

Spring Juried Show

Judge's Statement

The work in the Rowayton Art Center's Spring Show demonstrates the great breadth of creative practice in our area. Standout works included everything from small drawings to sculpture, along with many colorful paintings. From the many pieces that were submitted for consideration I selected the 84 that are now on view and had to make difficult choices to highlight some of the best works on view.

To my eye, figurative works were a particular highlight in this year's show, which featured several exceptional representational pieces. Large abstract paintings were plentiful but a few works – including Roxann Leibenhaut's captivating “3 Girls Swimming” – uses the tools of representation to an expressive end to create a work that is both instantly recognizable and completely in motion. While small in scale, this piece holds its own and I selected it as Best in Show. Other highlights Jennifer Williams's gestural collection of flowers, “Love Story,” Ally Rusgrove's self-portrait, “Cat Lady,” and Karen Popp's eerie “Moonrise,” which received first, second, and third place, respectively. Because painting dominated the show and my top choices, I tried to round out the honorable mentions by highlighting several exceptional works in other materials, namely photography, which was also well represented among the submissions. As with all selections, it is impossible to single out every deserving work but hopefully these designations are an invitation to look closely at all the work on view.



Cybele Maylone
Executive Director
The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum

Judge's Bio

Cybele Maylone is the Executive Director of The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum. A non-collecting institution located in Ridgefield, CT, The Aldrich was one of the first contemporary art museums in the country and is today one of the oldest. Prior to leading The Aldrich, Maylone was the Executive Director of UrbanGlass in Brooklyn, NY, overseeing the organization's expansion and reopening in 2013. She has also held positions at the New Museum of Contemporary Art and apexart.