



## JOE CELLA MEMORIAL AWARD: THE 'BIRDS IN NATURE' ART SHOW

201 U . th to March

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Annual competition for the Joe Cella Memorial Award is open to all AGPI members for their original works of birds in nature either native or migratory to the Florida Keys. (Parrots, chickens and domestic fowl are not appropriate for this category). The Art Show is limited to fine art paintings, photography and sculpture.

Here are a few Important Reminders & Information:

- All member's are limited to one piece, the maximum size of a 110 United Inches.
- No hanging entry can weigh more than 10 lbs.
- All artists are required to sign an "Artist Agreement" to participate in the show.
- Ocean Sotheby's will be entitled to receive a forty percent (40%) commission for the sale of any "consigned" works.

**Purple Isles Art Guild Member : JOE CELLA**



Joe Cella (1936-1993) was a well-known and respected artist who specialized in woodcarvings of birds in nature in a wildlife setting. He was born in 1936 in Long Island, New York, in a home that his grandfather built. He became an apprentice for a furniture maker when he was a teenager, attended college and became an industrial arts teacher teaching shop and wood working to high school students. Joe was a member of The Long Island Woodcarvers Association for many years.

When he retired to the Florida Keys, Joe became a member of the Art Guild of the Purple Isles where he continued his love of art with full time carving of birds found in our natural surroundings. He was recognized nationally for his carvings; most known for carefully staining each piece so that the natural wood grain could show through. Joe was a wonderful gentleman as well as an outstanding artisan. You may view one of his birds, a beautiful "EGRET", which is on permanent display at the Key Largo Public Library in the Trade Winds Plaza MM 101.4

He passed away in 1993 and The Art Guild of the Purple Isles has been continuing his passion for birds by dedicating this annual art show to his memory where AGPI artists are invited to depict in various mediums only indigenous or migratory birds to Florida.