In honor of its namesake, the Susan Kathleen Black Foundation is proud to sponsor Blossom: Art of Flowers, a competition and exhibition designed to recognize, promote and reward excellence in representational floral art, and enhance public awareness and appreciation.

Entries were reviewed by an eminently qualified panel of jurors including:

- M. Stephen Doherty, Editor-in-Chief, American Artist Magazine
- Susan T. Fisher, Director, The Art Institute at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, and President, American Society of Botanical Artists
- James L. Johnson, Director and Distinguished Lecturer, Benz School of Floral Design and Benz Gallery of Floral Art, Texas A & M University
- Michael Mauder, Ph.D., Director, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, Coral Gables, FL
- Susan McGarry, Independent Curator and Author, Former Editor of Southwest Art Magazine
- Valerie Loupe Olsen, Associate Director of The Glassell School of Art, Curator of Exhibitions, Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
- Faye Moore, Resident Artist, National Arts Club, New York, NY; Member, Pastel Society of America
- Morten E. Solberg, Member, American Watercolor Society and Society of Animal Artists

In making their selections, jurors emphasized creative composition and design, competent technique and handling of media, overall strength of individual artworks, and ability to capture the essence of the floral subject. Jurors also awarded $65,000 in cash awards for exceptional artworks. Artworks by the following artists were chosen from 1,742 entries by 970 artists representing fourteen countries worldwide:

Milly Acharya - Ithaca, NY
Dianne Agasaki - Minneapolis, MN
Shin Young An - West New York, NJ
Beth Avary - Boulder Creek, CA
Kenn Backhaus - Robesonia, PA
Mitch Baird - West Linn, OR
Stacy Barter - Winter Park, FL
Ricardo Beaton - Bronx, NY
Harry Breen - Champaign, IL
Naomi Campbell - Brooklyn, NY
Kim Carlton - The Woodlands, TX
Celia Crampton - Oxfordshire, UK
Linda Daniels - Locust Grove, OK
Jeanne DeHaan - Milford, MI
Melanie Fain - Boerne, TX
Dennis Farris - Fort Worth, TX
Catherine Guadiey - New Port Richey, FL
Prae Graves - Palm Alto, CA
Stephen K. Hackley - Richardson, TX
Dirk Hagner - San Juan Capistrano, CA

Caren E. Heine - Ft. McMurray, AB, Canada
Mark Hemleben - Jerome, AZ
Jela Illov - Phoenix, AZ
Kathy Jubliou - Norfolk, VA
Jacqueline Kamin - Newport Beach, CA
Jeffrey Larson - Maple, WI
Ara Leites - Santa Cruz, CA
Dana Levin - Pawtucket, RI
Joan Lok - Columbia, MD
Jeanne Mackenzie - LaPorte, CO
Ann Makuck - Rockland, ME
Jane McCready - Tuscon, AZ
Dianne McElwean - Cincinnati, OH
Annie T. McGrory - Nasha, NH
Alix Mosieur - Lorane, OR
B. B. Nelson - Gray, ME
Joy Nguyen - Dallas, TX
Nancy Paige - Laguna Hills, CA
Paula Parks - Shoreline, WA
Annie Patterson - Surrey, UK

Woodward Payne - Mill Valley, CA
Linda Petchnick - Enumclaw, WA
Kyle Polzin - Bellaire, TX
Ruth Ray - Scottsville, VA
Scott B. Royston - Baltimore, MD
Amy Sadle - Syracuse, NE
Lizzie Sanders - Edinburgh, Scotland, UK
Wes Sieglist - Townsend, TN
Grace S. Smith - San Francisco, CA
Sharon L. Sprung - Brooklyn, NY
Lexi Sundell - Ennism, MT
Soegito Sutino - Jakarta, Indonesia
Vivian Thierfelder - Spruce Grove, AB, Canada
Fred W. Thomas - Shoreline, WA
Jeanetta vanRaalte - Brooklyn, NY
Elizabeth von Isser - Oro Valley, AZ
Soon Y. Warren - Fort Worth, TX
Marc Whitney - San Clemente, CA
Caroline Jones Winters - Germantown, TN
Sherrie Wolf - Portland, OR

A fully illustrated color catalogue accompanies the exhibition and is available from the Susan Kathleen Black Foundation. Blossom: Art of Flowers premiered at the Houston Museum of Natural Science and will travel to museums throughout the nation. For catalogue sales, and tour information and updates, visit: www.susankblackfoundation.org

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