The Rivier College Art Gallery recently held a juried exhibition of student work. Juror Thomas Lyon Mills, artist and professor of art at Rhode Island School of Design, selected works by 23 students.

“In the world of art, juried shows and competitions offer artists a way to engage in appropriate dialog about each other’s work. It’s a healthy thing for the artist, but can be a difficult process,” says Sr. Theresa Couture, Director of the Rivier College Art Gallery.

According to Couture, the three awards presented at a reception in February 2007 gave other people an opportunity to provide comment and encouragement to the artists as well.

The Rivier Fine Arts Society funded the People’s Choice Award, which went to Eva Ilg’08 for her painting “Encompassing Beauty.” Four other entries earned special recognition in this category: the photo “Shadow Figure” by Elizabeth Hamblett’07, the letterform design “World of Texture” by Denisse Joniaux’08, the painting “In Ruin” by Rain Couture’08 and the painting “Fall of Man” by John Stein’07.

Hamblett received the Art Faculty Award, sponsored by Rivier’s full-time and part-time art faculty. She was honored for her photograph “Shadow Figure” and the print “Figure.” The faculty also gave special recognition to Stein for his painting “Fall of Man,” and his painting “Angel of Ezekiel” was recognized with the Juror’s Award.

The students agree that the show offers a good representation of the work Rivier art majors are producing. “Being part of a juried show is a really good opportunity,” said Rain Couture. “It’s something that can go on our résumés.”

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