



NATIONAL MUSEUM of WILDLIFE ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

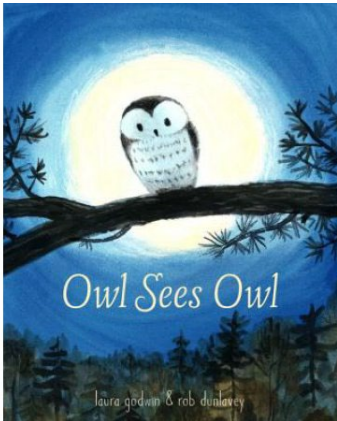
Friday, April 28, 2017

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WILDLIFE ART ANNOUNCES 2017 BULL-BRANSOM AWARD WINNER

Jackson, Wyo. — The winner of the 2017 National Museum of Wildlife Art Bull-Bransom Award is Rob Dunlavey for illustrations in “Owl Sees Owl,” written by Laura Godwin. The Bull-Bransom Award is given annually to recognize excellence in the field of children’s book illustration with a focus on nature and wildlife.

The National Museum of Wildlife Art hopes to host Dunlavey for various programs in Jackson Hole schools in spring 2018.

“Owl Sees Owl,” is a journey of self-discovery for a young owl, who leaves the comfort of his nest to explore his surroundings. Dunlavey explains, “Little Owl follows his inner nature as all children must, yet his freedom is found within a supportive web of recognizable spaces, neighbors and natural forces.” The New York Times Book Review says, “Lovely art marries midnight blues and bright fall leaves, making this a rare nighttime adventure that’s both restful and playful.”



The five other finalists for the 2017 award were: “The Opposite Zoo” by Il Sung Na, “Cricket Song” by Anne Hunter, “Shy” by Deborah Freedman, “Ooko” by Esmé Shapiro, and “Hank’s Big Day” by Evan Kuhlman, illustrated by Chuck Groenink.

The Bull-Bransom Award is named for Charles Livingston Bull and Paul Bransom, two renowned American artist-illustrators who specialized in wildlife subjects. The winner receives a \$5,000 cash award, a custom-made bronze medal, and a five-year dual/family-level membership that provides complimentary access to 12 museums across the United States.

The National Museum of Wildlife Art, founded in 1987, is a world-class art museum holding more than 5,000 artworks representing wild animals from around the world. Featuring work by prominent artists such as Georgia O’Keeffe, Andy Warhol, Robert Kuhn, John James Audubon, and Carl Rungius, the museum’s unsurpassed permanent collection chronicles much of the history of wildlife in art, from 2500 B.C. to the present. Built into a hillside overlooking the National Elk Refuge, the museum received the designation “National Museum of Wildlife Art of the United States” by order of Congress in 2008. Boasting a museum shop, interactive children’s gallery, restaurant, and outdoor sculpture trail, the museum is only two-and-a-half miles north of Jackson Town Square, and two miles from the gateway of Grand Teton National Park.

www.WildlifeArt.org

IMAGES AND INTERVIEWS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

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NATIONAL MUSEUM of WILDLIFE ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

RECIPIENT OF ART LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF DICK JENNINGS ANNOUNCED



Jackson, Wyo. - Jackson high school senior Jesse James Garcia is the recipient of the Art Leadership Scholarship in Honor of the Memory of Dick Jennings. The \$4,000 award is given annually by the National Museum of Wildlife Art to a Teton County high school senior with a passion for fine art who plans to study art at the college level.

“Dick Jennings was a dedicated museum board member whose memory invites us to reflect on how important it is to care about the community you live in and give of yourself to the causes you feel passionate about,” says Andrée Dean, the museum’s Assistant Director of Programs and Events.

Jesse Garcia has a passion for drawing, and he has ambitiously sought out ways to improve his skills and connect with others. He plans to study animation, film and media arts in college. Ultimately, he wants to make meaningful connections with the next generation of children through his drawings.

Andrée Dean presented the award to Jesse, on April 20 as part of Scholarship Night held at Jackson Hole High School. Dick Jennings’ wife, Lisa, was also present to award the scholarship.

A senior at Jackson Hole High School, Jesse Garcia has been encouraged as an artist by his parents, Juan Garcia and Norma Montiel Tzompa; as well as by his art teacher, Shannon Borrego. Jesse has worked a number of jobs in the community, most recently at Snow King Resort as a Bellman and a Front Desk Agent.

Running Wild, Saturday, June 24, 9:30a.m.

5K run or walk, 10k run

The National Museum of Wildlife Art will host Running Wild: Dick Jennings Memorial Race. The racecourse starts at the National Museum of Wildlife Art and heads out the pathway running alongside the National Elk Refuge, in beautiful Jackson Hole. Immediately following the race, participants and spectators will enjoy music and refreshments. Running Wild provides funding for the Art Leadership Scholarship in Honor of the Memory of Dick Jennings, which each year is awarded by the Museum to a Teton County high school senior

COST: \$20 Pre-registration up to the day before the race. \$25 on June 24. All participants will enjoy free Museum admission on race day.

Info: Andrée Dean, Race Coordinator, 307-732-5445, adean@wildlifeart.org

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NATIONAL MUSEUM of WILDLIFE ART of the United States

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, June 29, 2017

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WILDLIFE ART AWARDS RUNGIUS MEDAL TO NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC PHOTOGRAPHER JOEL SARTORE

On Tuesday evening, at the National Museum of Wildlife Art, National Geographic Photographer Joel Sartore received the Rungius Medal. The Rungius Medal is presented by the Trustees of the National Museum of Wildlife Art in recognition of lifetime or exceptional contribution to the awareness of wildlife and the habitat necessary for its survival.

Joel Sartore is a photographer, speaker, author, teacher, conservationist, and 24-year contributor to National Geographic magazine. Sartore is also a National Geographic Fellow and the founder of the National Geographic Photo Ark. He has traveled to every continent and specializes in documenting the biodiversity of planet earth. Simply put, he is on a mission to photograph and show a world worth saving.



Director of the National Museum of Wildlife Art, Steve Seamons (left) and National Geographic Photographer, Joel Sartore (right) with the Rungius Medal. June 28, 2017. Photo by Taylor Woods.

On winning the award, Sartore said, "To say that this is an honor would be an understatement. My deepest thanks to the Museum, and the fine work they have done for decades. The mission of the National Geographic Photo Ark and the Museum are much the same; to engage the public with the wonders of nature, and be moved to save it, while there's still time."

Debbie Petersen, Chairman of the Board of the National Museum of Wildlife Art, quoted Founder Bill Kerr by saying, "Joel Sartore is an ambassador *par excellence* for the wild, the forgotten and the serene." Mrs. Petersen continued by stating, "Mr. Sartore has received the Rungius Medal because he is the personification of the mission of the National Museum of Wildlife Art.

A total of 18 medals have been awarded since 1988, including awards given to Mardy Murie, Bob Kuhn, Jane Goodall, and E.O. Wilson.

Prior to Tuesday evening, the most recent medal was given to John F. Turner in 2010.

Sartore believes, "Through the power of visuals, we continue to give a voice to the voiceless. There is no higher calling."

See Sartore's exhibition "National Geographic Photo Ark: Photographs by Joel Sartore," now on display at the National Museum of Wildlife Art through August 20, 2017. Learn more about Sartore and the National Geographic Photo Ark at NatGeoPhotoArk.org.

For additional information please contact:
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NATIONAL MUSEUM of WILDLIFE ART of the United States

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WILDLIFE ART *PALATE* RESTAURANT IS OPEN

Jackson, Wyo. – After a six month closure for redesign, Palate is now open to the public. Palate is open seven days a week, from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.



“We consider our food art,” says Christine Mara Swain, Palate’s owner, catering director and the designer of the new Museum restaurant. Palate aims to be a destination in itself, with artfully prepared food and the valley’s most stunning views.

The well-rounded menu includes: sandwiches, salads, pasta, burgers, beer and wine, and a kids menu. Each dish is skillfully-prepared and made with high quality, local food when available. One highlight from the new menu is a pork belly BLT with housemade chips. The ciabatta bread is baked in-house, and after lunch, guests can enjoy dessert.

While Palate is open in all seasons (closed April and November), it really shines in summer with an outdoor patio complete with dining tables and lounge areas, and the valley’s best views of the Elk Refuge.

The rest of the year, diners have to settle for merely the sweeping vistas; in addition to the elk refuge, Palate’s windows frame Sleeping Indian, Flat Creek, and Jackson Peak. Swain says she designed Palate to take advantage of these views. “Our tagline is ‘The Food, The View, The Art’ and that’s true,” Swain says.



Palate and its terrace join Johnston Hall and the Sculpture Trail as places available to rent for weddings, private parties, and corporate events. The restaurant can seat 55 people inside with seating for almost as many outside (weather permitting). Palate Catering, of which Clark Myers is executive chef, has an extensive menu. “Our catering menu is the same quality as our restaurants’ menus,” he says. “All of our food is of the highest quality and made from scratch.”

www.PalateJH.com

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NATIONAL MUSEUM of WILDLIFE ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, August 28, 2017

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WILDLIFE ART HOSTS 30th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Saturday, August 19, the National Museum of Wildlife Art hosted the Black Bear Ball – a special anniversary celebration that takes place every 5 years.

The festivities for the evening included a cocktail hour, dinner, and dancing the night away.

“We appreciate all those who attended the Black Bear Ball,” says event co-chair Jan Benz. “The museum staff and committee members worked diligently to make the evening spectacular. We enjoyed a delicious dinner by Palate and danced to Whiskey Morning.”



450 guests enjoyed the magnificent ball, dressed in wildly elegant attire.

“This year’s Black Bear Ball was a fantastic celebration of 30 years,” says Museum Director Steve Seamons.

Reba McEntire attended the event as a guest and surprised everyone with an impromptu performance.

This year, for the first time ever, the ball took place outdoors in a large, elegant tent. “Mother Nature provided a perfect outdoor evening,” says Benz. “Thanks to the community of Jackson Hole for supporting NMWA during this 30th anniversary year.”

“An evening under the stars and moon was magical - just as we planned.” Added co-chair Bettina Whyte. “It was a fun and energetic event which will be remembered for years by all who attended.”

Featured artists during the evening were Kathryn Mapes Turner and Richard Loffler. Both have been involved with the Museum for many years and have artworks in the Permanent Collection. They also will both be participating in the Museum’s 30th Annual *Western Visions*® next month.

During the evening, the Museum also recognized two new Trustee Emeriti, Mary Barnes and Stephanie Brennan.

Black Bear Ball 2017 was generously sponsored by: Floral Art, Jackson Hole Still Works, Longfellow Wine, Mars Chocolate North America, Niner Wine Estates, Pearls by Shari, Snake River Brewing, Zaca Mesa Wines, Helen Laughery & Craig Whitney, Christy & Lou Cushman, Kavar Kerr, Adrienne & John Mars, and Lynn Friess.

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NATIONAL MUSEUM of WILDLIFE ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, September 18, 2017

WILDLIFE ART SALES SUCCESSFUL AT WESTERN VISIONS

Jackson, Wyo. –More than 1,200 people from around the world attended the [National Museum of Wildlife Art's](#) 30th Annual [Western Visions® Show & Sale](#) events in September, including top contemporary and traditional wildlife artists and collectors. The museum showcased a combination of well-established, top-selling artists, and emerging talents who are the next generation of leading wildlife artists. *Western Visions* is a cornerstone of the [Jackson Hole Fall Arts Festival](#).

This year's event was a huge success with total revenue estimated to be more than \$650,000. In celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the Museum and *Western Visions*, all 114 participating artists have work in the Permanent Collection of the Museum. Of those 114 artists, ten were also in the original *Western Visions* Show & Sale in 1988. Those artists are Clyde Aspevig, Kenneth Bunn, Ken Carlson, Michael Coleman, Daniel Smith, Tucker Smith, Lee Stroncek, Skip Whitcomb, Jim Wilcox, and Wayne Wolfe.



Kathryn Turner, *Sky*, 2017. Oil on Linen. 30 x 30 inches.

“*Western Visions* is always one of the high points of the Fall Arts Festival, because it brings together many of our friends, including some of the country's best artists and the collectors that make it possible for us to continue to enjoy wonderful careers.” Says artist Jim Wilcox, “We are also grateful to those who volunteer, donate and support the museum and exhibitions such as *Western Visions*.”

“We’re so happy everyone joined us for this 30th Anniversary *Western Visions*,” says Kavar Kerr, *Western Visions* Co-Chair. “It was a wonderful event and we are thankful for those who attended to celebrate these fantastic artists.”

Special congratulations to the 2017 award winners:

Edward Fraughton won this year's *Red Smith Award*, the artists' choice honor for his piece *American Monarch*. *Western Visions* guests voted for John Seery-Lester's piece as *People's Choice* for *The Stage is Set*. Kathryn Turner won the *Trustee's Purchase Award* for her sandhill crane painting, *Sky*, which was acquired into the National Museum of Wildlife Art's collection. And finally, Bill Sawczuk won the *Bob Kuhn Sketch Award* for his sketch entitled *A Fine Specimen*.

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NATIONAL MUSEUM of WILDLIFE ART of the United States

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, December 1, 2017

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF WILDLIFE ART ANNOUNCES DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Jackson, WY—The Board of Trustees of the National Museum of Wildlife Art of the United States is pleased to announce the appointment of Michael Hofhiens as the new Director of Operations. The Board has taken this action in the fullest confidence that Hofhiens will be an excellent steward of the mission of the National Museum of Wildlife Art. In this role, Hofhiens will be responsible for the operations and management functions for the Museum.



Hofhiens comes to the Museum from Dallas, Texas where he developed and oversaw international operations for a large health & wellness organization. During his time there, he coordinated new market launches internationally, coordinated multiple team's day-to-day operations, and guided market leaders to improve Market Action Plans.

"Michael will be a great addition to Museum staff," says Steve Seamons, Museum Director. "We are excited to utilize his expertise for coordinating large-scale operations as we round out our 30th Anniversary year with ambitious goals for next year."

Hofhiens holds a BA in International Area Studies: Global Economics from Brigham Young University and an MBA from Texas State University.

Michael and his wife Shari, along with their two children and dog, have a love for the outdoors. They are excited for the snow and all activities that come with it.

The National Museum of Wildlife Art, founded in 1987, is a world-class art museum holding more than 5,000 artworks representing wild animals from around the world. Featuring work by prominent artists such as Georgia O'Keeffe, Andy Warhol, Robert Kuhn, John James Audubon, and Carl Rungius, the museum's unsurpassed permanent collection chronicles much of the history of wildlife in art, from 2500 B.C. to the present. Built into a hillside overlooking the National Elk Refuge, the museum received the designation "National Museum of Wildlife Art of the United States" by order of Congress in 2008. Boasting a museum shop, interactive children's gallery, restaurant, and outdoor sculpture trail, the museum is only two-and-a-half miles north of Jackson Town Square, and two miles from the gateway of Grand Teton National Park.

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