



***For Immediate Release***

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## **ANTON ART CENTER ANNOUNCES ANNUAL MICHIGAN ARTIST COMPETITION**

The Anton Art Center invites visual art submissions for its ***Michigan Annual XLVIII*** exhibition. Michigan resident artists ages eighteen years and up may submit up to two original entries completed in recent years to the juried exhibition with **\$2,000 in cash prizes**. Exhibiting artworks and awards are selected by guest juror, **Nora Chapa Mendoza**. Entries are accepted online only via Google Forms available on our website now through **Wednesday, January 6, 2021, 5:00PM** (deadline).

The competition is open to all media or combination of media; including, but not limited to: photography, wood, jewelry, oil paint, acrylic, fiber, stone, glass, pastel, colored pencil, graphite, charcoal, new media, non-traditional, sculpture, collage, paper, found object, performance, ceramic, ink, printmaking, metal, etc. There are no size restrictions.

This celebrated artist opportunity features a new guest juror each year. The Anton Art Center is honored to have Ms. Nora Chapa Mendoza as juror for the 48th annual statewide art contest. Ms. Mendoza shares that she was born in Texas to Mexican parents in 1932. She studied at the Center for Creative Studies in Detroit and Madonna University in Livonia, Michigan. Ms. Mendoza was one of eight artists that participated in the renovation of Detroit's Music Hall in 1996, and was named *Michigan Artist of the Year* and she received the Governor's Arts Award in 1999.

Ms. Mendoza has become well known for the forms hidden within her abstract paintings. Her paintings often draw on themes of immigration and deterritorialization, human rights, labor, and rebellion, and are informed by her Mexican heritage and her experiences as an artist in Detroit. She has done work including restoration, workshops, artist in residence, and murals. She has exhibited nationally and internationally, and her work is represented among many important collections around the world. Among her collectors are such notables as Detroit's former Mayor Dennis Archer, singer Aretha Franklin, actor Edward James Olmos, and the former president of General Motors, Mr. Jack Smith.



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Corporate collectors include the Ford offices in Rockefeller Plaza (New York), Edison Plaza and GM offices (Detroit). Her archival collections will be featured at the Smithsonian Museum for history and new generations to see.

The Anton Art Center celebrates over fifty years as the premier arts and culture nonprofit organization in Macomb County, located in Southeast Michigan. Housed in a historic Carnegie Library building in the county seat of Mount Clemens, the Center is well-suited for exhibiting a variety of small- to large-scale artworks and sculpture. The 48<sup>th</sup> annual event taking place in January 2021 is one of the few remaining statewide competitions in Michigan, providing artists living and working in the Great Lakes State a premium, accessible gallery space to showcase their work alongside the best of the best in contemporary art from across both the upper and lower peninsulas.

To be eligible for jurying, interested artists must submit digital images of up to two artworks along with their completed digital entry form, as well as the entry fee (\$25 members, \$35 non-members, payable online here: <https://www.theartcenter.org/submit-a-payment>), by the deadline of January 6th, 2021, 5:00pm. Details are available on our website at [www.theartcenter.org/artist-opportunities](http://www.theartcenter.org/artist-opportunities) under *Exhibits/Artist Opportunities*.

Accepted artworks will be exhibited on the Main Level gallery space in the Anton Art Center in Mount Clemens, Michigan, open for public viewing January 29th through February 23, 2021. Award winners to be announced on January 30th via virtual announcement streamed on the center's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/AntonArtCenter>).

The Anton Art Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit arts organization located in downtown Mount Clemens, Michigan. The Anton Art Center aims to build an open community around creative expression by presenting a wide array of programming to appeal to diverse audiences, providing support for the arts and becoming a focal point for arts programming, and working towards inclusion, diversity, equity, and access in all that we do to support our mission to enrich and inspire people of all ages through the arts.



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***Michigan Annual XLVIII Guest Juror, Nora Chapa Mendoza***



Photography by Jeff Cancelosi.

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