



PRESS RELEASE

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**PRESS CONTACTS**

Jessica Zalewski  
Marketing and Publications Manager  
262.619.3538  
jzalewski@ramart.org

Tyler Potter  
Marketing Assistant  
tpotter@ramart.org

***Wisconsin Photography 2020 Award Winners Announced***

Racine, WI September 2, 2020

On Wednesday, September 2, Racine Art Museum (RAM)'s Wustum Museum of Fine Arts reopens to the public after nearly six months of closure due to the global pandemic. Featured in the galleries for the museum's reopening is the biennial exhibition ***Wisconsin Photography 2020***, on display through November 28, 2020.

For *Wisconsin Photography*, the selection process is similar to a portfolio review. This year's juror, Lisa Volpe, Associate Curator of Photography at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, chose the artists as well as a representative body of work. The 2020 exhibition includes 83 pieces by 29 artists, selected from a total of 1040 works submitted by 104 photographers and videographers. Since the first *Wisconsin Photography* exhibition in 1979, the Racine Art Museum has purchased works for the museum's permanent collection. Through these acquisitions, RAM has assembled a vibrant record of Wisconsin photographers and their career developments.

Four new works from the 2020 competition have been purchased for RAM's permanent collection, adding to the museum's holdings of extraordinary Wisconsin artists.

Five new works from the 2020 competition have been purchased for the museum's collection.

Congratulations to the following Memorial Purchase Award winners:

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**Jan Hader Award**

Timothy Abler, *Embrace, Oaxaca, Mexico*

**Mary E. Mayer Award, Gift of Joan S. Patton**

Michael Knapstein, *Cornfield*

**Judy Reid Award**

Elizabeth Kazda, *Combs from the Rotational Symmetry with Common Objects Series*

**Daniel Schmidt Award**

Azure Bielefeldt, *Excessive*

**Mary Vestino Award**

Dean Segal, *Four Mirrors*

For a complete list of award winners, please visit the RAM website, [ramart.org](http://ramart.org).

Exhibitions at Racine Art Museum are made possible by: Platinum Sponsors—Anonymous, Nicholas and Nancy Kurten, Osborne and Scekcic Family Foundation, Windgate Foundation, Wisconsin Department of Administration; Diamond Sponsors—National Endowment for the Arts, Ruffo Family Foundation, Inc.; Gold Sponsors—Anonymous, David Charak, Tom and Irene Creecy, David Flegel, Herzfeld Foundation, Racine Community Foundation, Twin Disc, W.T. Walker Group, Inc.; Silver Sponsors—A.C. Buhler Family, Andis Foundation, Lucy G. Feller, Johnson Bank, Dorothy MacVicar, Real Racine, Trio Foundation of St. Louis, Wisconsin Arts Board; Bronze Sponsors—Andis Company, Virginia Buhler, Cotsen Foundation for Academic Research, Tom and Jane Devine, David and Ellen Easley, Educators Credit Union, Ben and Dawn Flegel, Fredrick and Deborah Ganaway, William A. Guenther, Tom and Sharon Harty, Andrea and Tony Hauser, Angela Jacobi, Bill Keland, Knight Barry Title Group, Eric Koopmeiners and Lena Vigna; Media Sponsor—Wisconsin Public Radio.

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Together, the two campuses of the Racine Art Museum, RAM in downtown Racine at 441 Main Street and the Charles A. Wustum Museum of Fine Arts at 2519 Northwestern Avenue, seek to elevate the stature of contemporary crafts to that of fine art by exhibiting significant works in craft media with painting, sculpture, and photography, while providing outstanding educational art programming

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After temporarily closing its doors in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic, RAM reopened to the public on Wednesday, August 5. The museum resumed operations with limited hours, open Wednesday through Saturday from Noon to 4:00 pm. RAM's Wustum Museum of Fine Arts reopens on Wednesday, September 2 with the juried exhibition, *Wisconsin Photography 2020*. Information regarding safety protocols and what to expect when visiting the museums are available on the RAM website, [ramart.org](http://ramart.org).