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PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

2026 St. Charles Fine Art Show Awards & Inaugural Susan K. McDowell Best of Show Award Presented

ST. CHARLES, IL – The 28th Annual St. Charles Fine Art Show, presented by St. Charles Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram, took place on Saturday, May 23rd and Sunday, May 24th in downtown St. Charles. This community event featured a juried art show, along with live entertainment and demonstrations, paint a car, and an art and music experience on the 1st Street Plaza.

The St. Charles Fine Art Show showcased over 110 fine artists that were judged by a panel on Saturday afternoon. Ten exhibitors were presented with an artist award, sponsored by St. Charles Bank & Trust. These awards recognize the artist's originality, technique, execution, expression, and overall impression of their art.

This year, the St. Charles Fine Art Show proudly introduced the inaugural Susan K. McDowell Best of Show Award during the awards presentation. In recognition of Susan's lasting impact on the event and the arts community, the Best of Show Award will be known moving forward as the Susan K. McDowell Best of Show Award.

Susan played a pivotal role in the creation of the St. Charles Fine Art Show and has served as Chair since its inception in 1999. She is also a founding member of the St. Charles Arts Council, established in 2010, whose mission is to celebrate, promote, and advocate for the arts throughout the community.

Susan continues to be an important part of the Fine Art Show and its ongoing success, and this award serves as a lasting tribute to her dedication, leadership, and passion for the arts in St. Charles.

The 2026 St. Charles Fine Art Show Award Winners are as follows:

Inaugural Susan K. McDowell Best of Show Award:

- Roberto Ferrer - Wood

Award of Excellence:

- Kyle Hendrix - Clay/Ceramics
- Connor O'Brien - Glass
- Scott Hartley - Painting, Watercolor
- Melissa Bossenbroek - Drawing/Illustration
- Dan Bi - Mixed Media
- Andrew Rola - Painting, Acrylic

Honorable Mention:

- Sher Berman - Fine Art Jewelry
- Tina Druce-Hoffman – Printmaking
- Bradford Pollack – Fine Art Photography

The Presenting Sponsor for the 2026 St. Charles Fine Art Show is St. Charles Chrysler Dodge Jeep Ram. Additional Sponsors include Arcada Theatre, Batir Architecture, Mendel Plumbing, Heating & Cooling, Solutions Networking Corporation, St. Charles Bank & Trust, St. Charles Closets, Theriault Booth LLC. Attorneys at Law, Mason, Faith, Hoscheit, & Lefelstein DDS., Meijer, Aquascape, Blick Art Materials, Culligan Water, Fine Line Creative Arts Center, Heinz Brothers Greenhouse Garden Center, Lakeshore Recycling Systems, Lawnboyz Landscaping, Inc., and Tri City Health Partnership.

To find more information on the 2026 St. Charles Fine Art Show and to view the list of award winners, please visit www.stcharlesfineartshow.com. For further inquiries, please contact the St. Charles Business Alliance at 630-443-3967.

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About the St. Charles Business Alliance

The mission of the St. Charles Business Alliance is to drive economic growth to make the St. Charles Community a destination where people, businesses and tourism thrive. The Alliance produces Restaurant Week, St. Patrick's Parade, Spring Shop Crawl, Fine Art Show, STC Live!, Jazz Weekend, Scarecrow Weekend, and Holiday Homecoming. For more information about the Alliance, visit www.stcalliance.org.



Susan McDowell (Right), with the 2026 St. Charles Fine Art Show “Susan K. McDowell Best of Show Award” recipient, Roberto Ferrer