



P.O. Box: 586 | Phone: (785) 827-9301
Salina, KS 67402-0586 | www.sculpturetoursalina.com

2024 People's Choice Winner Announced

SALINA, KANSAS – This year's SculptureTour Salina (STS) People's Choice Award winners were announced via Facebook Live on Thursday February 13th. The Facebook Live event was co-hosted by Mike Hoppock, Chair of the SculptureTour Salina committee and Brad Anderson of Salina Arts and Humanities. The City of Salina sponsors the People's Choice Award and will purchase the winning sculpture so that it will remain on public display in Salina.

The 2024 SculptureTour Salina People's Choice winner is . . .
"Going Home" created by Sondra Jonson of Cambridge Nebraska

The People's Merit Award winner of a \$1,000 cash award to the artist is . . .
"Hummingbird" by Alex Shaw of Holstein Nebraska

The Kids choice Award winner of a \$500.00 cash award to the artist is . . .
"Hummingbird" by Alex Shaw of Holstein Nebraska

About the Artist:

Sondra L. Jonson of S.L. Jonson Studios began planning her career in art at the age of 5. Her studio, established in 1985, has produced a large line of sculptures, from miniatures to monuments for clients throughout the United States and in Europe. Jonson, a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Bryn Mawr College, and a former student of EvAngelos Frudakis, has developed a signature style which is both classical and contemporary, powerful yet tender, always sensitive to form, color and message. Now in her 27th years as a professional sculptor, Ms. Jonson has established her reputation as a master of human figure and portraiture.

About the Sculpture:

My vision for the artwork took shape when I read these words of Scripture: "He will swallow up death in victory, and the Lord God will wipe away tears from off all faces" (Is 25:8)
"... and this mortal shall have put on immortality" (1 Cor. 15:4)

At first glance, this artwork illustrates the last journey of one of America's finest sons. Although the figure carrying the fallen soldier to Heaven is angelic, she is also the symbol of God's great love and mighty power – power that conquers even death.



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About the 2025 Exhibit:

"Sculpturetour Salina is entering its 15th year and we are pleased with the artwork that has been submitted to be here on loan for the 2025 exhibit" stated Mike Hoppock Committee Chair and City Commissioner. "Jurors have met to finalize the exhibit choices."

We invite everyone to come out and help us celebrate at our Unwrap Party, Saturday May 3rd on Santa Fe Ave. in beautiful Downtown Salina.

About SculptureTour Salina:

SculptureTour Salina (STS) is an annual juried competition and exhibition in Salina, Kansas. An extraordinary community filled with cultural organizations and venues of national acclaim. The exhibition is open to all artists creating works suitable for outdoor display. Approximately 20 sculptures are selected and carefully sited in historic downtown Salina. Sculptures remain installed for one year providing both viewing enjoyment to community and visitors as well as a sales opportunity for participating artists. \$6,250 in Juror's Merit Awards are presented annually and to date, more than 40 sculptures have been purchased or donated. Each year, the City of Salina designates \$20,000 toward the purchase of the People's Choice winner. The sculpture is then installed in a public environment within the community.

People's Choice Award winner to date include:

- 2011 – "Watch Dog" by Loise Peterson; on display in Oakdale Park
- 2012 – "Sweet Kisses" by Marianne Caroselli" on display in Oakdale Park
- 2013 – "Farmer" by Lawrence Starck; on display at Salina Senior Center
- 2014 – "Next Up" by James Haire; on display at KWU Tennis Courts
- 2015 – "Daughters of Peace: by Benjamin Victor; on display at the City/County Building
- 2016 – "Slim" by Dale Lewis; on display at Tony's Pizza Event Center
- 2017 – "Picasso's Violin" by Jodie Bliss; on display at The Temple
- 2018 – "Patches" by Dale Lewis; on display at The Smoky Hill Museum
- 2019 – "Wheat Harvest" by James Mages; on display at the City/County Building
- 2020 - "For the Love of Steel" by Sunny Corbett; on display 100 block of N. Santa Fe
- 2021 – "Butterfly Tree" by Reven Swenson; on display South of the Salina Public Library
- 2022 – "Clarence the Catfish" by Joe and Terry Malesky; on display at The Temple
- 2023 – "Phoenix" by Jodie Bliss; on display at Oxbow Park