

WE DID IT!

First-Ever APS and OPS Non-Juried Membership Show!



The 2023 non-juried members show recently exhibited at the Thea Foundation gallery in downtown North Little Rock. This year the Arkansas Pastel Society invited the Ozark Pastel Society to exhibit along side them. It was so successful that we have decided to do it again next year with the Ozark Pastel Society hosting at John Brown University.

An estimated 400 people attended the

show's reception held on Friday evening, July 21. The exhibit featured 40 artists, 17 from OPS and 23 from APS. 74 paintings hung in the show, 30 from OPS and 44 from APS.

This year people attending the reception were asked to cast a ballot for their favorite painting in the show, "The Peoples' Choice Award." It was amazing to see the attention people

attending gave to the artwork as they made their selection. A total of 317 votes were submitted with 58 paintings receiving votes that represented 38 artists. The winner with 18 votes was Margi Tucker of the Ozark Pastel Society for her painting "Raven Feather." Margi received a certificate and \$50 for winning "The Peoples' Choice Award" with 18 votes. Randall Kronblad was the runner up

with 17 votes for "On the Way to Evening" and Debbie Strobel's "Overcoming" and Charles Peer's "It Accumulates" both received 13 votes each.

Another addition to this year's non-juried members' show was the addition of storyboards. Three members, Debbie Strobel, Charles Peer and Annette Pettit, created a board showing the different stages of a completed painting, from reference photo to



Children enjoy "hands on" experience with pastels.



APS members Annette Pettit (left) and Shirley Anderson.



Clarence Cash demonstrates during reception.



Exhibit attendees get "up close and personal!" This is the way art should be viewed!



Exhibit attendee marks her ballot for "People's Choice Award."



The Hanging Crew! APS members who helped hang and take down art for the APS/OPS Exhibit at Thea Foundation, from the top: Caprise Cooper, Nancy Martin, Claudia Spainhour, Ann Bleed, Anne Parat, Shirley Bowen, and Cathy Spann. Not pictured, Debbie Strobel.

the final product. Viewers were very interested in the artist's progression as the painting evolved.

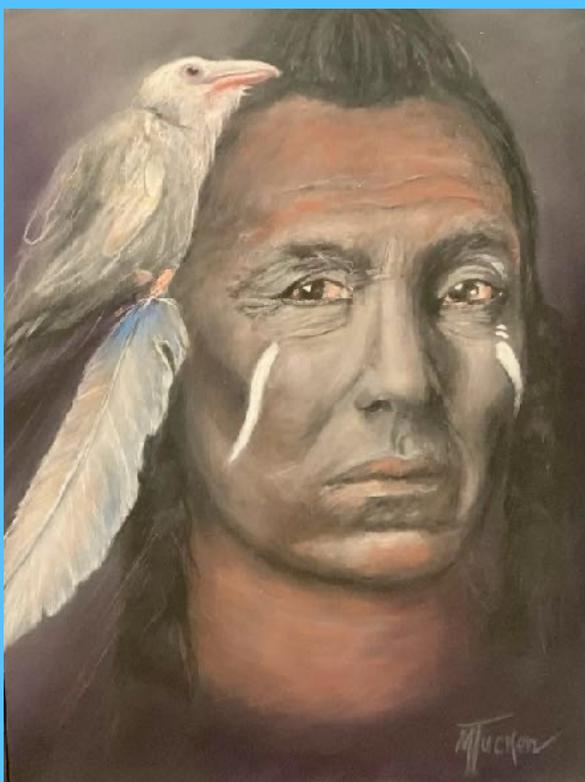
Guests to the exhibit also had the opportunity to see the artists at work thanks to demonstrations by Clarence Cash and Shirley Anderson.

Congratulations to Shirley Bowen, Annette Pettit and Anne Parat, who sold paintings during the exhibit.



Debbie Strobel's storyboard depicts how her painting evolved from a reference photo, to a sketch, to the finished piece.

People's Choice Award Goes to Margi Tucker!



During this year's joint exhibition of the Arkansas Pastel Society and the Ozark Pastel Society, visitors to the reception on July 21 were asked to vote on their favorite painting to receive the "People's Choice Award." The most votes went to Margi Tucker of the Ozark Pastel Society for her painting "Raven Feather."

Congratulations, Margi!