

The Heckscher Museum of Art

CELEBRATING 100

1920 - 2020

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Student Awards Announced ***Long Island's Best: Young Artists at The Heckscher Museum*** **Online Exhibition on Heckscher.org**

Huntington, NY -- ***Long Island's Best: Young Artists at The Heckscher Museum***, the most prestigious juried competition for Long Island high school students, has announced top prize winners for 2020. All of the *Long Island's Best* artwork is available online at the brand new Heckscher.org. *Long Island's Best* will feature new awards and highlight 100 works of art from students across Suffolk and Nassau Counties in celebration of The Heckscher Museum's anniversary.

There were more than **388 student submissions, representing 58 participating high schools**. Jurors selected 100 as finalists. The following students were awarded the top four prizes. See Heckscher.org for a complete list of award winners.

Stephanie Lopez

Prismatic Bubble. Acrylic on canvas.

Hicksville High School. Grade: 11

Celebrate Achievement Best in Show

(Image, right)

Matthew Diesing

A Seat at the Table. Oil pastel.

John F. Kennedy High School. Grade: 11

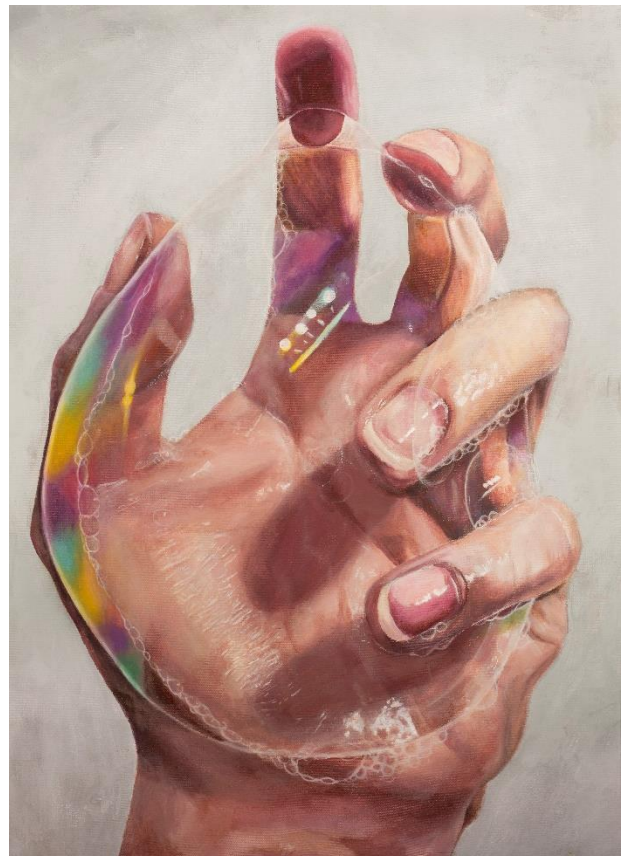
Second Place, Judith Sposato Memorial Prize

Micarlys Ramirez

Ydelim in a Green Chair. Acrylic on canvas.

Brentwood High School. Grade: 12.

Third Place, The Hadley Prize



Bridget Buckmaster

Check Mate. Digital Photograph.

Northport High School. Grade: 11.

Fourth Place, The Stan Brodsky Scholarship Award

See all 100 images and all of this year's award winners on Heckscher.org

The Long Island's Best experience begins with students visiting the Museum where they see and discuss works on view. Each student then chooses a work of art as an inspiration piece. They go on to create an original artwork and write an Artist's Statement explaining their creative process.

Jurors for the 2020 exhibition were Karli Wurzelbacher, Curator, The Heckscher Museum of Art, and guest juror Nancy Richner, Director (Retired), Hofstra University Museum of Art. "[As a juror], I hoped to gain a sense of the high school artist's curiosity and response to this challenge set before them," said Richner. "I can't imagine a better feeling of affirmation and support for students. *Long Island's Best* fosters students' sense of curiosity and daringness to engage and try – and everyone wins – students, community, the art world – and of course, the Museum!"

Highlights for 2020:

Bridget Buckmaster (*see above*) is the first to receive a *Long Island's Best* Stan Brodsky Scholarship Award. Stan Brodsky (1924-2019) was a Long Island artist, teacher and friend to the Museum. Generous donations from members, friends, and former students, endowed the scholarship, to be given every year in memory of the artist.

The Firefly Artist Gallery, Northport, has also donated a new award for a deserving *Long Island's Best* student.

Voting for the Virtual Visitors Choice Award will be open on Heckscher.org beginning April 24.

Long Island's Best

PRESENTING SPONSOR The Darrell Fund Endowment

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EXHIBITION CATALOGUE SPONSOR Inna Gellerman, DDS, Gellerman Orthodontics

Also on View

Amanda Valdez: Piecework

On View Online on Heckscher.org

Browse Amanda Valdez's artwork, explore the exhibition brochure, and read Curator Karli Wurzelbacher's essay on the artist and her work. Contemporary artist Amanda Valdez creates brilliantly colored, patterned, and textured abstract paintings by cutting, sewing, dying, painting, and embroidering canvas and other cloth. Featuring 20 paintings, including several that are among the artist's largest, this exhibition explores Valdez's engagement with the histories of abstraction and "women's work" with fiber.

About the Heckscher Museum of Art

The Heckscher Museum of Art celebrates 100 years in 2020. Founded by philanthropist Anna and August Heckscher in 1920, the Museum's Permanent Collection comprises more than 2,300 works from the 16th to the 21st century, including European and American painting, sculpture, works on paper, and photography. Located in scenic Heckscher Park in Huntington, the building is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. To celebrate the anniversary, the Museum plans an expansive Centennial exhibition, *The Heckscher Museum Celebrates 100*, opening on May 16; a festive birthday celebration will take place on July 11-12, 2020. Visit Heckscher.org for more information.

As of this writing, The Heckscher Museum of Art is closed to school groups and the public until further notice. The staff continues to monitor closely all local public health service recommendations. The Museum will address any new information and recommendations as they occur.

Please check [Heckscher.org](https://www.heckscher.org) for updates and schedule changes.



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