



Kay Petryszak, MAA

Kay was born in Akron, Ohio and received her BS in Art Education from the University of Akron. She taught art in Ohio and Georgia, and came to Florida in the mid 1960's. Her miniature paintings have won numerous awards, including the prestigious Silver Bowl Award at the first WFM Exhibition in London, England and Best of Show in the MPSGS, Washington, DC. Kay had her work in the Miniature Artists of America (MAA) Traveling Exhibit, displayed in the Florida Pavilion at the Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan, and Florida's World Pavilion at the Summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia. Her works were in all five WFM exhibitions in London, England, Hobart and Burnie, Tasmania, Australia, Smithsonian International Gallery in Washington, DC and Moscow, Russia. Private collections,

with Kay's works, are in the USA, Australia, England, France, Japan, South Africa, and in the MASF Permanent Collection.

Kay is a consistent lecturer on miniature art for schools, churches, miniature art exhibitions and museums. Kay has been a judge for shows such as the Georgia Miniature Art Society, 2008 WFM Exhibition in Australia and the 2013 MASF show. Past President of MASF, Kay has served 25 years on the MASF Board, and was honored as a Life Member. For the past 20 years, including the present, she has been President of MAA. In London, Kay co-founded the WFM. She is past President of WFM, is on the WFM Council and is an Honorary WFM Member.

Kay helped research and produce "Timeless Treasures", a video presentation that traces the history of miniature art from the seventh century A.D. to the present. The MASF presentation, in both VHS tape and DVD formats, is a project to educate the public about miniature art. Kay co-edited the MASF "Catalogue of the Miniature Collection", which was introduced at the MASF Silver Anniversary Show in 2000, at the Museum of Fine Arts, St. Petersburg, Florida. In 2010, MAA produced the book, "Modern Masters of Miniature Art in America", for the Society's 25th Anniversary. Wes Siegrist, MAA, was the author and Kay wrote the Foreword, was one of the Editorial Assistants, and one of the featured artists. Kay feels very blessed that she has been able to travel, and pursue her passion of miniature art, because of her very supportive husband, Mike.

Judge's Statement

Technology is taking over the world – almost! But an exquisite, original miniature work of art still has to be created by hand. A miniature artist must possess infinite patience, passion, practice and pride in one's work. As the artists practice, they usually get better but not faster in the production of a work. When I viewed the works, the "WOW" factor usually appeared first. My first glimpse of an outstanding piece usually got my immediate attention of disbelief. This drew me into the entire work, and I began to explore every inch of it. When finished, the work usually had an interesting story to convey. The award winners are detailed, realistic miniature masterpieces that bedazzle and amaze the spectator's belief, as to what is possible in such a small space. As usual there are so many more award winners in the Show, and not enough ribbons. These final decisions were the most difficult ones to make. It was a very special honor for me to serve as judge, in my "own back yard" and I commend the MASF for continuing to encourage new artists to enter and continuing to raise the bar of excellence for the Show entries.