

Community Sponsored Awards

Judge's Statement

This exhibition is a wonderful showcase that underscores the mission of the Rowayton Art Center: a place where all creative spirits are welcomed and encouraged. In this time of Covid-19 I have seen the power of the arts, especially the Fine Arts, to anchor and nurture the human spirit through this time of enforced solitude and isolation. The works included in this exhibition are a testament to the human spirit and this show captures and encapsulates that notion. Some works make you think, others to feel, others to laugh while others ask us to really look!

I hope that you enjoy this exhibit – perhaps it's your first foray back into a public sphere – as much as I did when I viewed the work and that your spirit, like mine, was lifted.



Judge's Bio

Robbin Zella is Director and Curator at the Housatonic Museum of Art in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Since her appointment in June of 1998 she has organized over 90 exhibitions including Ansel Adams: Classic Images; Sol LeWitt: Forms Derived from a Cube; Jenny Holzer: Interface and the first retrospective for renowned folk artist and author Kathy Jakobsen titled Innocence of Vision for the Burt Chernow Galleries.

She has created programs for students, teens, and adults including the HMA's Student Docent program now in its twentieth year. This educational outreach program focuses on architecture with an emphasis on local history and has been recognized by the President's Committee on Arts and Humanities. In 2020, a new web-based program has been developed, titled "Three Questions," featuring interviews with artists whose work is in the collection.

Robbin Zella received her MA in Art Criticism and Theory from the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College in New York.