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For Immediate Release

## **ART IN THE COUNTY RETURNS AS AN IN-PERSON EVENT**

**April 21, 2022** – The Prince Edward County Arts Council and the Art in the County (AIRC) Organizing Committee are excited to announce a return to an in-person exhibition and sale in summer 2022. With over 100 artworks showcased in a wide range of media, including watercolour, acrylic, oil and encaustic paintings, sculpture, fibre, wood, photography, ceramics, glass and more, Art in the County is our region's largest juried group exhibition featuring work by local artists.

"With a return to an in-person show, I am so pleased to be co-chairing the committee with Christophe Doussot," says Amy Shubert. "We can't wait to welcome artists back to The Armoury, and are excited for the opportunity to work with Carson's Garden + Market in the creation of a new award. We also wish to express gratitude to Elizabeth Crombie Real Estate Team for playing an essential role in making the return to an in-person show possible."

### **PRESENTING SPONSOR**

As longtime sponsor of the People's Choice Award and Canada Day event, Elizabeth Crombie Real Estate Team, Royal LePage ProAlliance Realty Brokerage continues their support of Art in the County as the 2022 Presenting Sponsor.

### **EXHIBITION OPENS IN-PERSON AND ONLINE JUNE 17**

The 29<sup>th</sup> edition of Art in the County will be simultaneously presented in-person and online from **June 17 to July 4**. In-person visitors can view the exhibition at The Bunker, located on the lower level of The Armoury building, 206 Main Street, Picton. Accessible entry is via the Mary Street entrance. The exhibition will be curated by Vincent Depoivre and Christophe Doussot of Maison Depoivre Gallery.

As in 2020 and 2021, visitors will also be able to view digital images of this year's selected artworks at [www.artinthecounty.com](http://www.artinthecounty.com). Online shows have the potential to reach a wider audience. Over the last two years, AIRC sold artwork to buyers living outside our region, including in Toronto, Hamilton, Owen Sound, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, and Whistler.

### **CALL FOR ENTRY OPEN NOW!**

Artist entry deadline for submitting registration form, image(s) and payment is **June 3 at 12PM**. Visit [www.artinthecounty.com](http://www.artinthecounty.com) to read eligibility requirements and conditions, including tips on how to photograph artwork. Artists will be required to drop-off artwork at The Bunker on June 12.

### **COMMUNITY ARTS BUILDER AWARD**

Sponsored by **Laurie Gruer & Monica Klingenberg of Chestnut Park Real Estate Limited Brokerage**, the Community Arts Builder Award returns in 2022. With nominees chosen by County residents, the Community Arts Builder Award recognizes an individual who has enriched community life through the arts. Past recipients

include Kato Wake, Visual Artist & Instructor (2021); Hri Neil, Carbon Art & Design (2020); Krista Dalby, Department of Illumination (2019); and Alice & Peter Mennacher, Blizzmax Gallery (2018). All 2022 nominations must be received by June 3. The Award, which includes a \$250 monetary gift, will be announced on June 16. To learn more, visit [www.artinthecounty.com](http://www.artinthecounty.com).

## **JURORS**

Jurors are solely responsible for the show's content, as well as selecting the five **Jurors' Choice Awards** and five **Honorable Mention Awards**. Show organizers are thrilled to announce the three professional artists who will serve as jurors:

**Gordon Shadrach**, Painter (Toronto), **Felicity Somerset**, Fine Art Photographer (Toronto), and **Debra Vincent**, Mixed Media Artist (Tyendinaga).

We wish to thank our Hospitality Sponsors, Merrill House and The Waring House for hosting the jurors.

## **AWARDS**

Five **Jurors' Choice Awards** (\$250 each) and five **Honourable Mentions** (\$100 each) are supported by local businesses, including 2gallery, Angeline's Inn, Arts on Main Gallery, Family Dentistry@Picton, Gilbert & Lighthall Marketplace, Kingston Frameworks, Picton Home Hardware, Printcraft, and The Local Store. Winners to be announced on June 16.

Sponsored by PEC Community Partners and Welch LLP, the People's Choice Award and the Children's Choice Award will be determined by visitor ballots and presented at the close of the exhibition. Winners receive a \$250 monetary gift.

The **Maison Depoivre Award** will be presented to an artist whose work demonstrates risk-taking and originality, technical skill, and is thought provoking. Special attention will be given to the use of colour in a daring, innovative way. The jurors will determine the award recipient from Maison Depoivre's selection of three finalists. The winner will be invited to display their work at Maison Depoivre Gallery for the rest of the 2022 season, once AITC closes its doors on July 4.

## **NEW IN 2022**

The **Carson Arthur Award** will be presented to an artist whose work represents, or evokes Nature in an innovative and original way. The jurors will determine the award recipient from Carson Arthur's selection of three finalists. This award includes a \$250 monetary gift for the winning artist and a \$250 donation to a local, non-profit organization advocating for the protection of the environment (organization selected by the winning artist).

Art in the County is grateful for the continued support of Sage Design & Construction, and welcomes McDougall Insurance & Finance and The Eddie Hotel & Farm as new Supporting Sponsors. With the support of our wonderful sponsors, the organizing committee is looking forward to showcasing and celebrating the extraordinary talent of local artists in this 29<sup>th</sup> edition of the show.

For more information about Art in the County, visit: [www.artinthecounty.com](http://www.artinthecounty.com), call the Prince Edward County Arts Council at (613) 476-8767 or e-mail: [artinthecounty@countyarts.ca](mailto:artinthecounty@countyarts.ca).

*Art in the County is recognized as the premier art exhibition in Eastern Ontario. Since its inception in 1993, the show has hosted over 60,000 visitors, showcased more than 2,400 works of art by Prince Edward County artists, and has sold over \$360,000 worth of art to collectors, buyers and art lovers alike. This signature event of the summer season generates economic benefits for County businesses as well.*