

Japanese art workshop set for March 1

By LORRAINE McCLISH

George and Mary Bowman begin a new workshop on Japanese Art and Culture in Southfield's Adlai Stevenson Elementary School beginning March 1 and continuing on Wednesdays.

"The workshop can be taken for three hours of graduate credit, or by those who just like, or want to learn about, Japanese things," Mrs. Bowman said.

She is owner of Sumi-e Studio in Farmington Hills and teaches Japanese brush painting, flower arranging, calligraphy, tea ceremony, history, cooking and culture with her husband in the three hour, once a week class. In addition to class work, students participate in two field trips.

Credits come from Central Michigan University. Southfield teachers and staff members who sign up for the course can apply for tuition reimbursement by contacting Jim Hildebrand in the Southfield Education Center. Cost for the course is \$40 per credit hour, plus a \$12 lab fee.

MRS. BOWMAN graduated from Antioch College, in Ohio, with a degree in fine arts and studied sumi-e (the Japanese style of brush painting) in Japan for one year under Beika Inada, a well-known artist in Wakayama Prefecture. She has returned regularly each three years since then to do refresher work.

In off hours on her trips, she has taken flower arranging classes, was tutored in kaisho style calligraphy, the uransenke tea ceremony and Japanese cooking.

"I do pretty well with the language, too," she says. Her husband has accompanied her on some of her trips, and the two are now planning another one, when they will live Japanese-style, this summer.

She teaches sumi-e in Farmington Community Center and regularly gives programs on the art, Japanese flower arranging or the tea ceremony to art associations, garden clubs, churches, schools and other groups.

Her work can be seen at many area exhibits, and her line of note paper is available at "Happiness Is," at Eleven Mile and Middlebelt in Farmington Hills.

"THE ANCIENT Japanese style of sumi-e is one of mood painting in a brief time span," she explains.

"It is usually done with a simple asymmetrical composition using various dilutions of Japanese black ink with a feather-light bamboo-handled brush on the sensitive rice paper."

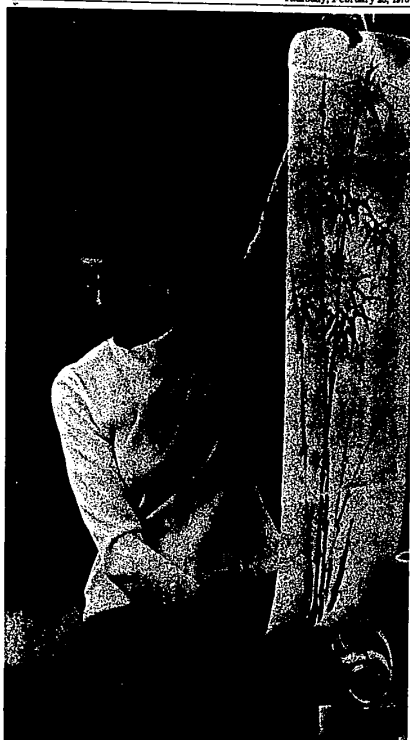
It is a Zen Buddhist art, rooted in the subconscious and the beauty found here and now.

"Expressing personal creativeness is possible with less training in sumi-e than in Western painting techniques," she said.

Adlai Stevenson Elementary School is located at 2777 Lahser, between Eleven and Twelve Mile.

Enrollment can be made by sending a deposit of \$12 to: George and Mary Bowman, 2823 Ridgebrook, Farmington Hills, 48018.

The couple will take inquiries by calling them at 553-4509.



Mary Bowman exhibits one of her works of art.

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