

Preserving ParkLands Juried Art Exhibition



September 12 – October 25, 2014

Preserving ParkLands is an exhibition partnership with ParkLands Foundation to promote the beauty and necessity of protecting our native spaces. Professional and amateur artists over the age of 18 submitted artwork depicting or inspired by ParkLands Foundation's nature preserves in any media, to be juried by Brian Frink, Professor of Art at Minnesota State University, Mankato, MN and creator of Rural America Contemporary Art, an online community, digital gallery, and magazine www.racart.org.

Twenty seven pieces by seventeen artists were selected for a diverse and thoughtful exhibition. A Juror's Choice Award of \$500 and two Merit Awards of \$200 each were selected. One of the Merit Awards is exclusively for artwork inspired by or depicting either the Letcher Basin or Sweeney Woods Nature Preserves.

Artists selected for Preserving ParkLands are Mary Jo Adams, Vandana Bajikar, Carol Boerckel, Jackie Bringham, Ted Diamond, Dale C. Evans, Erin Hayden, Susan Holifield, Doug Johnson, Cindy Lawson-Kester, Denise LeCount O'Brien, Mike McNeil, Gladys Mercier, Deana Moore, Peg Schickedanz, Diane Skidmore, and Phil Smith.

ParkLands Foundation is a nonprofit, public membership land trust committed to preserving, protecting and ecologically restoring historic natural lands along the Mackinaw River and its tributaries. These lands are dedicated primarily for preserving the biological diversity of native plants and wildlife, and secondarily for passive public recreation, environmental educational and scientific research. Since our founding in 1967, the ParkLands Foundation has acquired, protected and restored more than 3,200 acres of prairie, savanna, floodplain forest and river habitat in the Mackinaw River valley of McLean, Tazewell and Woodford counties, and in other watersheds within McLean County. For more information, visit www.parklandsfoundation.org or contact Mike Hall, Administrative Director, at ParkLandsOffice@gmail.com.

This exhibition was generously sponsored by Alexis & Mike Kalish and ParkLands Foundation

Listen to WGLT's Laura Kennedy interview artist Deana Moore and curator Claire Hedden:
<http://www.mcac.wildapricot.org/Resources/Documents/Audio/09-30PreservingParklandsQA.mp3>