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Turchin Center Announces Finalists for the 22nd Appalachian Mountain Photography Competition

BOONE, NC – January 10, 2025 – The Turchin Center for the Visual Arts (TCVA) is thrilled to announce the finalists for the 22nd Appalachian Mountain Photography Competition (AMPC). This year’s exhibition, titled *Making Kin: Belonging & Longing in Appalachia*, will be on display from February 7 to May 3, 2025 in the Bickers Gallery. The AMPC exhibition showcases the artistry and perspective of photographers exploring the intricate connections between people, place, and belonging in the Appalachian region.

Out of over 500 images submitted by 76 artists, jurors Frances Bukovsky and Susan Patrice of Kinship Photography Collective selected 47 photographs that capture the diverse and complex relationships that define Appalachia. Guided by the theme *Making Kin: Belonging & Longing in Appalachia*, this year’s jurors sought images and projects that honor “diverse roots, complex connections, and entangled relationships,” showcasing the many ways Appalachia shapes a sense of kinship and community.

Finalists: The Turchin Center congratulates the following artists whose works will be featured in this year’s exhibition:

Series Artists:

- Marcus Morris
- Sarah Pfohl
- Eliza Bell Schweizbach

Single-image Artists:

- Jesse Barber
- Ken Barrett
- Marie Bongiovanni
- Lynne Buchanan
- Eva Buckner
- Heather Cormons
- Alex Cox
- Dani Fresh
- Abigail Fritsch

- Alicia Green
- Isabelle Green
- Kaoly Gutierrez
- Cary Hitchcock
- Mars Johnson
- Liz Lasine
- Erik Mace
- Reed Mattison
- Lou Murrey
- Barron Northrup
- Julie Rae Powers
- Randy Redman
- Kelsey Riso
- Laura Rudkin-Miniot
- Kaye Savage
- Robert Seevers
- Ariel Shumaker-Hammond
- Ricardo Tejada
- Reuben Van Hove
- Edward Williams
- Elizabeth Williams

The 22nd AMPC exhibition will open Friday, February 7, 2025 with a public reception that evening during Fizzy First Friday and will be on view through May 3, 2025. People's Choice voting will take place in-person in the gallery. Competition winners will be announced at the private Awards Reception on March 22, 2025. Visitors are invited to experience this moving exploration of Appalachian identity, history, and kinship.

Additionally, this year's AMPC is partnering with the Appalachian Journal, who will be publishing a special visual arts issue highlighting important work by Appalachian artists and researchers. This year's AMPC jurors and selected AMPC photographer, Marcus Morris, will be featured in the journal alongside a transcription of a panel discussion held in 2021 with Appalachian photographers Clarissa Sligh, Lydia See, and Megan King. An ARTtalk and panel discussion with jurors Susan Patrice and Frances Bukovsky and exhibiting artist Marcus Morris will take place at the Turchin Center on April 4, 2025 (First Friday) followed by a reception for the release of the Appalachian Journal special issue.

The Appalachian Mountain Photography Competition is made possible through the generous sponsorship of the Mast General Store with additional support from Appalachian Voices, Bistro Roca, the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation, Footsloggers Outfitters, Peabody's Wine and Beer and Stickboy Bread.

For more information about the Appalachian Mountain Photography Competition and the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts, please visit tcva.org or contact Shauna Caldwell, caldwellsn@appstate.edu.

About the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts: Located in the heart of Boone, NC, the Turchin Center for the Visual Arts is a dynamic hub for contemporary art and cultural engagement. As part of Appalachian State University, the center is committed to fostering meaningful connections between art, artists, and audiences through exhibitions, programs, and events that celebrate the diverse voices and landscapes of Appalachia.

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