

**MEDIA CONTACT**

Jason Inskeep  
(612) 910-0777  
Jason@adsoka.com

**Announcing the Winners of the Best of Twin Cities Fine Arts Organization Awards**

*Awards recognize achievements in local visual arts community*

(October 20, 2011) MINNEAPOLIS—The Twin Cities Fine Arts Organization (TCFAO) announced the winners for the first-ever Best of Twin Cities Fine Arts Organization Awards today following the ten-day metro-wide event, Art on the Town. The awards recognize outstanding work in the arts from among the more than fifty TCFAO member organizations.

Nominations were submitted by Twin Cities Fine Arts Organization members and reflect member organization activities January 1st through September 30th, 2011. The winner for each category was based on a popular vote (one vote per person) during Art on the Town. Voting opened October 6th and closed at noon CST on October 14th, 2011.

**Outstanding art gift shop:**

**Winner:** Textile Center Shop

Finalists:

- The Shop at MCBA
- Northfield Arts Guild Gift Shop
- Northern Clay Center Sales Gallery
- Minneapolis Institute of Arts Museum Shop

**Outstanding curator:**

**Winner:** Betty Bright and Jeff Rathermel (MCBA) for *Fine and Dirty: Contemporary Letterpress Art*

Finalists:

- Kathy Daniels (Catherine G. Murphy Gallery at St. Catherine University) for *The Waiting Room*
- Rex Mhiripiri (Mhiripiri Gallery) for *African Sculpture* at Bloomington Theatre and Art Center
- Anastasia Shartin (The Phipps Center for the Arts) for *The Artful Rain Garden*
- Jan Shoger (Northfield Arts Guild) for *New Impressions Print Invitational*

**Most memorable:**

**Winner:** *A Reasonable Facsimile* at Christensen Center Art Gallery at Augsburg College

Finalists:

- *Belfast Print Workshop: Celebrating 35 years of Prints* at Highpoint Center for Printmaking
- *Many-Fold Manifolds* at Hillstrom Museum of Art
- *Three Jerome Artists* at Northern Clay Center
- *Rosemary Williams' Belongings* at The Soap Factory

**Outstanding reception:**

**Winner:** Grand opening of Anita Sue Kolman Gallery

Finalists:

- *Winter Carnival Children's Art Show* at AZ Gallery
- *The Waiting Room* at Catherine G. Murphy Gallery at St. Catherine University
- Book Art Biennial—MCBA Prize gala and award ceremony
- *Low Brow, High Octane* at Northfield Arts Guild

**Outstanding artist talks:**

**Winner:** Mark Allen of Machine Project (The Soap Factory) for “Conversation with Mark Allen”

Finalists:

- Richard Amos (Homewood Studios) for “Reaching Ancient Connections—from Modern America to Africa”
- Brett Kallusky (Bethel University Galleries) for “Witness”
- Julie L'Enfant, Ph.D. (Minnetonka Center for the Arts) “The Changing Face of Portraiture”

**Most inspiring (tied):**

**Winner:** *I Am a Link: Pictorial Rugs by Dorothy Sauber* at Textile Center

**Winner:** *Convergence* at Traffic Zone Gallery

Finalists:

- *Esperanza* at Gordon Parks Gallery
- *1x1xOne* at Homewood Studios
- *Made in Her Image* at Robbin Gallery

**People's choice:**

**Winner:** Minneapolis Institute of Arts

Finalists:

- AAW Gallery of Wood Art
- Anita Sue Kolman Gallery
- Form + Content
- Groveland Gallery

**About Twin Cities Fine Arts Organization**

The Twin Cities Fine Arts Organization is a resource on arts and events for the community. TCFAO is a nonprofit membership-based organization that galleries, museums and art centers may join. It formed to advocate visual arts literacy, which is promoted to the public through programs and visibility including the annual Gallery Guide, The Arts Insider email, special events and more. For more information, visit <http://twincitiesfinearts.org>. For more information on Art on the Town, visit <http://artonthetown.org>.