

44th Annual Utah All-State High School Art Show

Juror Group Statements

Painting Jury Group: Willamarie Huelskamp, Dan Wilson, and Fletcher Booth

"We were generally impressed with the high quality of works and the impressive array of styles represented. It was immensely difficult to make eliminations. We saw a high level of engagement with the arts and an immense time commitment to the field of painting.

Additionally, the quantity of portraits and high level of creativity within that genre was great. They were highly personal and pushed the boundaries of realism.

If we had any recommendations, it would be to have or use less photographic references and more painting from real life and objects. Also, tracing works of art really deprives students of the opportunities to think beyond the handling of materials.

Thanks so much to the excellent staff at the museum for their help in facilitating an excellent and valuable exhibition."

Drawing Jury Group: Robert Barrett, Caitlin Connolly, and Felicia Baca

"We were very impressed by the quality of work this year. Unfortunately, we had to exclude a number of excellent and high quality pieces. We were impressed by both craft and concept of many of the pieces. There were a number of highly emotive portraits and the artwork represented a variety of themes and experiences. We enjoyed the artist statements and would encourage students to consider and develop more thoughtful thorough statements next year."

Photography and Digital Media Jury Group: Laurel Casjens, Eric Edvalson, and Steve Vistaunet

"We were very pleased with the quality of the work submitted this year. There was a great breadth in style and content. It truly was difficult to narrow to our final selections, and if we had room we would have loved to include more.

We enjoyed seeing some work in traditional media such as film photography. It was also nice to see some work that really played with presentation beyond traditional framing.

By way of encouragement for future submission, be conscious of your presentation. Make sure your frame and matter are an appropriate match for your work and that you print your image at an appropriate size and resolution (300 dpi). Additionally, be conscious of being deliberate in your photographic composition so that you don't have any dead space.

All in all, we saw a ton of great work and were happy to see so many entries!"

3D and Mixed Media Jury Group: Anne Gregerson, Chauncey Secrist, and Deon Duncan

"The level of sophistication on some of the pieces could be considered professional, i.e., fit to be included in collections in New York and L.A.

Ultimate presentation matters more than some of you are considering even if the materials are found objects or the piece is conceptual. The final punctuation is quality!

Artist statements should be more like Twitter, concise, to the point, and honest.

When the didactic is too strong, the jurors (us) tended to eliminate the piece. We would like to see the piece function on many levels and be open to discussion."

