

Kidd Gallery shows a friendly atmosphere

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KIDD AND Fleming decided to reverse the old rule about gallery space being one-third for exhibition and two-thirds for storage.

"I realized there were a lot of limitations (with the rule)," Fleming said. "There was no place to show other artists. What an artist really wants is as much visual exposure as they can (get)."

Now an upper level and a back room besides the lower level show different artists at the same time.

"That way we could give the maximum exposure to the most artists."

Another strength comes from Fleming's background as a teacher and an artist, he said. This enables him to discuss works with artists and in turn, explain them to the clients.

THE GALLERY is interested in new as well as established artists, Fleming said.

"Other galleries have a limited stable of artists, a limited point of view. Another thing that we do quite different is a very open and eclectic point of view."

"To me that's innovative and very exciting. Our outlook is not narrow but very open. We were one of the first to show glass and ceramics as art, not as craft but as sculpture."

Submitted art is judged by the craftsmanship and whether it makes the viewer "feel good, gives you energy."

"A piece can be very well done, very innovative but unfortunately boring."

BUNNING THE gallery has been anything but boring. An example took place in 1983 with a reception for John Chamberlain, who makes sculpture out of crushed auto parts. His art drew a "riotous" reaction in

the Detroit area, Fleming said.

Many of the Detroit viewers were so familiar with cars, they would point to Chamberlain's work and identify the parts ("That's an L-44 trunk lid") the way a painter might point to a canvas and identify a color ("That's cadmium red light").

This so exasperated the artist that at one point he walked away from one such commentator. ("That guy can't see anything," the artist said.) Another opening to show paintings of Roy Slade, who was at that time new in his position at Cranbrook, drew such a crowd that they spilled into the street and cars couldn't get through.

"People came by and thought there was a fire or a robbery," Fleming said. "I said, 'No fire, no robbery, just Roy Slade.'"

"That's one of the fun things, is everything is so unpredictable."

"Sometimes I think every day is Christmas. Today two artists brought in works. You go, 'Oh, wow, look at this!' It's exciting."

THIS AREA has a "very good" reputation for art, boosted by the Cranbrook Academy of Art and Wayne State University, Fleming said.

"We're one of the key art centers in the Midwest. Our gallery scene is very comparable to Chicago's."

Fleming also relishes the excitement art can generate in someone who never thought about it before.

"Art is really for everybody. It's like having another person in your house. Every piece of art has its own personality."

Gallery hours are 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Call 642-3909.



Kozlow exhibit

Widely recognized artist Richard Kozlow of Birmingham continues his one-person show of paintings at the Rubiner Gallery, 7001 Orchard Lake Road, Suite 430A in West Bloomfield, through Nov. 30. The exhibition marks the 40th anniversary of Kozlow's first one-person show at the Detroit Artist's Market. The collection features his favorite subject, the landscape. His oil paintings are lush, mystical statements that afford the

viewer memorable images of nature's wonder. This year, a major exhibition of Kozlow's work took place in Mexico, sponsored by the Mexican government's Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes. It traveled throughout that country and was enthusiastically received. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Call 826-3111.

Cards add dimension

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Withers prefers 90-pound watercolor paper. Off-white is the color he likes best for the cards.

"It's a real chore finding the right paper. (Ninety-pound watercolor paper) is real sturdy and the color is real good, the quality is real good."

Crafters set for holiday event

Linda Steneel of Birmingham and Cru Oleinick of West Bloomfield are among the crafters participating in the Christmas Craft Gallery Country and Victorian Craft Show on Sunday, Nov. 24.

The event will take place 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Rott's of Garden City, 32550 Cherry Hill, just east of Vegy. Admission is \$2, free for children under 12. Call 274-7076 for information.

"I like the white on white." With some designs, "the play of light and dark is just really captivating."

HE ENJOYS the reaction the cards spark in the recipients.

"What was fun for me also was doing everything. I take pride in the fact that it's all mine."

Newly renovated Paint Creek Center plans gala

Come see the hot art spot in downtown Rochester: the just-renovated Paint Creek Center for the Arts at 407 Pine.

Join the festivities at a gala Renovation Celebration 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24. Check out what's new at this special PCCA party featuring music, refreshments and door prizes. Admission is free.

Partygoers will enter the PCCA facility through new exterior doors. On the first level they can browse

and shop for original gifts by 40 Michigan artists in the center's Holiday Gift Gallery.

VISITORS CAN also view recent paintings by Karen Hanson in the Artspace Galleries and admire artwork of PCCA students — young and old — in the North Studio.

A special ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place at 2 p.m., with PCCA board president John Cadieux, renovation architect John Dziurman of Giffels Consultants of Southfield,

general contractor Bob Dolmage of RCD Associates of Rochester, and city officials of Rochester Hills and Rochester.

THE \$60,000 renovation of the art center's facilities in historic Avon Township Hall was jointly financed by the Greater Rochester Area Community Foundation, the city of Rochester Hills, PCCA members and friends.

Insty Prints of Rochester contrib-

uted the printing of the Renovation Celebration announcements, and Red Wagon Wine Shoppe of Rochester donated champagne for the open house.

Sandra Braden, Barbara Corbett and Bridget Wilde, all of Rochester, are the volunteer co-chairs of the special event.

For more information, call the PCCA at 651-4110.

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