



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 15, 2017

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## **Mark Arts' Final Exhibition at East Central Location Opens Friday**

WICHITA, Kan. — Mark Arts will open its Kansas Watercolor Society National Exhibition on Friday, November 17. The exhibition, which is supported by Emprise Bank and Soroptimist International of Wichita, will remain on display through December 17. Also opening Friday is an exhibition honoring the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Gallery XII in Wichita.

The public is invited to an opening reception from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. on November 17. Juror Soon Warren of Fort Worth, Texas will give a talk about the Kansas Watercolor Society National Exhibition and her work at 7 p.m. at Mark Arts, 9112 E. Central Ave.

This exhibition is a perennial favorite for our community's art lovers and collectors, inspiring significant additions to personal and corporate collections annually. The artists selected for the 2017 exhibition display a mastery of this translucent, transcendent medium.

Warren, the juror, is a full-time artist, teacher and workshop instructor who is known nationally and internationally. She is a signature member of the National Watercolor Society and the American Watercolor Society, among multiple others. Warren is teaching a Vibrant Colors Workshop at Mark Arts on November 17 and 18. Only a few spots remain.

Warren selected 75 works for exhibition and conferred the following awards:

### **FIRST PLACE SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF WICHITA AWARD – \$1,000**

*Vicissitudes of Life* by Dongfeng Li of Ballwin, Missouri

### **SECOND PLACE – \$750**

*Assured Entitlement* by Joel Dugan of Victoria, Kansas

### **THIRD PLACE – \$500**

*Cafe Invitation* by E. Gordon West of San Antonio, Texas

### **HONORABLE MENTION – \$250**

*Into the Light* by Marilynne Bradley of Webster Groves, Missouri

*Americana Rust* by Laurie Goldstein-Warren of Buckhannon, West Virginia

*Zion's World* by Dean Mitchell of Tampa, Florida

The Gallery XII Exhibition highlights Wichita's first cooperative gallery, which is celebrating 40 years in 2017. Gallery XII, started by 12 artists, is a nonprofit that currently boasts 23 accomplished artists who work in a wide range of media and styles.

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### About Mark Arts

The mission of Mark Arts is to be a vibrant arts hub in Wichita and the region by providing opportunities to appreciate and create art in an atmosphere of lifelong learning. It was originally founded in 1920 as the Wichita Art Association, later became The Wichita Center for the Arts and is the area's oldest visual arts organization. The galleries are open 1 to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. Admission is free. Visit [MarkArtsKS.com](http://MarkArtsKS.com) or call 316.634.2787.

MARY R KOCH ARTS CENTER