

## Art for Land's Sake 2022 – Inspired by Nature

### About the Jurors:

Juror #1

#### **Laurie Nessel**

Member: Arizona Glass Alliance

B.S. 1978 University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Media: Stained glass, photography, oil painting, framework

Laurie Nessel made decorative stained glass for 25 years and was lead instructor of the glass studio at the Mesa Arts Center for 20 years. She currently works in her Tempe studio making glass beads that convey the struggles of the Anthropocene, highlighting endangered species and human rights. There is a Russian proverb, "If you're happy, you're not paying attention." Art can be a pleasant diversion or a brutal reality check. Nessel chooses the latter, for now, and finds endless subject matter.

She is currently in the 43rd Annual Contemporary Crafts exhibit (through 24 April 2022) at [Mesa Contemporary Arts Museum](#).

More of her work can be seen at [The Melting Point](#) gallery in Sedona, AZ.

[instagram.com/laurienessel/](https://www.instagram.com/laurienessel/)

[www.laurienessel.com](http://www.laurienessel.com)

Juror # 2

#### **A.H. Smith**

Media: Painting, mixed media, assemblage, drawing, sculpture, language arts

Art Smith says he "works to infuse unusual images into seemingly traditional landscapes. He is a storyteller who wants his paintings to set the stage for stories that involve the viewer... to look at more than once."

Smith taught high school art for 32 years at Moon Valley High School in Phoenix. Prior to that he worked for the Arizona Commission on the Arts as a writer/poet in their Artists in the Schools program and as a public artist with the federally funded Comprehensive Employment and Training Act. Through the Arizona Artists Guild he has taught art to veterans, elderly refugees, and young victims. He regularly serves as a juror for exhibits at the Guild. In the summer of 2017, he moved to Mt. Holly, New Jersey. He continues to make art and his work is shown in South Jersey galleries and in local group shows. Smith has begun his fourth year teaching a free class to veterans through the Medford, NJ Arts Center.

More information: <https://www.ahsmith.org/>

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