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Hansen Mulford, *Wetlands*, 2024, Oil on canvas, 16 x 32, Courtesy of Andrea and Michael Kalis

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**September 9, 2026**

**CREALDÉ SCHOOL OF ART PRESENTS PANORAMIC LIGHT: THE ART OF HANSEN MULFORD**

Hansen Mulford captures Florida through sweeping landscapes, dramatic skies and the ever-changing effects of light

WINTER PARK, Fla. — Crealdé School of Art presents *Panoramic Light: The Art of Hansen Mulford*, a solo exhibition of paintings and drawings inspired by the distinctive landscapes, light and atmosphere of Florida. On view October 16 through December 12, 2026, the exhibition opens with a free public reception Friday, October 16, from 7–9 p.m.

A lifelong Floridian, Mulford has spent decades observing the state's coastlines, wetlands, rivers and prairies, finding inspiration in both expansive natural environments and scenes encountered in everyday life. Throughout the exhibition, Florida's brilliant and ever-changing sky emerges as a defining presence, transforming everything from an unspoiled lake to an ordinary parking lot.

"I have painted many different types of environments here, but the real subject of my paintings is light and space," Mulford said. "I love the sensation of gazing across sweeping vistas and watching the changing drama of sun and clouds in the sky above."

Mulford is also widely recognized for his 40-year tenure as Chief Curator at the Orlando Museum of Art, where he played an important role in developing exhibitions and collections and became a significant figure in Central Florida's visual arts community. His decades of studying American art, particularly the history of landscape painting, have deeply informed his own artistic practice. *Panoramic Light* offers audiences an opportunity to experience another dimension of Mulford's contribution to the arts: his own sustained practice as a painter.

"Every painter must answer such questions as what to paint, what can sustain interest over time, and what the work says," Mulford said. "For me, the answer has been Florida's diverse environments and my fascination with the history of American landscape painting. My work reflects a deep affection for this place where I have lived for more than 60 years."

That fascination connects Mulford to a long tradition of American landscape painting, from the Hudson River School through generations of artists who have interpreted the nation through its regional landscapes. He is particularly drawn to the 19th-century Luminist tradition and the work of Martin Johnson Heade, whose Florida landscapes are known for their expansive horizons and extraordinary effects of light.

Working in his studio from photographs, drawings, memories and imagination, Mulford creates panoramic compositions that may combine landscapes and skies observed at different times and places. Rather than literal depictions of a single location, the resulting works bring land, atmosphere and light together to evoke the experience and emotional resonance of a place.

Among the works featured is *Puzzle Lake*, 2026, inspired by the St. Johns River landscape. Sunlight breaks through summer storm clouds and reflects across the glassy surface of the water, while floating vegetation leads the eye toward a distant horizon, emphasizing the painting's vast, light-filled space.

Other works bring people and everyday life into Mulford's exploration of place and memory. *A1A*, 2024, recalls an earlier era of Florida beachgoing; *Costco*, 2025, transforms an

ordinary parking lot through the intense glare of the Florida sun; and the charcoal drawing *Drifting*, 2025, captures Mulford's young son floating along Rock Springs Run.

"Hansen is an exceptional artist with a remarkable ability to capture the light, atmosphere and sense of place that make Florida so distinctive," said Emily Bourmas-Fry, Executive Director and CEO of Crealdé School of Art. "*Panoramic Light* brings together a deeply personal body of work shaped by a lifetime of observing this landscape. There is something both familiar and extraordinary in these paintings, inviting us to see the places we know with fresh eyes."

For Mulford, presenting the exhibition at Crealdé also carries personal significance.

"I am delighted to present this survey of my recent work and a few favorites from the past at Crealdé School of Art," Mulford said. "I have had a decades-long connection with this institution, which has served our community through art education programs for people of all ages and has provided opportunities for some of the best artists in Central Florida to teach classes and exhibit their work."

## EXHIBITION DETAILS

Panoramic Light: The Art of Hansen Mulford

October 16–December 12, 2026

Opening Reception

Friday, October 16, 2026

7–9 p.m.

Crealdé School of Art

600 St. Andrews Blvd.

Winter Park, FL 32792

The exhibition and opening reception are free and open to the public.

## ABOUT CREALDÉ SCHOOL OF ART

Established in 1975, Crealdé School of Art is a nonprofit arts organization offering year-round visual arts education, exhibitions and community-based programming. From its main campus in Winter Park and the Hannibal Square Heritage Center, Crealdé provides opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to engage with the visual arts while supporting artists and preserving the cultural stories of Central Florida.

## PRESS MATERIALS

[Click here for high-resolution images and exhibition checklist.](#)

## MEDIA CONTACT

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[crealde.org](http://crealde.org)

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