey Cox Sage Darger Bavlee Davis Bekah Davis Andrea Diaz Emma Vesely Alice Ewell Ellen Fagergren Asher Foulk Sally Fraser April Frost Sadie Gilberg Israel Gomez Marcy Hadley Rebi Hall Dallin Hancock Christian Hensley Abbie Hermansen Heather Judd Anna Koski Uili Leoso

Jennison Lichfield Sarah Llovd Kaylee Long Jalynn Lunceford Lucy MacKay Hailey Martin Brinlee Mendenhall Max Mickelson Bailey Orton Quin Palmer Spencer Peel Jessica Perry Isaac Petersen Zoe Petersen Lillian Puckett Carsyn Richins Naji Runs Through Phoenix Saville Kade Simmons Ellie Simpson Layton Spencer Madison Steed Carlee Stephenson Shauna Stevenson Sage Stoker Claire Swope Heidi Thurman Jamie Thygerson Zariah Tracy

Emma Wallenfels Ella Wrankle Xochitl Martinez Elizabeth Zona

Square One will provide a unique experience for these artists and all who attend. More information about the exhibition can be found on SUMA's website at <u>www.suu.edu/suma</u>. Admission to the museum is free and open to the public thanks to the above sponsors and by Cedar City RAP Tax, Utah Division of Arts and Museums and Zions Bank.

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About Southern Utah Museum of Art

Southern Utah Museum of Art, on the campus of Southern Utah University, features the artwork of regional artists known for their landscapes, faculty and student artists from the SUU Department of Art & Design, as well as emerging and distinguished artists from around the country. Strengths of the nearly 2,000-object permanent collection include the body of work by Jimmie Jones that exemplifies his notable career in the regions, as well as a robust collection of prints featuring well-known artists such as Pierre-Auguste Renoir, Salvador Dalí, Katsushika Hokusai, Thomas Hart Benton, and others. Part of the Beverley Taylor Sorenson Center for the Arts, which also includes the Utah Shakespeare Festival, SUMA is free and open to the public.

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