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For Immediate Release

Children & People's Choice Awards Announced!

July 4, 2022 (Picton, ON) – With one hour to go before the 29th Annual Art in the County Juried Show and Sale closed at 2PM today, the coveted Peoples' Choice Award and Children's Choice Award were announced.

Sponsored by **PEC Partners (Base31)**, the People's Choice Award was presented to **Josh Connell** for his self-portrait, titled *Holding On*. The 39" x 31" charcoal drawing also won a Jurors' Choice Award for "its interesting narrative that evokes a visceral response from the viewer." The Jurors also loved the incredible detail and use of negative space.

"I loved watching people when they realized the work was a drawing, not a photograph," says Amy Shubert, Co-chair of this year's organizing committee. "Their look of surprise and wonder was priceless."

On hand to accept the Children's Choice Award sponsored by **Welch LLP, Danielle Reddick** took a moment to share the inspiration behind her work, titled *The Seer*. "The piece was an exploration of materials. I didn't know what, or who would emerge as I began the work." The 8-foot sculpture of a cloaked figure is made of steel and aluminum screening, chicken wire, and landscape cloth.

Two youngsters explained their choice saying, "Made with fencing. It looks amazing," and "It is a beautiful piece of art."

Organizers were very pleased with this year's exhibition, which was presented both online and in-person over an eighteen day period. Visitors expressed how impressed they were with the show's diversity- appreciating the variety of 2D and 3D works, including mixed media, photography, ceramics, sculpture, glass, fibre art, and more.

More than 2000 visitors attended the in-person show, which took place on the lower level of The Picton Armoury, and another 2500 people viewed the online exhibition. A total of 34 out of 102 artworks will find a new home throughout the County, Toronto, Guelph, and beyond.

The Art in the County Organizing Committee would like to thank all of the artists who entered, the numerous sponsors, volunteers, and attendees for their support of this year's show. Art in the County is presented by the Prince Edward County Arts Council, a registered charitable organization. For more information, visit: www.artinthecounty.com.