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The Envelope Please ...

The Winner of the Gloucester400™ Commemorative Medal Design Competition Will Be Announced at Gloucester's City Council Meeting, February 25th

Gloucester, MA – February 12, 2020 – The judges have arrived, the finalists have submitted their entries, and all is in readiness for the selection of Gloucester's 400th anniversary commemorative medal design this week.

The competition that kicked off one year ago is now down to its final stage. Safely stored in a secure location are the bas relief plaster castings of the three finalists' designs that were selected in October 2019. Those artists, now awaiting the judges' decision, are:

- Alexis Chipperini, of Brighton, MA for "Call of the Storm"
- Beth Swan of Gloucester, MA for "Out at Sea"
- Shannon Wilkins of Portland, ME for "Gloucester: America's Oldest Seaport"

By the end of the day on February 13th, the distinguished judging panel (*see February 3, 2020 announcement*) will have reviewed the castings, selected a winner, and sealed their decision in an envelope to be opened on February 25th at 7:00 p.m. as the first agenda item of Gloucester's City Council meeting. All three artists have been invited to attend "the big reveal" and, as always, members of the public are welcome.

The successful design announced on the 25th will be minted as the city's official medallion representing Gloucester's 400th anniversary. The commemorative medal will be minted in bronze and silver versions for purchase by Gloucester residents, collectors, and numismatists worldwide. Gloucester400 organizers expect to make an announcement about opportunities to pre-purchase medals in the coming weeks.

"This competition has been a wonderfully rewarding process," said Ruth Pino, tri-chairperson of the Gloucester400™ steering committee. "From our first call for design submissions to this week's final judging, the response from the public, the artistic community, Gloucester businesses, and our city government has been overwhelmingly supportive and positive. I think we can all agree that the Gloucester400 commemorative medal will have special significance for all of us and represent the people and heritage of Gloucester beautifully."

Gloucester's 400th Anniversary: "Our People, Our Stories™"

Gloucester, Massachusetts, America's oldest seaport, will be "400 years young" in 2023. To celebrate its past, honor its people, and welcome its promising future, the city has begun preparations for celebrating this historic milestone and organizing the year-long celebration of its anniversary. The theme of the quadricentennial is *Gloucester: Our People, Our Stories™* and focuses on celebrating Gloucester's history through the stories of the people who lived, sacrificed, rejoiced, worked, built, and innovated together – at times risking everything -- since 1623. Gloucester Celebration Corporation is the organization established to guide the efforts to create a momentous city-wide celebration among its people and businesses and facilitate an exceptional year of festivities.

To provide the latest information about Gloucester400's many activities and opportunities, Gloucester Celebration Corporation has launched a website that will be continuously updated with news, fun, and useful information. Visit www.gloucesterma400.org for more information.

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