

**Juror's Statement**  
**Latrobe Art Center 2020 Annual Exhibition**

*Judging and art exhibition is always a wonderful and rewarding experience. That is the case with this year's Latrobe Art Center Annual Exhibition. I was both challenged and delighted to review the work of artists ranging in experience from tiny beginners to long established professionals. It was so exciting to see the use of the many mediums applied within these wonderful pieces. It's initially overwhelming to see so many excellent efforts with just a few awards to assign. At first the task feels impossible, to reduce the overall pool to just a few, and above that declare a "Best of Show" with so many worthy contenders.*

*Criteria for awards are set, a process of elimination is outlined and then something emerges. Pieces start to express the voice of the artist, they speak to you, pull you in. Their technical clarity and narrative pull you to them. An unspoken connection is made. Some work goes above and beyond the technical virtuosity, composition and design, and color harmony. These are the awardable winners. They are the ones that will have that extra connection with the viewer.*

*So many pieces stood out as excellent work in several of the Artist Divisions and medium categories. I iterated my process numerous times from one piece to another, until those deserving the most recognition emerged. They were the ones that had just that something extra. Something that allowed me to experience the moment or idea as the artist did and also from my own viewpoint.*

*Congratulations to all the award winners and all who participated in this show. An artist's gift is sharing their own personal vision through their art. It is their unique voice which they project in a non-verbal way. When done well it becomes a beautiful expression of their soul. A selfless act of communicating in a manner that allows the viewer to pause, reflect, feel, and react.*

*To all of this year's exhibitors, Thank you for allowing all of us to experience your artistic journey.*

*William A. Karaffa*