

2026 NATIONAL OPEN JURIED EXHIBITION EXHIBITING ARTISTS			
Name	Title	Medium	Price
Eleanor Miller	<i>Awake in the forest</i>	Oil on canvas	\$1,500
Sharon Morgio	<i>Limitless Possibilities</i>	Mixed media	\$600
Jennifer Muller	<i>The Shadow Watcher</i>	Beaded sculpture	\$995
Joan Mullins	<i>Wheat & Sky</i>	Mixed media on canvas	\$275
Donna Namnoum	<i>Blue Plaid Flower Jar</i>	Glazed Stoneware	\$800
Heather Neilson	<i>Holding Ground</i>	Oil and Cold Wax	\$1,700
Mallorie Ostrowitz	<i>Malta Seacoast #3</i>	Photography	\$600
Jana Ott	<i>Back When</i>	Oil on canvas	NFS
Carolyn Pelkey	<i>Private Moment In The Wild</i>	Photography	NFS
Alicia Pena Mari	<i>Textures of Color</i>	Acrylic	\$2,000
Christine Penry	<i>September Grass</i>	Hand papermaking, pulp paint.	\$350
Connie Pfeiffer	<i>pricked</i>	Drawing- black thread, texture, acrylic on paper	\$1,200
Morgan Pietrorazio	<i>Bubba the Cows</i>	Oil paint on stretched canvas	\$750
Afarin Rahmanifar	<i>Threads of Silence #2</i>	Mixed Media, Acrylic, Linen, Veneer, Epoxy, Thread	\$4,000
Susanna Rakusin	<i>Clusterscape 26: Rickle</i>	Tissue collage, pen and ink, acrylic paint on arch	\$450
Linda Reynolds	<i>Finding Tranquility</i>	Acrylic	\$1,000
Susan Rollins	<i>Cher ami</i>	Oil on canvas	\$400
Ann Rosebrooks	<i>Remembrance</i>	Acrylic on Canavs	\$350
Beryl Salinger Schmitt	<i>Border Crossing</i>	Recycled paper bags, stitching, oil, oil crayons,	\$800
Linda Schiwall	<i>Fumaroles</i>	Encaustic	\$850
Sharon Schmiedel	<i>Here, There and Beyond</i>	Acrylics, collage, ink	\$1,800
Elizabeth Scott	<i>Family Group</i>	Pencil and colored pencil	\$800
Rosalind Shaffer	<i>Fetch</i>	Ceramic	\$1,200
Phyllis Small	<i>Alternate Destination</i>	Fiber Art	\$320
Joan Sonnanburg	<i>Emergence</i>	Acrylic on canvas	\$1,800
Rebecca Steiner	<i>Rhythm & Blues</i>	Analog collage	\$1,200
Peggy Stosz	<i>Juicy</i>	Oil on cradled board	\$2,000
Kelly Taylor	<i>View from Afar</i>	Mixed Media	\$640
Barbara Timberman	<i>Iris and Daffodils</i>	Watercolor	\$1,000
Laura Trimboli	<i>Lion in Me</i>	Pencil	\$595
NC Whitcher	<i>Landscape 470</i>	Monotype	\$800
Jen E. Wilkosz	<i>Darkness Converges Between Greenhouses</i>	Photography	\$800
Rachel Williams	<i>Optimistic</i>	Acrylic on burlap and canvas	\$3,000
Jeanette Wimmer	<i>Grass Island Shack</i>	Pulp paper art and collage	\$200
Virginia Zimmermann	<i>American Fabric</i>	Mixed medium - pen and ink, collage and gold thread	\$600

2026 AWARD WINNERS

We are excited to present this year’s award winning artworks. Featured on the cover is our **Best in Show Award** winner – *Singing River* by Rita Kelley. Below are the rest of our 2026 awardees. Congratulations to all!

2nd place Award –
Fumaroles
by Linda Schiwall*

Ruth Cogswell Award –
Landscape #470
by Nancy Whitcher*

Evelyn B. Longman Award –
Threads of Silence #2
by Afarin Rahmanifer*

Dorothy Alden Hapgood Award. –
Golden Sunset
by Elaine Juske Joseph*

Ruth E. Abbey Award –
Border Crossing
by Beryl Salinger Schmitt

*CWA members



NATIONAL OPEN JURIED EXHIBITION 2026



Singing River, Rita Kelley, Mixed Media, Acrylic Paint, and Collage
CWA 2026 National Open Juried Exhibition “Best in Show” winner

August 26 – October 16, 2026

The Art Gallery at Eastern Connecticut State University
306 High Street, Willimantic, CT

Gallery hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: Noon - 4 pm; Thursday: noon - 7 pm, Closed on Sunday
(Please note that the gallery will be closed Sept. 7, Labor day)

Opening Reception:
Friday, September 11, 4 – 9 PM

Awards Reception:
Saturday, September 19, 1 – 3 PM

LEADERSHIP

OFFICERS

Sarah Grote – President
ctwomenartistspresident@gmail.com

Nancy Whitcher – Co-President

Jennifer Muller – Vice President

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To learn more about CWA visit,
ctwomenartists.org

Many thanks –
to our National Open
Juried Show co-chairs
Nancy Whitcher &
Marny Lawton,
and to all who helped
make this show possible.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CWA PRESIDENT

Welcome to the Connecticut Women Artists National Open Juried Exhibition. This exhibition reflects not only the exceptional talent of artists from across the region, but also CWA's commitment to fostering artistic excellence and creating meaningful opportunities for artists to share their work with the public.

As President, one of my goals has been to build on CWA's strong foundation while expanding opportunities, encouraging collaboration, and strengthening our presence within the broader arts community. This exhibition is a wonderful example of that vision in action. The selected works represent an outstanding range of artistic voices, techniques, and perspectives, resulting in a show that is both inspiring and engaging.

Thank you to every artist who submitted work and entrusted us with your art. Whether selected or not, your participation strengthens both this exhibition and our organization. I also extend my sincere appreciation to our volunteers and to Eastern Connecticut State University for hosting this exhibition.

Sarah Grote, CWA President

THANK YOU TO OUR JUROR

Jeanne Ciravolo, Assistant Professor in Residence, and Director,
Alexey von Schlippe Gallery – UConn, Groton, CT

Jeanne Ciravolo is a mixed media artist whose figurative paintings and textiles explore family narratives. Her work has been exhibited nationally in galleries and museums including The Butler Institute of American Art, OH; the Yellowstone Art Museum, Billings, MT; Coral Springs Museum, Coral Springs, FL and AREA Code Art Fair, Boston, MA. She has been awarded residencies at the Hambidge Center, Kimmel Harding Nelson, and the Anderson Center for interdisciplinary Studies. Publications of her work include Manifest International Drawing Annual 15, Manifest International Painting Annual 10, and Rejoinder, a publication of the Institute for Research on Women at Rutgers University, in partnership with the Feminist Art Project. In 2020 she received the Walter Feldman Fellowship, juried by Ellen Tani, Assistant Curator at the Institute of Contemporary Art Boston. Her commissioned portraits can be found in the collections of the State of Connecticut Appellate and Superior Courts.

JUROR'S STATEMENT

It was my honor to select artwork for the Connecticut Women Artists 2026 Open Juried Exhibition. Every work in this exhibition made a strong impression on me. In selecting the works, I sought to assemble a cohesive exhibition that displayed a full range of media and subject matter.

Artworks which received awards, stood out for combining two or more of the following traits: mastery of media or technique, content that is intellectually or emotionally engaging, expressiveness of color, strong composition, or experimentation that expands upon traditional forms.

I want to thank all the artists who submitted their artwork for consideration and hope the exhibition offers an opportunity for everyone to be inspired and find renewed energy to continue making art.

2026 NATIONAL OPEN JURIED EXHIBITION | EXHIBITING ARTISTS

Name	Title	Medium	Price
Christine Acebo	<i>Le marché des Enfants-Rouges - Paris</i>	Photography	\$180
Emily Albee	<i>Between the clasp of hands, for gathering seed</i>	Ceramic	NFS
Ishita Bandyo	<i>Waiting for a Reply</i>	Collage of Canvas Board	\$300
Laura Barr	<i>Night Walk</i>	Oil	NFS
Karen Bartone	<i>Pondering Temporary Basin</i>	Oil	\$7,000
Sara Bernstein	<i>Spinning Words</i>	Collagraph + weaving	\$1,100
Lori Blados	<i>Erratic Drift</i>	Acrylic	\$1,200
Nancy Boudreau	<i>Jack and Willow 2 Do Not Disturb</i>	Acrylic on Hardboard	\$1,000
Polly Castor	<i>Winds of Change</i>	Monoprint collage	\$1,500
Sandra Chase	<i>Paths Home</i>	Collage and pastel	\$500
Cynthia Cooper	<i>dragonfly 27 (marvels of the world)</i>	Acrylic on Queen of Italy antique linen damask	\$950
Alex Darinzo	<i>Those Who Touch Her Risk Her Puncture</i>	Mixed Media	NFS
Violet Davenport	<i>Embracing the Moment</i>	Collage	\$2,200
Jennifer Davies	<i>LIKE MINDED 2</i>	Kozo fiber, ink, thread	\$1,200
JC Dellenbaugh	<i>Dreamer</i>	Bronze on faux marble base	\$6,000
Ashley Donovan	<i>Always Never, Again</i>	Oil	\$2,800
Carole Drong	<i>Singing for Freedom_a country at a crossroad</i>	Photography	\$200
Stacey Dyer	<i>Goddess of Fortune</i>	Analog collage	\$500
Joan Emmet	<i>Footed Square Platter</i>	White stoneware	\$350
Cathryn Falwell	<i>Sycamore II</i>	Charcoal and chalk	\$700
June Farnham	<i>Wanderer at Water's Edge</i>	Acrylic on canvas	\$1,600
Kaitlyn Favreau	<i>Tree of Life</i>	Acrylic Paint and Gold Leaf on Canvas	\$2,500
Diane Francis	<i>Time</i>	Woodblock Print	\$550
Roberta Friedman	<i>Awaken</i>	Encaustic, oil pigment, shellac burn	\$750
Sherie Gage	<i>Blue Urn with Enameled Copper Lid</i>	Clay, Glaze, Copper, Copper Rivets, Enamel	\$800
Blaire Gagnon	<i>Wintering</i>	Fiber, collaged textile base, embroidered and quilt	\$1,500
Joyce Galehouse	<i>Polyptych: Passion, No Credit, One Door Opens, Birth/Death</i>	Mixed media assemblage	\$1,200
Sue Gillen	<i>Harvest Girl</i>	Fabric	\$1,000
Susan Graseck	<i>Escape</i>	Acrylic on Canvas	\$750
Deborah Greco	<i>Misty Swamp</i>	Oil	NFS
Nancy L. Greco	<i>Eye of Providence</i>	Acrylic on linen	\$6,000
Andrea Haas	<i>Drift</i>	Photography	\$150
Kate Henderson	<i>Entwine</i>	Collagraph	\$500
Renee Hughes	<i>Emotional Fingerprint</i>	Acrylic, mixed media on panel	\$1,200
Azra Hussain	<i>Serving Pomegranate</i>	Jewelry	NFS
Elaine Juska Joseph	<i>Golden Sunset</i>	Pastel	\$750
Helen Kauder	<i>Ste?</i>	Hand Cut Collage on paper	\$400
Rita Kelley	<i>Singing river</i>	Mixed media acrylic paint and collage	NFS
Evelyn Oliver Knight	<i>First Family Portrait</i>	Fiber Art - Quilt	NFS
Hillary Lancaster	<i>Sunlight in the Asters</i>	Wool Yarn and Metallic Thread	\$350
Holly Layman	<i>Oliver</i>	Recycled Cardboard	\$3,600
Lynne Lockhart	<i>Prodigal Son</i>	Oil on panel	\$2,300
Catherine Mansell	<i>Dance Until Dark</i>	Encaustic, Oil, Asian Watercolors, Asian Inks	\$1,200
Marlo Marrero	<i>Day 16 of 30 Days of Spring, Water, Life. 2026</i>	Watercolor	\$275

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