

CARL SAMSON, JUROR

Carl Samson is a figurative and plein-air painter who is a repeat winner at the National Portrait Competition, winning both the *Grand Prize* and the *Distinguished Achievement* awards. He currently resides in Ohio and is the former Chairman of the Advisory Board to the American Society of Portrait Artists.



In 1996, Samson was one of five American landscape painters invited to work with the Union of Russian Artists in Moscow. In June of 2000, he lectured at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York as the American Society of Portrait Artists' *Distinguished Guest of Honor*, and he was the first artist in history to be recorded painting a live portrait demonstration on its stage. In 2009, his full length nude, *Triumph of Truth*, received the Phil Desind Award for most outstanding representational painting at the Butler Institute of American Art. Also in 2009, Samson painted a beautifully crafted profile portrait of Natalie Portman as Padmé Amidala against a patterned field of gold leaf which George Lucas featured in the book *Star Wars Art: Visions* and ultimately purchased for his private collection. In addition to his landscape and figurative work, he has painted the portraits of many of America's leading citizens. You can view Samson's work on his website (www.carlsamson.com).

Carl Samson will be giving a portrait demo on January 29, 2014 from 1-4pm. Cost is \$30 for VAC members; \$40 for non-members. Please check our website for additional information.



with multi-media classes, state-of-the-art jewelry, pottery and technology studios, workshops, lectures, demonstrations, art collecting seminars, an outstanding gift shop, and an art library with over 4000 volumes. The Visual Arts Center holds monthly exhibits in its three major galleries and hosts a successful juried outdoor festival -- the Peace River National Art Festival -- each March in Laishley Park.

One of the nation's most prestigious juried exhibitions of traditional two-dimensional media, this show is produced by the Visual Arts Center every other year to benefit its programs and artists. The show dates coincide with the greatest seasonal population. Punta Gorda is geographically centered in Southwest Florida between Sarasota and Naples, an affluent, art-buying market.

KEY DATES

2013

September 4	Online entry begins
December 4	Online entry closes @ 12n EST
Late December	Notification to artists begins BY EMAIL

2014

January 25, 27, 28	Receiving for accepted shipped work and hand-delivered work, 10am-3pm
February 1	Exhibit opens to the public
February 6	"Toast the Winners" Champagne Reception, 7-9pm
March 9	Last day of Exhibit
March 10-13	Pick up hand-delivered work, 10am-3pm; return shipping begins

The striking Visual Arts Center is located in the heart of Punta Gorda along beautiful Charlotte Harbor. Our 1,000 member organization has enhanced the lives of thousands in our area

CALL FOR ARTISTS

9th BIENNIAL NATIONAL ART EXHIBITION

Juried by
Carl Samson



The chambered nautilus has been the exhibit emblem since its inception in 1998, though its appearance changes every year.

Historic Punta Gorda, Florida
February 1 to March 9, 2014

Best of Show \$2,000
Total Show Prize Money Over \$6,000

VISUAL ARTS CENTER



210 Maud Street • Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941.639.8810 • VAC@daystar.net
www.VisualArtCenter.org
across from Fishermen's Village

2014 NAE AT A GLANCE

Entry into the 2014 NAE will begin on September 4, 2013 and continue through December 4, 2013 through an online entry program accessible by a clickable button on the VAC website (www.VisualArtCenter.org). We have developed a program, funded by grants from the VAC Endowment Trust and the National Endowment for the Arts, to make this an easy, stress-free process. When entry begins you will simply click the Exhibition logo on our home page to be taken to the directions and the online entry process. But for now, here is important information you need to know:

AWARDS

Best of Show \$2,000

Second Prize \$1,000

Third Prize \$750

Bowles Award for Portrait Excellence \$750
(traditional 2-D mediums: drawing, painting, pastel only)

Watercolor Award \$500

People's Choice Award: \$1 per vote,
50/50 split between VAC and winning artist

Additional monetary awards for excellence and merit will be given at the discretion of the judge.

Total prize money will be in excess of \$6,000.

DEADLINES

Online entry begins September 4, 2013. Entry deadline is 12 noon EST on Wednesday, December 4, 2013. Artist notification begins BY EMAIL in late December. Once accepted, you will receive further instructions BY EMAIL regarding receiving and important dates and other information.

ENTRY PROCEDURE

You may submit up to three (3) entries for jurying. **Entry must be made online through the VAC's secure website (www.VisualArtCenter.org).** **Your full entry (including non-refundable payment by VISA or MasterCard and image uploads) MUST BE COMPLETED prior to 12 noon EST on Wednesday, December 4, 2013, in order to be considered.** Image files must be 5MB or less, JPEG format at 300 dpi (print quality). **No entries or applications will be accepted by e-mail, regular mail or in person.**

The entry fee is \$30 for the first submission and \$15 each for the second and third submissions.

ELIGIBILITY

This exhibition is limited to **two-dimensional** paintings and drawings in oil, watercolor, pastel, acrylic, charcoal, colored pencil, graphite, mixed media and two-dimensional collage. **The work must have been completed no earlier than January 2011 and cannot have been accepted into either the 2012 National Art Exhibition or the 2013 National Faces & Figures Exhibit.** Computer generated art, photography and fiber/fabric art are not eligible.

There are no size restrictions; however, work must not weigh more than sixty (60) pounds.

Artists must be at least 18 years of age.

ORIGINALITY POLICY

Only original works may be submitted. This means that the subject of the entry must be a concept entirely developed by the submitting artist and executed by his or her own hand. Duplications of another's photograph or art, whether by machine or paint, is considered copyright infringement and will not be accepted. Any work found to be a duplication will be removed and any awards revoked. Reproductions of your work, including giclées, are not eligible.

PUBLICITY

All entering artists agree to allow the Visual Arts Center to use their artwork in advertising, in press releases, on our website, and in any other promotional opportunities. Care will be taken to give each artist and work proper credit.

FRAMING

Paintings must be suitably framed with wood or metal and must be well reinforced. Screw eyes and wire must be used. The center of the wire should be at least 3" from the top of the frame when hung. **NO GLASS— PLEXIGLASS ONLY—except for works done in pastel or charcoal.** Gallery wrap canvas is acceptable; canvas with stapled edges exposed is **NOT** acceptable.

ACCEPTED WORK

All entries will receive notification of juried results BY EMAIL in late December. Artists whose work is accepted into the exhibition will then receive instructions for shipping and delivery. The VAC reserves the right to return work that does not meet the specifications herein. Any work that differs from accepted entries will be disqualified upon receipt. No work may be withdrawn before the close of the exhibition.

CONDITION OF SALES

All artwork must be for sale. Sales will be encouraged and **work will be sold at the price originally stated by the artist on the Entry Form.** There will be a 30% commission on all sales.

RELEASE & AGREEMENT NOTICE

The Visual Arts Center, and its agents, will exercise the same care in respect to the property exhibited as it does in safeguarding its own property, but does not accept responsibility for any loss or damage to any artist's work during the exhibition and related activities. All entering artists agree to release and hold the Visual Arts Center and its agents (including staff and volunteers) harmless from any liability or damage resulting from loss of or damage to the artist's work arising in any way from or connected to this exhibition or related activities.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact the Visual Arts Center at 941.639.8810, VAC@daystar.net or visit www.VisualArtCenter.org.

Judge's Statement

"I subscribe to the increasingly antiquated notion that a juror for an exhibition need not factor into the decision one's personal likes and dislikes. Turn of the twentieth century jurors had it right; what is of utmost importance is how well an individual artist achieved his or her stated or implied objective. I believe this is a far more impartial way to assess the success of a given piece. Those who most successfully achieved what they set out to do should and will be rewarded accordingly."