



Sarasota Shell Club's 61st Annual Shell Show

February 7-8, 2025

Major and Special Awards

Entries in each category are eligible for First Place (Blue), and Second Place (Red) ribbons. All ribbons and trophies will be awarded only if the judges determine that such awards are warranted. Decisions of the judges will be final.

No exhibitors are allowed on the exhibit floor while judging is being conducted at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 6

MAJOR SCIENTIFIC AWARDS

1. **Mote Gold Trophy:** will be awarded only to an exhibit of mollusks that has previously won a major award at any shell show. Major awards for this consideration are: American Museum of Natural History, Conchologists of America, DuPont and the Smithsonian trophies. This exhibit should show excellence in malacological science, education and public outreach. It may not be won by the same exhibitor in consecutive years. The Mote Gold Trophy may be awarded from any category.
2. **DuPont Trophy:** will be presented by the Delaware Museum of Natural History for the most outstanding scientific exhibit at the Shell Show. It is given to the person or group responsible for the exhibit of mollusks which has contributed most to the success of the show and which will be the most instructive or inspiring to visitors because of the attractiveness, educational value and scientific accuracy. (Commercial shell dealers or professional malacologists are not eligible for this award).
3. **Conchologists of America Trophy:** will be presented by the COA to the exhibit of mollusks that the judges determine shows excellence and best furthers interest in shells and shell collecting. It may be given only to a blue-ribbon winning exhibit that has not been awarded another major award in the present show. (Shell dealers are not eligible for this trophy unless their exhibit is of self-collected shells).

SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC AWARDS

4. **Sarasota Shell Club Members Award:** will be awarded to the best scientific exhibit entered by a Sarasota Shell Club member that has not won another major trophy in the present show. This trophy may not be awarded to the same exhibitor in consecutive years.
5. **Best Self-Collected Exhibit Award :** will be awarded to the best exhibit of self-collected shells (in any category) that has not won another major trophy in the present show.
6. **Best Small Scientific Exhibit Award:** will be awarded to the best scientific exhibit (maximum length of 12 feet) that has not won another major trophy in the present show.
7. **The Charles and Violet Hertweck Fossil Award:** will be awarded to the best fossil exhibit.
8. **The Robert and Jo Ann Morrison Young Scientist Award:** will be given at the judges' discretion for the best entry in any scientific category for an entrant who has not reached their 21st birthday as of the day of judging. The recipient also receives a full family membership in The Sarasota Shell Club for the balance of the year this award is given and for the following year.
9. **The Peggy Williams Award:** will be awarded to a self-collected Florida/Caribbean (fossil or recent) exhibit.

MAJOR ARTISTIC AWARDS: will be awarded to Blue ribbon winners only

- A. **The Fran Schlusemann Best of Shell Flower Art:** from Artistic Category 1 made with shells or sea life.
- B. **Best of Art with Shell Motif:** from Artistic Category 1. Art of any medium, even if not created by the exhibitor.
- C. **The June Bailey Best of Member's Art:** From Artistic Category 1 made by a Sarasota Shell Club Member.
- D. **Donna and Tom Cassin Award:** From Artistic Category 1. Most creative in the Artistic Entry.
- E. **Nancy and Armand Marini Award:** From Artistic Category 1. Most unique use of fossil shells.
- F. **Best Miniature Award:** For the best miniature Artistic creation.
- G. **Donna and David Timmermann Best of Commercial/Professional Art Award:** given to the best artistic exhibit in Category 2.

SPECIAL AWARDS: Rosettes will be awarded for:

- A. **Shell of the Show** (from any Scientific non-fossil exhibit in the show except dealer Educational).
- B. **Shell of Show—Self-Collected:** (from any Scientific exhibit) The shell should be designated with a star if included in an exhibit of not wholly self-collected shells.
- C. **Fossil Shell of the Show:** (from any exhibit in the show)
- D. **Most Beautiful Exhibit:** One award by the Shell Artistic Judges to the most beautiful scientific exhibit.
- E. **Judges Special Merit Awards:** Each judge may award one at their discretion to any exhibit that did not win a trophy.
- F. **People's Choice Awards:** by popular ballot vote of the Show's attendees. One award in the Artistic and one in the Scientific categories.