



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Festival Art Show winners announced at 2024 event

PLANT CITY, Fla. (March 2, 2024) – The Florida Strawberry Festival announced yesterday the winners in its 2024 Fine Art Show presented by the East Hillsborough Art Guild and sponsored by Good Health Saunas.

In the adult division, the highest award, best in show, was awarded to Alan Metzger, and the strawberry theme award was given to Beth Smedley.

In the adult professional oils division, Jose Elu Vazques won first place; Chris Klein won second place; David Willey won third place; Heather Esposito won fourth place.

In the adult professional acrylics division, Shirin Moghadasi won first place; Wayne Chumat won second place; Danny Lewis won third place; Maria Isabel Lazo won fourth place.

In the adult professional watercolor division, Deborah Biasetti won first place; Roxanne Tobiason won second place; Sue Downs Allen won third place; Sandra Lallemand won fourth place.

In the adult professional graphics, Sheryl Unwin won first place; Douglas Steinbarger won second place; Joyce Bugaiski won third place; Mary Worsley won fourth place.

In the adult amateur oils division, Kathy Sklut won first place; Gabriela Morales won second place; Wendi Shufflebarger won third place; John Paul Jones won fourth place.

In the adult amateur acrylics division, Diana Mask won first place; Melinda Tew- Cantrell won second place; Carolyn Greeson won third place; Carolyn McBride won fourth place.

In the adult amateur watercolors division, Deborah Reynolds won first place; Peggy Gallaher won second place; Diane Smeed won third place; Audrey Lussier won fourth place.

In the adult amateur graphic, Tifane Worsley won first place; Denise Brown won second place; Anna Schermerhorn won third place; Abby Church won fourth place.

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In the adult miniature art division, Gunni Price won first place; Marie Schadt won second place; Joyce Ownes won third place; Carlene Earl won fourth place.

In the youth division, the highest award, best in show, was awarded to Reese Veerkamp.

In the youth oil, acrylic, watercolor, graphics division, ages 16 to 17 years old, Hannah Bennett won first place; Yarely Orozco won second place; Pranathi Marivannan won third place; Ashlyn Hudson won fourth place.

In the youth oil, acrylic, watercolor, graphics division, ages 14 to 15 years old, Robert De La Rosa won first place; Sarah Feldmeyer won second place; Chelsea Livengood won third place; Olivia Abrams won fourth place.

In the youth oil, acrylic, watercolor, graphics division, ages 12 to 13 years old, Cecilia Simpkins won first place; Saahith Mateti won second place; Liberty Fondriest won third place; Sheetala Saravanan won fourth place.

In the youth oil, acrylic, watercolor, graphics division, ages 10 to 11 years old, Aritram Nath won first place; Celia Blankenbaker won second place; Shriya Iyer won third place; Nandini Venumula won fourth place.

In the youth oil, acrylic, watercolor, graphics division, ages 8 to 9 years old, Sparsh Chakroborty won first place; Swarali Cherukuri won second place; Srimathi Raghunath won third place; Hasya Tirumani won fourth place.

In the youth oil, acrylic, watercolor, graphics division, ages 6 to 7 years old, Maanvi Samala won first place; Aashi Patel won second place; Devangana Bera won third place; Bhaarika Pachwzi won fourth place.

In the youth sculpture division, ages 6 to 12 years old, Rosiland Shearer won first place.

In the youth sculpture division, ages 13 to 17 years old, Rease Marchese won first place; Annabelle DePolis won second place; Michael DePolis won third place; Christopher DePolis won fourth.

Mamie Robinson won the Tony Lee State Farm Business Leader Choice Award; Sandra Lallemand won the Arts Council of Plant City Business Leader Choice Award; Wayne Chunut won the Unity in the Community Business Leader Choice Award; Alan Metzger won the Plant City Entertainment Business Leader Choice Award; Kindle Bowden won the O'Brien's Irish

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Pub Business Leader Choice Award; Shirin Moshadasi won the Osprey Observer Business Leader Choice Award; Subhang Jha, Gary Keeler,Carolym McBride and Douglas Hunter won the Brewington's Towing Award; Barbara Tudek won The Joseph & Edna Lessard Award; Anna Schermerhorn won the On-Point Co-Work Solutions; Marie Schadt won the Wells Memorial & Event Center and the Perry & Debra Buttram Award.

All pieces in the fine art show will be on display in the Hull Armory Building all 11 days of the festival.

About the Florida Strawberry Festival

The Florida Strawberry Festival is an 11-day community event celebrating the strawberry harvest of Eastern Hillsborough County. Each year, over 600,000 visitors enjoy the Festival's headline entertainment, youth livestock shows, exhibits of commerce and, of course, its world-famous strawberry shortcake. The 2024 Florida Strawberry Festival will be held February 29 through March 10 in Plant City, Florida where it's "Out of This World!" For more information, visit www.flstrawberryfestival.com, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and Twitter (#berryfest24).

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