

## Flood Awareness 2022 All Media Exhibit

We would like to express our special thanks to the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation for sponsoring this exhibit and to all the artists who answered the call for entries. The theme, Flood Awareness, though narrow in scope was met by the artists with enthusiasm and was broadened by their creativity. Mediums included paintings, photography, drawings, assemblage, collage, mixed media, and pottery. The artists portrayed a variety of circumstances that are the consequences of flooding.

Our jury process included our perspective of excellence, technical execution, presentation, composition, and the best theme representation, originality, and medium creativity.

First place, awarded to *Ocean Rise, Empires Fall* by Nico Cathcart met all criterion. The depiction of the disaster message was moving, and technical treatment of water, difficult to achieve, was outstanding.

Second place, *Waterplay* by Shelia Holland met all the criteria and was an unusual use of medium. Eggshells and paint glistened and sparkled. The surface coarseness and irregularities gave an otherwise peaceful scene of two children at the water's edge an overall appearance of a what a fine art painting might look like after water damaged—while retaining the beauty of the art. This may not have been the intention of the artist but as jurors we allowed our imagination freedom to ponder this.

Third place, *Hey Boomer* by Julie Waltz was stunning and achieved a high level of composition and technique as well as providing a message to the viewer.

Honorable mention, *End of Days* by Wendy Nelson is a surreal piece which presents a frightening scenario of the encroachment of a flood on an interior just outside the door.

Other submissions address the aftermath of a flood as depicted by Cary Loving's *Escape*. *Stay Prepared* by Robert T. Scott III shows the dangers for first responders in situations of flood rescue. Some of the artwork shows familiar and unfamiliar places undergoing flash floods and rising water.

See all of the art in the exhibit on our website: [Click here.](#)

Jurors: Jessie Boyland – Gallery Director, Glenda Kotchish – Art Works Owner

