



MEDIA RELEASE – NOVEMBER 3, 2025

Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo – Awards Announced

More than 400 artists and art appreciators attended the festivities at 29 Palms Art Gallery for the opening weekend of the 13th annual Joshua Tree National Park Art Expo on Nov. 1 & 2. Art awards for the juried exhibition were announced at a reception on Saturday evening, with cash prizes totaling \$4,000.

For the first time at Art Expo, a photograph won the Best of Show award. The award went to Craig Schoenbaum of Culver City for his black-and-white photograph, “Cloud Catchers.”

Also in the Photography category, first place was awarded to Mark Robben of Rancho Palos Verde for his black-and-white photograph “Sculpture.” Second place went to Andrew Hertel of San Diego; and third place went to Kevin Flynn Burke of Simi Valley.

First place in the 3-Dimensional category went to Linda Shrader of Yucca Valley for her sculpture “A Little Piece of Joshua Tree.” Second place went to Laurie Schafer of Yucca Valley for her fiber art, and third place was a wall sculpture by Thomas Alban of Pioneertown.

In the 2-Dimensional category, the first-place winner was Sue Feenstra of Joshua Tree for her watercolor “Blooming Desert Road.” Second place was a painting on gold foil panel by Alane Levinsohn of Joshua Tree, and third place was pen and pencil drawing by Doyle Moyer of Yucca Valley.

The juried exhibition is on display at the gallery through November 30 and features artwork inspired by Joshua Tree National Park. A total of 64 artists from the desert region and across California, the U.S., and Canada were juried into the exhibition, out of 154 artist entries. Visitors to the gallery are encouraged to vote for the People’s Choice award, which will be announced at the close of the show.

The 29 Palms Art Gallery is open from 11 am to 3 pm, Friday through Sunday, at 74055 Cottonwood Drive on the corner of National Park Drive in Twentynine Palms. The artwork can also be viewed online at jtnpARTS.org.

Judges for this year’s awards were photographer Stephen Baumbach of Stephen Baumbach Gallery in Palm Springs, artist Chuck Caplinger of Twentynine Palms, and 3D artist Holly Rae Wind of Yucca Valley.

The 13th annual JTNP Art Expo was sponsored in part by grants from the City of Twentynine Palms, the Public Arts Advisory Committee, and Visit 29 Palms, the city’s Tourism Business Improvement District (TBID).

The JTNP Art Expo is presented each November by Joshua Tree National Park Council for the Arts, in partnership with Twentynine Palms Artists’ Guild, both 501(c)(3) organizations based in Twentynine Palms.

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Photo credits below...



PHOTOS by Casey Kiernan for JTNP Council for the Arts

[1] Awards Reception at 29 Palms Art Gallery for the JTNP Art Expo, November 1, 2025

[1] Some of the award recipients for the 13th annual JTNP Art Expo juried exhibition on November 1, 2025. Left to right, front row: photographer Andrew Hertel, Holly Rae Wind (one of the 3 award judges). Back row: Kevin Flynn Burke, Thomas Alban, Sue Feenstra, Best of Show winner Craig Schoenbaum, Linda Shrader, and Laurie Schafer.