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## Professional and Emerging State Fair Artists Awarded

### Winner's Solo Shows Coming to the Arts Center in 2020

**(Pueblo, Colo.-September 12, 2019)** Winners of the Professional and Emerging Artists categories in the 2019 Colorado Fine Arts Exhibition will have their own shows at the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center tentatively scheduled for the summer and fall of 2020. The winners were awarded by Arts Center Curator Elizabeth Szabo and Collections Manager LuDel Walter. This was the first year that Arts Center staff judged the emerging category.

About the Artists:

**Professional Category:** Fumio Sawa received his training in Fine Arts in Kyoto, Japan, where he studied both Western and Japanese art. For the first thirty years of his career, he worked primarily in watercolor and oils. Since 1999, Fumio has been developing his unique combinations of line drawings that balance color and movement. Fumio spends hundreds of hours drawing and painting each piece, using a Wacom tablet and pen as his brush and a computer screen as his canvas. His experience in watercolor guides his hand as he explores the limits of his new palette, ranging from thin layers and subtle nuances to bold application of color and form. Many of the pieces are created entirely by thousands of interlaced and layered lines. The result is an astounding sense of depth and contrast creating a three-dimensional illusion that appears to generate its own sources of light. A large format enhances the life and joy of the art, as the viewer's eye is drawn into its depths, and dances through the paintings to the symphony of color, line, light, and movement. Title of winning piece: *Raizin (Thundergod)*.

**Emerging Category:** Diego Bueno is a recent graduate of Pueblo South high school (class of 2019) where he received guidance from art teacher Brian Trimble. He began drawing in elementary school and never stopped. Having only been in 4 art shows, including the State Fair, Diego received awards in each show. He hopes to one day be a full-time artist and show in more galleries. Diego's art has been influenced by many other artists including Alphonso Dunn and Franklin Booth. Seeing their work was what made him want to start working in ink. For subject matter, he has always been fascinated with the surreal aspect of art. When he starts on a new piece he tries to mindlessly put ideas on paper and let the unconscious part of his brain create the concept while taking that idea and turning it into something that is technically well done. Diego says that sometimes his art is inspired by dreams, other times by just a simple object. But he believes all of his art is a way for him to process everything he experiences both good and bad, and then try to put it on paper. Every piece represents his mindset at that point in his life. To him, art is therapy, helping to resolve issues that he doesn't feel comfortable talking about. Title of winning piece: *Remorse*.

*Photos attached*

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#### **About the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center:**

The cultural hub of Southern Colorado, the Sangre de Cristo Arts Center gives visitors the tools to think and act creatively through a three building complex including seven galleries offering the best in historic and contemporary art by artists of local, regional and national renown. The Arts Center offers the Buell Children's Museum, recognized as the second-best for art by Child magazine, a 500-seat theater featuring a variety of performing arts programs, both local and national, and two gift shops. Over 100 fine arts, dance, and leisure classes are available quarterly providing unique offerings to everyone from children to adults of all skill levels. Admission to the Arts Center is \$10 for adults, \$8 for children, seniors 65+, and military. For more information, please call 719-295-7200; stop by the Arts Center located at 210 N. Santa Fe Ave., just off of I-25, exit 98B, or visit online at [www.sdc-arts.org](http://www.sdc-arts.org).

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