

The lively needle

Stitchers' shows increase

By MARY KAY DAVIS
Embroidery is being recognized more and more as a fine art. And keeping pace with this recognition is an upsurge in the number of embroidery shows being staged.

These shows are of different varieties and if an embroiderer hasn't had much experience in the world of galleries and exhibits, the scene can be confusing. Here's an attempt to make sense of it all.

Shows are highly individual affairs, but they fall into three basic categories: invitational, juried, and open. Invitational shows happen when you're very well-known. A show committee will approach the artist, saying, "Pablo, may we please have five of your works?" If Pablo says yes, the choice is his and whatever he sends is exhibited. There is, of course, no prize money involved.

Juried shows are what most professional artists enter. The jury decides which of your works will be accepted and this can happen in one of several ways. The jurors may be so familiar with your work (if you're famous, it's called your "oeuvre") that they smile and murmur, "Send us five pieces, please."

Most of us have to submit colored slides of our works, from which all, some, or none will be chosen. In some cases where it is possible, the jurors may come to your studio, look at the

goodies therein and choose what they wish.

MOST JURIED shows give monetary prizes of one sort or another. This is what attracts professional artists to them. Such shows feature prize money, purchase awards, or both. Purchase awards are usually paid by museums or galleries who give you your asking price and include your work in their permanent collection. This is a consummation devoutly to be wished.

Some works, entered in juried shows are for sale. These are priced by the artist and, if sold during the period of the show, he or she may be charged a commission by the gallery conducting the exhibit. Therefore prices at a show may be higher than those at the artist's studio, but then again, they may not.

The third category is the open show. Anyone can enter and the judging is done after the show is hung and not before. Open shows are often much larger than juried shows (one reason for jurying a show is to keep the number of entries in line with the gallery's wall space).

Prizes are awarded in open shows, but money is rarely involved. This is the category for the first timer to enter. You'll have the fun of competition without losing your amateur status.

RECENT EXAMPLES of the three kinds of embroidery shows are:

Invitational—"Embroidery Through the Ages" at New York's Cooper-Hewitt Museum now; Juried—"Needle Expressions" NSCAE's 1978 show to be held in Grand Rapids, Dec. 12-Jan. 7; Open—"Needlework 1978," to be held Sept. 29 through Oct. 1 at the Avon Township Library in Rochester, under the sponsorship of the Rochester Chapter of the Embroiderers' Guild.

If you'd like to enter the Rochester show, information and entry blanks are available at most needlework shops. The entry deadline is Aug. 28, and work will be received Sept. 9, so cancel that tennis game and get stitching!

Even if you don't want to enter, mark the show dates on your calendar.



By
MARY
KAY
DAVIS

You'll learn more from looking at an open show than from any other experience I know.

Disco dance will fight dystrophy

A "Disco for Dystrophy" is scheduled 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Friday, Aug. 18, at Roma's of Bloomfield, 2101 S. Telegraph, under sponsorship of Seven-Eleven Food Stores and the Southland Corp.

All proceeds from the event, which features a disco dance contest, will be donated to the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA).

The disco is one of many events in the Southland 1978 campaign to raise \$175,000 locally for the Jerry Lewis Labor Day MDA Telethon.

The evening will feature prizes and disco lessons from professional dancers.

Tickets are available at all Seven-Eleven stores in the Detroit area. Admission will be a \$5 donation, and guests must be 18 years or older to attend. For more information, call 648-1711.

The Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon runs from 9 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 3, through 6:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 4 and will be televised in the Detroit area.

Volunteers

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau, a program of the Volunteer Action Center of United Community Services, has weekly listings of agencies needing volunteer services. Further information about these and over 200 agencies may be obtained by calling the bureau, 642-7272. Any non-profit agencies needing volunteer assistance may also call the bureau.

HANDYMAN—Minor carpentry skills are needed at Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency to build shelves and racks for emergency clothing closet at their Pontiac-Waterford outreach office. Hours can be flexible for the volunteer.

CLOTHES CLOSET HELPERS—Volunteer help is needed at Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency in their clothes closet outreach office in Pontiac-Waterford. Sorters are needed to sort and maintain general order of clothing and shoes. A few hours a

week would enable the closet to remain open for people to come in and pick up much needed apparel for themselves and children.

CLERKS—Teens and adults can assist handicapped people at Michigan Handicrafters, Inc., in Rochester. This organization operates a store by selling articles made by the handicapped. Volunteer duties would involve assisting the handicapped to maintain their operation by performing simple duties that might prove difficult for them such as reaching for items, wrapping articles or figuring items. Hours are one day a week, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

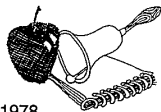
ANIMAL CARE AIDE AND HANDYMAN—Teens and adults are urgently needed by Michigan Animal Rescue League of Pontiac to care for animals housed there. Duties include brushing and cleaning the animals. Men are needed to help with maintenance around the grounds and building.

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