Artists possess a powerful tool to evoke social change. Without uttering a single word, they can enlighten, educate and effect change around the world. Embracing Our Differences invites you to participate in creating a society where diversity is embraced and individuality is celebrated. Become a part of this change by submitting your original art to Embracing Our Differences and its annual international outdoor juried art exhibit featuring 45 billboard-size images measuring 16 feet (5m) wide by 12.5 feet (4m) high. Each work of art is created by local, national and international artists reflecting their interpretation of our theme “enriching lives through diversity.”

The exhibit is displayed during April and May each year in Island Park along Sarasota’s bayfront in Southwest Florida. Since 2004 the exhibit has hosted over 3,000,000 visitors plus another 360,000 students for a very unique opportunity to experience the importance of diversity in our lives.
**WHO MAY ENTER?**

Artists, photographers, professionals, amateurs, students — everyone can participate. National and international submissions are encouraged. There is **no submission fee**.

**WHAT IS THE THEME?**

Artists are asked to submit their interpretation of the theme “**enriching lives through diversity**.”

**WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA?**

Your submission must be an original concept and execution and is not a copy or reproduction of the work of another. Final selections for inclusion will be made by a three-judge panel of art professionals based on artistic excellence and originality in reflection of our theme “**enriching lives through diversity**.”

**CASH AWARDS**

$3,000 (US) will be presented in the form of three separate awards — $1,000 each for “Best-in-Show Adult;” “Best-in-Show Student;” and the “People’s Choice” award.

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From left: “Outside” by Irina Bochenkova, Russia; “Kate’s Changing the World” by Judith Carlin, USA; “Different, but as One” by Azarakhsh Farahani, Iran