

“Kendall MFA Graduate Purchase Award”

5th Annual Art Competition

PROSPECTUS

In recognition of the strength of MFA student artwork at Kendall College of Art & Design of Ferris State University, the Ferris State University Fine Art Gallery has instituted, in cooperation with the Humanities Department and the College of Arts & Sciences, an "MFA Student Purchase Award." A committee of faculty and staff from the Grand Rapids Campus and the Big Rapids Campus will make the award each year from MFA Graduate Thesis work. The piece selected will become part of the University's permanent art collection and displayed on the Big Rapids campus. The winning artist will also be offered a solo exhibition at the Ferris State University Fine Art Gallery for the gallery season following the award.

Students who will be graduating in May 2016 and exhibiting in a MFA thesis exhibition for the current award year will be encouraged to apply. The organizing committee will review and confirm eligibility. A guest juror from outside of the university will make the award. The winning artwork will be provided by the artist upon completion of his/her graduate exhibition.

JUROR



Shelley Newman Stevens received her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree (majoring in Painting) from Kendall College of Art & Design, graduating as Valedictorian in 2000. She then earned her Master of Fine Arts degree in 2004 from Kendall with an emphasis on Painting and Art History. Shelley is the Director of Golden Apple Art Residency in Downeast Maine which provides two-week residencies for selected artists and writers throughout the summer months. Shelley has taught drawing and painting at Central Michigan University and she maintains an active studio life and exhibition schedule from her studio in Mt. Pleasant, Michigan (www.GoldenAppleStudio.com).

As a visual artist, she understands the psychological power of images, and as a figurative artist she strives to provoke a strong emotional connection with viewers by using the human figure to examine the human experience through imagery and imagination.

“There are many definitions of art. For me, art is not the object itself...the painting or drawing, the photograph or sculpture. Nor is art the act or the process of creating the object. True art, in my opinion, is that indefinable phenomenon which occupies the space between the object and the viewer; the wordless dialogue which takes place when certain feelings are evoked, when questions are raised and the answers are not easy. If the space between the object and the viewer is empty and silent, does art exist?”

“Art is a powerful language, and it is not always well-spoken. Artists fail time and again, but true artists never stop trying. Art is intangible. You’ll know it when you hear it, see it, experience it. You may not quite understand it, but you won’t soon forget it.”

- Shelley Newman Stevens

RULES OF ENTRY

Entry Deadline: **February 12, 2016.** Submissions received after this date will not be considered.

Who May Enter: Open to Kendall MFA Graduate Students during their final year. Submitting artist must be graduating no later than May 2016 with an MFA in any 2D concentration. Submitted art must be from the artist’s graduate thesis exhibition.

Definition Of Media: Any two-dimensional materials including Drawing, Photography, Printmaking, Painting and Mixed Media.

Size Limitations: Dimensions limitations are based upon availability of exhibition space and storage. Depth of work not to exceed 4 inches. Maximum dimensions not to exceed 5 feet wide or 8 feet high.

PURCHASE AWARD

\$1000.00

Only one award is selected annually. Selected work becomes the property of Ferris State University and is accessioned into the permanent collections. The selected work will be framed with archival materials by the Ferris State University Fine Art Gallery.

SOLO EXHIBITION

The winning artist will be invited to exhibit their work in a solo exhibition at the Ferris State University Fine Art Gallery, Big Rapids campus. This exhibition will take place during the regular gallery season, exhibition dates to be determined by the Gallery Director and the artist. Assistance with shipping expenses and all publicity materials will be provided by the gallery.

SELECTION PROCESS

First Phase –DEADLINE

Submission must be received NO later than 2/12/2016

Jury panel determines if the artist has met the entry requirements.

Digital images and artist statement reviewed.

Finalists will be selected for the Second Phase and will be contacted by email and requested to submit work for final selection.

Second Phase

Finalists must deliver work to Kendall College of Art & Design no later than 2/20/2016.

Winning entry is determined by a guest juror.

Artist Notification: Artists will be notified by email or phone.

APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- An entry may be one art object only. Art objects consisting of multiple pieces must adhere to overall size limitations as outlined above.
- Each entry may be represented by 2 additional detail images.
- Each entry must be accompanied by an artist statement. Statement must be one page single spaced.
- **Applications and Images must be received no later than 2/12/2016.**
- By entering their work, artists confirm that they accept and agree to all terms that are identified.
- No incomplete entry will be processed.

MFA students submitting work to be reviewed for the annual Excellence in Art MFA Student Purchase Award should take into consideration the venue in which the work will initially be exhibited for one year on the Big Rapids campus. While the committee charged with selecting the award recipient will be assessing the work based on technical, formal, and conceptual merit, they must also take into account the varied nature of the patrons of the big Rapids campus who attend performances and other events. There are no specific parameters for what constitutes work appropriate for display, but it is advisable to exercise discernment in selecting a piece for consideration for the MFA Student Purchase Award.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY APPLICATION AND IMAGES

- Download the Entry Form, which is a PDF document that you will be able to fill-in and submit electronically along with your images, as directed.
- Or, print out, complete and include with a CD or DVD that you mail in.
- By entering your name and signing the Entry Form, you confirm that you understand and agree to the Rules of Entry for this competition.
- Save a copy of the completed form for your records.
- Notifications will be made by email or phone.

DIGITAL IMAGE FILE SPECIFICATIONS

- Selected artworks may be featured online and also in print publications. Do not include text in the image area.
- maximum 2 megabytes
- 150 dpi JPG



"Kendall MFA Graduate Purchase Award"
Artist Application Form

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Day Phone _____ Cell Phone _____
Email Address _____

Title of Work _____
Date of Completion _____
Medium _____
Dimensions _____ height _____ width _____ depth _____

I (applicant) _____ understand that if my submission is selected it will become part of the Permanent Collections at Ferris State University.

Applicants Signature _____
Date _____

IMPORTANT DATES

Entry Deadline materials must be received by
DEADLINE 2/12/2016
First Round Notification
No later than **2/16/2016**
Work Received in Kendall Gallery by
2/20/2016
Award Notification by **3/12/2016**

HOW TO NAME YOUR IMAGE FILES

lastname.jpg (work being considered for award)
lastnamedet1.jpg (first detail of work-optional)
lastnamedet2.jpg (second detail of work-optional)

IF MAILING YOUR ENTRY:

Print your completed PDF Entry Form and mail with your image files to:

Excellence in Art MFA Student Purchase Award
Ferris State University
Fine Art Gallery
805 Campus Dr.
UCB-205
Big Rapids MI 49307

IF SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY ONLINE

Send PDF Entry Form and jpg images to the Ferris Art Gallery Director, **Carrie Weis Stermer** at carriestermer@ferris.edu