



PRESS RELEASE

Exhibition: 37th Open Call Competition, 2020
Theme: The Bigger Picture: Murals and Public Art
Opening: Virtual go to: www.artcentralbankbahamas.com

For Immediate Release

The Art Gallery of the Central Bank of The Bahamas is pleased to announce the results of the 37th Open Call Competition (2020), whose theme was: **THE BIGGER PICTURE! – MURALS AND PUBLIC ART.**

For this competition, we asked the creative community to focus on the many prominent empty wall spaces, vacant lots, abandoned buildings or construction fences around New Providence and the Family Islands. Such surfaces surround us everywhere and beg for a new purpose. Murals—and public art in general—have proven to be a significant economic regenerator in the so-called “Orange Economy” (creative economy), producing safer neighborhoods for the benefit of local communities. In addition to providing visual nourishment and an education into our own history, another benefit would be the provision of attractions for a specific kind of traveler who is interested in the cultural aspects of a nation.

We were pleased and amazed by the many diverse proposals from New Providence and the Family Islands alike. The jury, consisting of well-known muralists Angelika Wallace-Whitfield and Allan P. Wallace, as well as the Curator of the Central Bank, had to judge a very strong competition and it was certainly a tight race.

In the end the winners of the 37th Open Call competition are:

1st Place:	Abby Smith	(Mural for Stapledon School)
2nd Place:	Lillian Blades/ Jenna Chaplin	(Transformation of the Masons Addition stairs)
3rd Place:	DLevar Adams	(Mural for Saxons member Memorial)
Honorable Mention:	June Collie	(Mural for East Bay Street)
Honorable Mention:	Ruthjeana Johnson	(Mural for the Reinhard Hotel)
Honorable Mention:	Preston Hanna	(Mural for Clifton Heritage Park)
Photo Award:	Jamie Bruce	(Billboards for East Street)
Film Award:	Reagan Farrington	(Projection on Princess Margaret Hospital)
Sculpture Award:	Carlos Bain	(Public Sculpture: "Two sides of a Coin")

Special Family Island Recognition Awards:

Andros:	Jenae Edwards	(Mural for Queen's Park, Fresh Creek)
Abaco:	Monika Anne Cunningham	(Mural for the Old Bakery, Marsh Harbour)
Eleuthera:	Jerreth Albury	(Mural for Lower Bogue)
Grand Bahama:	Denzel Lightbourne	(Mural for the “Pantry Pride” food store)

Besides receiving cash prizes, the Central Bank is now working with each artist in the coming weeks to assess the needs of implementing the murals, to establish a timeline and to determine the execution of the works. All the proposals can be viewed on our website www.artcentralbankbahamas/open-call and soon will be also live on the museum platform www.smartify.org.

For further questions, please contact: Ulrich Voges (Curator) // uvvoges@centralbankbahamas.com