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For Immediate Release

Winners of the Norfolk Visual Arts Competition take home \$6,000 cash at the Norfolk County Fair

October 6th, 2017 Simcoe-The winners of the Norfolk ArtsCo Visual Arts Competition at the Norfolk County Fair have been announced with \$6,000 in prizes awarded.

The 2017 Norfolk Visual Arts Competition would like to congratulate Steve Watts for placing First in the annual arts competition with his pencil work titled "Swampers Hollow". First place comes with a prize of \$2000!

The number of artists entering the 2017 competition has increased in comparison to last year and the quality of work submitted has also shown to be improving year after year.

The jurors for this years competition were very impressed with the works entered and the participation of Norfolk's arts community. The two jurors spent the Saturday, prior to the fair, here in Norfolk, judging the works entered and also offering a critique to local artists who entered into the competition.

The two jurors for the 2017 Norfolk Visual Arts Competition were Alana Traficante - Acting Curator of Contemporary Art with the Art Gallery of Hamilton and Sasa Rajsic - Art Installation Technician with Idea Exchange, Cambridge Art Galleries.

Other artists earning top placing in the competition were:

2nd place - Brian LaPlante, wood, A Big Maple

3rd place - Monte Sonnenberg, oil, The Order of the Steam Punk

4th place - Sierra Barber, encaustic, Fluid

5th place - Heather Verplanke, acrylic, Tricksters

Visitors to the exhibition are encouraged to vote on their favorite piece of artwork in the competition to help determine the "Peoples Choice" award. Voting ends Sunday night at 9:30pm and Peoples Choice will be awarded on Monday.

The Norfolk County Fair and Horse Show is celebrating 177 years, and is the fourth largest fair in Ontario and has an annual attendance in excess of 100,000 visitors. The Fair has earned a "Top 100" event designation through Festivals and Events of Ontario and is one of the top fairs

in the country according to the Canadian Association of Fairs and Exhibitions. Norfolk County Fair and Horse Show is held in Simcoe, Ontario and runs October 3-9, 2017.

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