



MEDIA RELEASE – SEPTEMBER 16, 2017

Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition 2017

AWARDS ANNOUNCED

The fifth annual Joshua Tree National Park Art Exposition in Twentynine Palms was a successful event over the weekend of Sept. 16 and 17. Nearly 400 people attended the awards reception on Saturday night at the historic 29 Palms Art Gallery, which featured a juried exhibition of artwork inspired by Joshua Tree National Park, and more than 1,300 visitors and residents attended the weekend events.

Out of 120 artist entries from California and across the nation, 63 artists were juried into the exhibition, which featured artwork inspired by Joshua Tree National Park. Nine artists received awards for their work, with awards totaling \$5,000:

First Place Award went to Linda Brown of Claremont, CA, for her oil painting “Glow Boulders.”

Second Place went to Greg Lucker of Murrieta, for his photograph “Domino Rock.”

Third Place was Gerhard Kammer of Joshua Tree and Studio City, for his watercolor “Step This Way.”

Five Honorable Mentions were given to California artists Lee Edwards of Duarte, Chip Morton of Menifee, Doug Shoemaker of Palm Springs, Jim Smart of Joshua Tree, and Scottsdale, Arizona artist Remi JaBuh.

The Superintendent’s Award, personally selected by Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent David Smith, was presented to Joan Lamensdorf of Pasadena, CA, for her pastel “Keys View Panorama.”

Festivities throughout the weekend included an Art Market on the lawn at the 29 Palms Inn, with live music, food and beverages, and 30 art booths featuring local and regional artists, and some of the artists in the juried exhibition. Other events included art demonstrations at the gallery, a mosaic mural project at the 29 Palms Creative Center, historic artworks at the Old Schoolhouse Museum, nature walks at the Oasis of Mara, and ranger talks at Oasis Visitor Center.

Attendees who participated in the various events and visited the art market and the exhibition over the weekend included visitors and art buyers from the Los Angeles area and the Coachella Valley. Early estimates are that nearly \$12,000 worth of art was sold over the weekend.

The juried exhibition will remain on display at 29 Palms Art Gallery through Sunday, Oct. 1. The gallery is open 11 to 3 p.m. Thursday through Sunday, and is located at 74055 Cottonwood Drive at the corner of National Park Drive in Twentynine Palms, CA. (www.29palmsartgallery.com)

The JTNP Art Exposition is presented by the Joshua Tree National Park Council for the Arts, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Twentynine Palms, CA.

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