

## PRESS INQUIRIES

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**Art Center Sarasota Presents**  
**“Identity: Exploring the Human Condition”**  
**The 2023 Annual Regional Juried Show**

**June 1-August 5**

**Opening reception is Thursday, June 1**

**Juror’s Critique is Tuesday, June 6**

*Juried by Christy Paris, the show highlights the diverse talents of artists throughout the southeast region of the United States.*

(May 5, 2023) Art Center Sarasota’s 2023 exhibition season continues with its annual regional exhibit, the largest juried exhibition of the year. “Identity: Exploring the Human Condition,” highlights the diverse talents of artists from across the southeast region of the United States and will be on display in all four gallery spaces. On view from June 1-August 5, the opening reception is Thursday, June 1, 6-8 p.m. The juror is Christy Paris, an art professor and PhD candidate in the College of Education at the University of South Florida. A “Juror’s Critique,” with Paris, will take place on Tuesday, June 6. *Art Center Sarasota is located at 707 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. For information, visit [www.artsarasota.org](http://www.artsarasota.org) or call 941-365-2032.*

According to Christina Baril, Art Center Sarasota's exhibitions director, the annual regional exhibit "showcases a broad range of perspectives and reactions from an exceptionally diverse group of artists." She explains that the theme, "Identity: Exploring the Human Condition" is meant to "highlight the journey, the turmoil, and the ecstasy of the human condition. These artworks may reinforce the underlying communication of emotional truth as only understood by other human beings."

Juror Christy Paris is an art history professor and PhD candidate in the College of Education at the University of South Florida. Her dissertation focuses on queer inclusivity in art- and museum-based educational settings drawing on an exhibition she curated in the fall of 2022 entitled, "#visibleUSF: Queering the Art Narrative through Curatorial Activism." The exhibition included works created by LGBTQIA+ artists from USF and pieces from the USF Library's LGBTQ Special Collections. Paris earned a Museum Studies graduate certificate from Florida State University focusing on museum education and interned at the Museum of Fine Arts in Tallahassee while earning her master's in interdisciplinary humanities. While earning her master's in art history from USF, Paris co-curated "Photographing the City " at the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg. Over the last 15 years, Paris has taught humanities, film, and art history at FSU, USF, and University of Tampa specializing in modern art, contemporary art, art theory, and museum education.

***The four attached photos are shown courtesy of Art Center Sarasota and represent four of the winning artworks from the 2022 regional exhibit.***

- *First Place: "Southgate" by Karla Pirona. From the 2022 regional exhibit at Art Center Sarasota.*

- *Second Place: “Shane” by Li Volk. From the 2022 regional exhibit at Art Center Sarasota.*
- *Third Place: “Quiet Pool” by David Fithian. From the 2022 regional exhibit at Art Center Sarasota.*
- *Honorable Mention: “Sunday Float at Siesta” by Alaina Pompa. From the 2022 regional exhibit at Art Center Sarasota.*
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### **About Art Center Sarasota**

Founded in 1926, Art Center Sarasota serves as the first and oldest visual arts organization in Sarasota. Art Center Sarasota is admission-free and open to the public; our mission is to bring together creatives and the broader public to increase understanding of our human condition, support wellbeing, and build community connection through the universal language of art.

Art Center Sarasota

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[www.artsarasota.org](http://www.artsarasota.org)

Gallery Hours

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Saturday: Noon-5 p.m.