Heather Friedli is best known for her contemporary impressionist oil paintings, depicting her family heritage and the land in which she lives. Bold brush strokes and brilliant colors light up scenes of cloudscapes, water, and native flora. Many pieces are created in the context of her wilderness adventures; she often brings her paints outdoors to create work that shares with the viewer her experience of immersion in the landscape.

Heather Friedli was born in Los Angeles, CA in 1982. She received a Bachelor of Fine Art from the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) in 2005. In 2010 Heather thru-hiked the Appalachian Trail which upon completion inspired her to continue her work as an artist concentrating on painting the natural world.

She currently is enjoying life in Saint Paul with her husband Ben and sons Orion and Sirius.

purchase award

Each year, a generous sponsor donates $5,000 to the Austin ArtWorks Festival Purchase Award. The sponsors then choose one piece of work as the winner of the Purchase Award. The funds allow Austin Area Arts to purchase the awarded work which is then displayed at a community location. Currently 16 pieces of Purchase-Award-winning art are on display at seven community locations.

In 2023, our Purchase Award donors are Bonnie and Tim Rietz.

In 2022, donors Randy and Wendy Kramer selected “Wolf Creek Falls” by Fiore Designs - Andy Fiore. It is now on display at the Town Center Building.