

16th Annual Membership Awards Exhibition
Big Splash 2013
September 6 - September 29, 2013

Blake Carroll is currently beginning his 18th year as Professor of Art at Jefferson College in Hillsboro, Missouri. He has spent the last 28 years teaching Watercolor, Painting, Printmaking and Photography to college students in Oklahoma, Texas and Missouri. He received his M.F.A. from Boston University and his B.F.A. from the Kansas City Art Institute, also studying at Queens College and the University of Oklahoma. Presently, his painting Yellow Sky is on view at the Under the Influence exhibition at Art St. Louis, where he often shows his paintings and photographs

Judge's Statement

It was my sincere pleasure to judge Big Splash 2013. Both the variety and quality of work by the St. Louis Watercolor Society artists was impressive. The process of selecting fifteen pieces for awards was daunting; I could have easily selected twice as many watercolors for recognition. Had I judged this exhibit on another afternoon, I might have made different choices. As a matter of fact, my top six choices could easily be re-ordered. The range of motifs found in the paintings was quite broad; many of my personal favorites appeared to be painted directly from the motif. This spontaneous method of painting, long favored by watercolorists, provides a broad and dramatic range of color in the finished pieces. Overall, I found the use of broken color by many of the artists to be very satisfying. Additionally, I particularly enjoyed the range of styles employed by the artists; from the woodcut-looking approach of Lee Walter to the abstraction of Kathy Dowd, these artists explored virtually every aspect available to today's watercolor artist. While many people believe watercolor to be an inherently difficult media, I think it merely requires a "reboot" of the artist's working methods. Finding the right combination of spontaneity and control in watercolor produces amazing results, such as are on view in Big Splash 2013.

- Blake Carroll



First Place Award
Winsor Newton
\$286 Paint Set
Florine Porter
Sunrise in Giverney



\$190 ArtMart Brush Set and
\$40 Olive Garden Gift Certificate
Marilynne Bradley
Rainbow Race



\$200 Jack Richeson & Co. Gift Certificates
Crystal Dietiker Goldkamp
Nesting



\$152 M. Graham & Co. Paint Set
Karl Zickler
Trees at Mission Point



\$120 Creative Catalyst Productions
DVD Gift Certificates
Jo Rezny McCredie
Temperance River II



\$120 HK Holbein Watercolor Set
Lee Walter
View from the Bridge



\$100 Blick Art Materials Gift Certificate
Bettie Polites
Herding



\$100 Jack Richeson & Co. Gift Certificate
Janet Doll
Guardian of the Brew



\$95 Daniel Smith Paint Set
Kathy Dowd
Spiral Galaxy



\$95 Daniel Smith Paint Set
Linda Meyer
Magnolias in Bloom



\$90 Armadillo Art & Craft Paint Set & Paper
Nora Schomogy
The Swimmer



\$50 from the SLWS for the
Loris Butterfield Memorial
Elizabeth Concannon
Heading Home



\$50 Daler-Rowney Gift Certificate
Peggy Michalski
Three Lanterns



\$25 Houlihan's Gift Certificate
Beth Gyax
Before Dawn



\$25 Max & Erma's Gift Certificate
Janine Helton
Pike Place Peppers 2