

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 26, 2008

Sooke Fine Arts Show Expands Art Awards for 2008

Sooke, BC – May 26, 2008 – The 2008 Sooke Fine Arts Show will be bigger and better than ever. Not only will the show open with additional display space and a larger gift shop, there will be nineteen separate awards totaling \$11,050. The number of award categories has expanded to encourage artist submissions in a diverse area of works.

Two new categories have been added this year for Best Ceramic and Best Jewellery. “As the Sooke Fine Art Show continues to grow as Vancouver Island’s premier summer art event, we want to make sure we are able to entice artists to enter who will bring a rich diversity to the work on display,” says Evonne Black, Committee Chair for the 2008 event. “One of the best ways to capture a new perspective is to encourage artists by offering recognition for their work. We believe the new awards for ceramics and jewellery will bring together an exciting and engaging selection to the show.”

Many local businesses and individuals have stepped forward to sponsor the nineteen awards. This year, artists will receive awards sponsored by community members as diverse as art councils, vacation home businesses and personal donors. This year’s awards include:

Best in Show	\$2000, sponsored by Women in Tune
Best 3D work	\$1000, sponsored by Island Vacation Homes
Best 2D work in any medium	\$1000, sponsored by Victoria Airport Authority
Best work by a First Nations Artist	\$1000, sponsors Jack and Merilou Clapper
Best Photography	\$1000, sponsored by Island Blue Print
Best Ceramic	\$1000, sponsored by Eva Bebington
Best Jewellery	\$1000, sponsored by Sunriver Estates and Citta Construction
Juror's Choice Awards (3 awarded, one from each juror)	\$ 500, sponsored by Sooke Community Arts Council
People's Choice Award	\$ 500, sponsored by Westshore Arts Council
Designer Choice Award 2008 In Memory of Jim Merrill	\$ 500, sponsored by Sooke Fine Arts Committee
Children's Choice Award	\$ 250, sponsored by Westshore Arts Council
Honorable Mentions (six given)	\$ 50 Certificates donated by Artworld

Awards will be presented at the gala Artists Celebration Evening on Friday, July 25, an evening held exclusively for the artists and their guests. The 2008 Sooke Fine Arts Show opens to the public on Saturday morning, July 26, for a ten day run.

The Sooke Fine Arts Society presents the Sooke Fine Arts Show, the premier juried fine arts show on Vancouver Island, each summer. The Society, a volunteer, non-profit organization founded in 2006, promotes awareness of the visual arts and appreciation for local artists from Vancouver Island and Gulf Islands.

Contact: Sande Cummings
250-642-7256
email: info@sookefinearts.com