

**Judge's comments: Madelon Sheedy**  
**Indiana County Open Arts Exhibit 2009 Awards**  
**Given during Opening Reception 11/20/2009**

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Best of Show 100

*Labor War Dogs*

J.R. Sherburne

Clay

I admire the craftsmanship of this piece. It is riveting - whether you agree or disagree with the statement it makes.

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Professional First Place, **Works on Canvas** 70

*Geek*

Sam Howard

Oil

This painting captures the subject in a way that the subject might not prefer being captured, but it says a lot. Naïve, vulnerable, hopeful - it's all there.

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Professional First Place, **Works on Paper** 70

*Foxhound Study*

Jolene Joyner

Pastel

This pastel is a nice combination of realism and impressionism. It would be very easy to live with. I'm glad to see pastel coming back as a medium.

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**Photography** First Place 65

*Gourds and Apple No. 2*

David Young

Photography

I like the composition a lot, I like the contrast - and the apple "makes it."

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Professional Second Place [any of the above] 50

*Terminal*

Joy Fairbanks

Collage C-Print

It tells a rather timeless story – it's contemporary, yet it is not.

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Professional Third Place [any of the above] 35

*Golden Days*

Beverly Young

Collage

This collage is handsome, it's decorative, yet not superficial. The colorations are wonderful, the components work together. I like everything about it.

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Professional Judge's Merit [any of the above] 10

*Untitled*

(lower photo) Sarah Marshall

Digital Photography

Both of this artist's (Sarah Marshall's) photographs are extremely strong. This one is imaginative and compelling.

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Non-professional First Place 55

*Time for Picking*

Jean Ross

Watercolor

I like the point of view of this painting, looking down on the subject, and the challenges that were met to paint from this point of view. It is framed perfectly.

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Non-professional Second Place 40  
*The Indiana Art Association*  
*Through the Years* Barbara L Fritsch Mixed Media

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I like the idea of this book (by Barbara L Fritsch), and I like the way it is accomplished. I think it is an homage to the organization and a valuable document for the future. And it's particularly nice that it's handsomely done.

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Non-professional Judge's Merit 10  
*Rocks of Ages* Donna Clements Colored Pencil

I like the piece and the composition. (However, the framing is detrimental.)

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Student First Place 20  
*Michael Jackson* Josh Flack Pencil

I was interested in this project. I had the advantage of seeing 5 student choices. This one was the most well conceived and completed. The artist had respect for his subject.

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Student Judge's Merit 10  
*Draconis* Rhiannon Malia Pencil

This drawing is well done. The dragon is not threatening, it is youthful, and not overdone.

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The judge commented on many other pieces that she loved that didn't win awards.

She is also inviting the Indiana Art Association to put together a self-juried exhibit for the Jenner Art Gallery (between May and October 2010), which gets 2000-3000 visitors every two weeks.

### **About the Open Arts Exhibit Judge: Madelon Sheedy**

Madelon Sheedy, a resident of Laughlintown, was curator at the Johnstown Art Museum of the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art, and curator and founding director of the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley. She serves on the boards of Art Works in Johnstown, the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art, and Touchstone Center for Crafts, and is curator of the Jenner Art Gallery at the Mountain Playhouse, Jennerstown, PA.

## Indiana Garden Club Award Winners

Indiana Garden Club Best Floral Award, Professional 50

*Mountain Railway*

JD Varner

Photography

This photograph is tranquil and peaceful. It shows depth and fine detail.

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Indiana Garden Club Best Floral Award, Non-professional 50

*Summer's Majesty*

Donna Clements

Colored Pencil

This colored pencil drawing is very realistic. The flower is glowing and you can practically smell it.

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Indiana Garden Club Award, Student 25

*Sunset*

Rhiannon Malia

Pencil

This drawing shows fine detail and the expression on its face is very realistic – it's looking at me. The color blends create depth.

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Indiana Garden Club Award, Student 25

*Model*

Kaeleigh Hlavsa

Pencil

The two parts of the artwork come together as one, and the expression on the model's face is compelling.

The Indiana Art Association is very grateful to the Indiana Garden Club, which has been supportive of the Open Arts Show and Indiana County artists throughout the years when this show was part of the New Growth Arts Festival, by providing its generous Best Floral awards.