

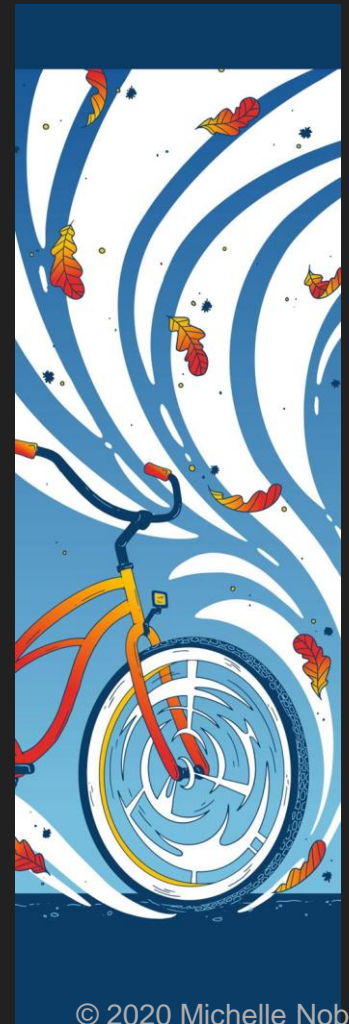
**Bike Friendly Kalamazoo's
2020 Public Bike Art
Competition Winners
- *Virtual Gallery* -**

October 16, 2020

Please Respect the Artists' Rights

First Place: Michelle Nobles, Swoosh

“I studied graphic design at Utah State University and I currently work as a graphic designer in Utah. But, my passion is illustration and art. Biking is a great way to get outdoors and get inspired by nature, so that is why I thought this would be fun to enter. To help promote the idea of getting outdoors & having fun!”



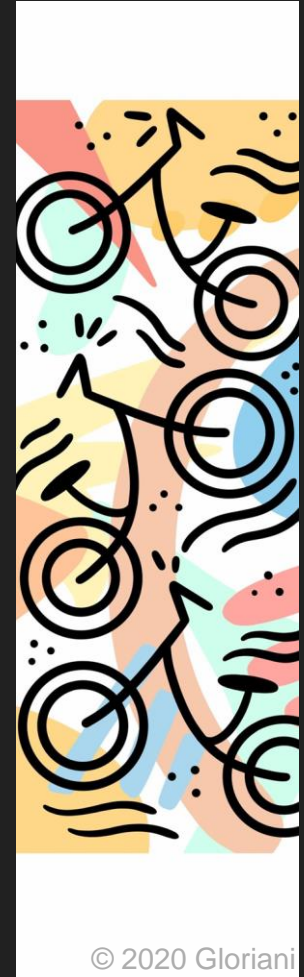
Second Place: Lisa Marie Prudente Vazquez, *Wednesday Afternoon*

“Hello! My name is Lisa Marie Prudente Vazquez. I was born and raised in San Jose, California. I’m currently studying in San Francisco towards a BFA in graphic design. From as long as I can remember, I’ve always had a passion for art. I really don’t know what led me to fascination but I’ve always enjoyed the concept of creating pieces by hand and being able to call it my own. What led me to enter this contest was the organization’s goal. I really wanted to contribute to something that I felt needed to be heard more often. Biking to me has allowed me to take a break from my daily routine. Not only can I have a relaxing solo bike ride in the evening but I can also enjoy a weekend ride around the park with friends and family.”



Third Place: Gloriani Garcia, *Ride Away*

“My name is Gloriani Garcia. I recently moved to Michigan, and I’m super excited that I was able to participate & win.”



Honorable Mention: Paula Lewis, *SPOKEtacular!*

“After a years-long career in graphic design, Paula Lewis works from her Idaho home studio. There, she combines experience of graphic expression to make whimsical and one-of-a-kind art pieces in mixed media, digital, and collage. Lewis has also been involved with several committees to promote public art as a means of community pride and awareness. She enjoys outdoor activities which include bicycling with family and friends.”



Honorable Mention: Miki Kinoshita, *Reach Greater Heights*

“I am an illustrator based in San Jose who is currently pursuing a BFA in illustration. I am interested in making the world more colorful by creating interesting designs for everyday people. My background is in watercolor and traditional media but I am currently transitioning into digital mediums. I entered this competition to make biking more appealing to a younger audience and to promote a healthy lifestyle for the next generation.”



Honorable Mention: Sam Wilderman, *Passing Through*

"I am a 22 year-old telecommunications graduate student at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana with a BFA in Animation. I currently work with the BSU David Owsley Museum of Art as the media intern. The work I create is often molded by my experiences and they are executed in the hopes of eliciting a particular emotion or moment. I stumbled across the BFK Public Bike Art Competition online and loved the idea of bike themed art! As a young animator, I thrive off of learning about the world around me through unique experiences and participating in this competition was a delightful project!"



President's Award: Jim Smania, *A Ride for Every Season*

"A lifelong artist, beginning in high school where he was awarded the Senior Art Award Jim Smania has continued to perfect his technique in multiple mediums. With a variety of interests and skill in Oil Painting, Batik, Pencil, Charcoal, Mazes (as artwork), Pen and Ink, Sidewalk Painting, and now Watercolor. With his background as an Engineer by trade, most of his work is very detailed and precise. Now that his children are grown he has returned to art with displays at Michigan studios.

His 2017 "Navigating the Calder" was his first entry into Art Prize and was both a pencil drawing of the Calder in Grand Rapids and a solvable maze and a perfect combination his engineering abilities with his artistic skills. He has produced several artwork mazes including New Mexico architecture and the Michigan Upper Peninsula map.

He has branched out to sidewalk chalk drawings where he won First Prize at the 2019 St. Johns Michigan "Chalk It Up" event. He was chosen as a finalist in 2018 and 2019 for his charcoal and batik renderings of the Old Mission Peninsula lighthouse for the "Friends of Mission Peninsula Lighthouse."



A Ride For



Every Season.



Kalamazoo



President's Award: Naybi Hernandez, *Go For It*

"I am a small artist / teacher. I have always had a passion for the arts, and I love being able to share it."

