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By JESSICA CRAWFORD

- Daily Leader

Baker Arts Center hosted its 12th National Juried Art Exhibition this past weekend. Monday evening, area art enthusiasts will have the opportunity to view the show while enjoying the musical stylings of Marcie McKee and Gloria Morford.

At 7 p.m. Monday, McKee and Morford will be entertaining at the center. The recital will help McKee prepare for her doctorate audition, executive director Adriane Hatcher said.

“Marcie graduated from Liberal High School and Gloria teaches music at McKinley Elementary,” Hatcher said. “Marcie is getting ready for her doctorate audition so she kind of needs to do a recital here to get her nerves worked out.

“So we will have coffee and hot chocolate,” she added. “We are calling it, ‘Get cozy with the arts.’ It would be a good opportunity for people to come view the show and kind of relax and listen to some music.”

The juried art show will be on display until Feb. 20, Hatcher said. She added it was an exciting show and went very well.

Juror Dan Addington was grateful for the opportunity to judge the pieces, he said in a statement

he issued to those viewing the show.

“It was a challenging and enjoyable experience,” Addington’s statement noted. “Challenging because I had to select this show from a high level of very accomplished entries, and enjoyable for the very same reason.

“I challenge viewers of this exhibit to find their own connections, themes and ideas that emerge as they contemplate this work,” he added. “I appreciate and admire Baker Arts Center for providing a venue for the public to view works of this caliber, especially in a time when economic and personal constraints make mounting ambitious surveys such as these extremely challenging.”

Addington selected winners from three different categories: photography, two-dimensional and three-dimensional.

In the photography division, first place went to Carrie M. Becker, Manhattan, with “Blue and Orange Study.” Second place was awarded to Christopher Jordan, Tuscaloosa, Ala., with “Ablation Point No. 200.” Third place was given to Andrea Land, Springfield, Mo., with “Elizabeth.”

In the two-dimensional class, first place went to Amanda Hood, Ames, Iowa, with “Amanda Hood.” Second was awarded to Laura Anderson, Oakland, Calif., with “The World Inside.” Third place was given to Stanley Scott, Fort Collins, Colo., with “The Dream.”

In the three-dimensional category, first place went to Beth Kamhi, Chicago, with the “Secret Life of...Travel.” Second place was awarded to Peggy Wyman, Macomb, Mo., with “Global Swarming.” Third place was given to Brianne Fulton, Hays, with “First Taste: Eat Me, Drink Me.”

Four merit award winners were also given nods of achievement by Addington. He added his thankfulness to the artists to reveal themselves in such a way.

“Finally, I thank and praise the artists, included or not, who courageously put their work out there to be judged and in an admittedly subjective process,” he said. “Because of their willingness to reveal their intellect, their emotion, their spirit and their identity, we are all richer.”

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