

Unique by Nature
Juried Art Competition and Exhibition, April 2022
Awards Reception, April 2, 2022

Unique by Nature is hosted by the McKinney Performing Arts Center (City of McKinney) with help from the volunteers of the Arts and Music Guild. Sponsors include citizen leaders dedicated to the growth of the arts in McKinney. This year Purchase Prize submissions will be juried by Karl Buchberg, retired Senior Curator, The Modern Museum of Art, and J. Patrick Cooney, J. Patrick Cooney Fine Arts. Finalists in the Purchase Prize Competition will be judged by Lynn Rushton, Public Art Collection and Conservation Manager, Office of Arts and Culture, City of Dallas, Texas. Ms. Rushton will also jury and judge the Non-Purchase Prize part of the Competition.

Cash and purchase prizes totaling \$8,500 will be distributed as follows:

ONE large scale work (two-dimensional) will be awarded the \$6,000 Purchase Prize and will become part of the permanent public art collection of the McKinney Performing Arts Center. An additional \$2,500 in prize money will be divided among five works of art chosen by the judges from among those submitted and juried into the non-purchase prize category.

Opening Reception and Awards Announcement will be the evening of Saturday, April 2 at MPAC. The juried exhibit will continue through Saturday, April 23.

All two- and three-dimensional media are allowed. Works will be juried according to original and engaging artistic vision, effective use of media and professionalism of presentation.

Unique by Nature is open to professional and emerging artists who are legal residents of the United States and at some point have been residents of Texas. Entrants must be at least 17 years of age by May 2022.

Submission requirements:

With the exception of the large scale works to be considered for the Purchase Prize (see below***), artwork must be submitted in person on Saturday, March 26 (9:30am-6pm), Lower Level, McKinney Performing Arts Center, downtown McKinney.

Art work submitted in person: \$25 for up to two works of art. **Fees support the competition and prize pool, thus insuring the acquisition of artwork by regional artists for the permanent art collection.** Payment may be made through the Arts and Music Guild website (www.artsandmusicguild.com) (add \$3. processing fee) or at time of submission (cash, checks payable to "Arts and Music Guild"). Artwork submission forms are available online at www.artsandmusicguild.com and at drop-off on Saturday, March 26.

*****Artists wishing to submit large scale works (36" or more in one dimension)** to be considered for the Purchase Prize should go to www.artsandmusicguild.com and choose the link to the Purchase Prize Online Submission Form. Or use the following link:
<https://mckinneypac.wufoo.com/forms/unique-by-nature-large-works-application-2022/>

The application requests up to three jpgs of original artwork, a bio, and contact information, and should be submitted by Friday, March 18, 7pm. No 3D work will be considered for the Purchase Prize. Submission fee is \$25 + \$3 processing fee and will support the prize pool for the competition as well as the expansion of the public art collection. More information about the large works section of the show is on the application.

Size limitations and presentation requirements (non-Purchase Prize):

In consideration of our desire to balance the presentation of each work in the limited space of the MPAC's Gallery, the following size restrictions apply: 2D works must not exceed 72" vertically and 48" horizontally (including frame, if framed). 3D works that hang must not exceed 25lbs, 72" vertically, and 30" horizontally. 3D works that are free-standing should not exceed 72" vertically and 30" horizontally, and artist is encouraged to provide pedestal or display stand with artwork if the piece is not designed to stand on the floor. Extremely fragile 3D pieces must be easily movable, as display options are limited.

If the artwork is on paper, the work **must** either be mounted or framed with glazing; i.e., glass or Plexiglas. Loose paper works cannot be accepted.

All 2-D works submitted should be **suitably framed** as needed, or be gallery wrapped canvases (minimum 1" wide, preferably 1.5" heavy duty stretcher frames).

Whether framed or unframed, 2D or 3D, all hanging works should have D-rings and be wired. Multi-unit works must be engineered so that they can be hung as a single unit.

Art Exhibit, Sales, and Pick Up (non-Purchase Prize):

The juried exhibit is open through Saturday, April 23. ALL artwork **MUST** be picked up on Sunday, April 24 (1-5pm).

Artwork not juried into the exhibit will be shown in the "Salon des Refuses" (very fun, very beautiful, too) during the opening reception (evening of April 2) and **MUST** be picked up by 9:30pm on April 2.

Artists are welcome to price their work for sale during the exhibit. Sales will be handled by MPAC, which will cut the artist a check for the sales price, minus a 25% commission. All commissions collected by MPAC will be used to purchase additional art work or to fund future competitions.

While MPAC staff and the Arts and Music Guild volunteers will use care in handling the work, none are responsible for losses or damages. As such, artists may want to consider insuring their work based on its value.

One final note, if you have any questions or concerns, please email Annie Royer at sar312@sbcglobal.net. Such concerns might include a conflicting drop off or pick up time for your artwork; she will make every effort to accommodate the requirements of each artist and their artwork.