



For Immediate Release
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ANTON ART CENTER TO HOST TWO NEW EXHIBITS IN JANUARY: HEARTWORK AND MICHIGAN ANNUAL LIII

Mount Clemens, MI – January at the Anton Art Center will kick off the year with two brand new exhibitions set to take over the Center’s two gallery floors open through February 28, 2026.

The Center’s second floor gallery will feature *Heartwork*, a juried exhibit of over forty original artworks by members of five local artist groups: the Lakeside Palette Club of St. Clair Shores, Mount Clemens Art Association, Romeo Guild of Art, Shelby Township Fine Art Society, and Warren Tri-County Fine Arts, Inc. Artists interested in entering their work to be juried may join one of the participating artist groups in advance of receiving day on January 14, 2026. Details at www.theartcenter.org/artist-opportunities.

The competition is juried by Darcel Deneau. Deneau is a 2021 Kresge Arts in Detroit Fellow and a graduate of the College for Creative Studies in Detroit. Darcel is a mosaic artist with a painterly style inspired by her love for the city and its resurgence. Her work is widely collected both publicly and privately. Recently, Darcel received second-place awards from both the jurors and the public at an international mosaic biennale in Chartres, France. Beyond her studio practice, she is an arts speaker, juror, instructor, and a member of the Society of American Mosaic Artists. She stays involved in the city's arts community in her role as president of the CCS Alumni Council and serves as an honorary board member of the Detroit Artists Market.

The exhibition is open January 24 through February 28, with a public Opening Reception and Awards Announcement on Saturday, January 24 from 1-3pm, with refreshments provided by featured artist groups.

Michigan Art Competition Returns

The Center’s first floor will showcase ‘*Michigan Annul LIII*’, the 53rd annual statewide fine art competition and exhibition. Submissions are accepted now through January 7, 2026. Artists



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'Michigan Annual LIII' is juried by Grace Serra. Serra is the Art Collection Curator at Wayne State University and serves as the Exhibition Curator at the University of Michigan's North Campus Research Complex. With 30+ years in Public Arts, she has coordinated many major art installations in the Detroit People Mover, Detroit Receiving Hospital, and Children's Hospital. She has served in faculty at Henry Ford College, Macomb College, Eastern Michigan University and Wayne State University teaching visual arts, art history, and arts administration courses. She holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts (Painting) from Wayne State University, Master of Arts (Painting) from Dominican University in Florence, Italy, and Master of Arts (Arts Administration) from Eastern Michigan University.

The exhibition is open January 31 through February 28, with a public Opening Reception and Awards Announcement on Saturday, January 31 from 1-3pm, with refreshments provided by local sorority, Delta Kappa Gamma, Omega Chapter.

Admission is free and open to the public with gallery hours Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10am to 5pm. The Anton Art Center is located at 125 Macomb Place, Mount Clemens, MI 48043. Metered parking is available; parking is free after 6pm and weekends. Admission is free and open to the public.

Visit us online at www.theartcenter.org or call 586-469-8666 for more information. The Anton Art Center (AAC) is a registered nonprofit organization with a mission to provide access to experiences that enrich all people through creative expression.

The AAC was founded in 1969 in the historic Carnegie Library building in walkable downtown Mount Clemens, Michigan. Our funders include the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, Kresge Foundation, Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs, Erb Family Foundation, and National Endowment for the Arts.

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'Heartwork' Sample Images



'Heartwork' exhibit graphic.



'Heartwork' juror, Darcel Deneau.



Gallery view, Second Floor Gallery, Anton Art Center.



Gallery view, Second Floor Gallery, Anton Art Center.



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'Michigan Annual LIII' Sample Images



'Michigan Annual LIII' exhibit graphic.



'Michigan Annual LIII' juror, Grace Serra.



Gallery view, First Floor Gallery, Anton Art Center.



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