

FRIDAY



Detroit Symphony Orchestra opens their Christmas Festival with the Vienna Choir Boys at Orchestra Hall. Call (313) 833-3700 for tickets.

SATURDAY



Kenny Rogers presents "Christmas from the Heart" and performs your holiday favorites at the Fox. Call (810) 433-1515 for tickets.

SUNDAY



Mary Benson and John Patrick Laurie star in Meadow Brook Theatre's production of "A Christmas Carol." Call (810) 377-3300 for ticket information.



Hot tix: Donny Osmond stars in Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" at the Masonic Temple Theatre in Detroit. Call (810) 645-6666 for tickets.

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

WHAT TO DO, WHERE TO GO

KEELY WYGONIK, EDITOR • 313-953-2105

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1995 • PAGE 1 SECTION 2

Join the chorus of holiday concerts



Rehearsing: Members of the Southfield Symphony Orchestra rehearse for their holiday concert, "An Afternoon in Vienna," on Sunday, Dec. 17.

This holiday season will be filled with "Silent Night," "Chestnuts Roasting on an open fire," and "Silver Bells."

Music is an important part of the Christmas celebration. Local bands and orchestras will present some of those "Yuletide Carols," at these upcoming concerts.

The Madrigal Chorus of Southfield will present an evening of holiday choral music, including the "Ceremony of Colors" by Benjamin Britten, narrated by Lewis Dahle Von Schlanbusch, 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 1 at the Lutheran Church of the Abiding Presence, 1550 Walton Blvd., Rochester Hills. Tickets are \$5. Call (810) 661-0550.

On Saturday, Dec. 2 at 8 p.m. the chorus will present a concert at Old St. Mary's Church in Detroit's Greektown. Tickets are \$10, \$8 for students and seniors. Call (810) 445-0109.

Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra joins the Michigan Classic Ballet Company to present "The Nutcracker" 3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 2-3 at West Bloomfield High School Auditorium. Call (810) 661-4349 for ticket information.

The symphony will present its "Holiday Pops" concert 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17 at Temple El in Bloomfield Hills. Call (810) 645-BBSO for tickets.

Seven local church choirs will perform at a community Christmas choral concert sponsored by the Rochester Tuesday Musicals, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3 at St. Andrew Church, 1400 Ingleside, Rochester. There is no admission charge, but a free-will offering will be taken. Call (810) 651-1742 or (810) 651-8988 for information.

Detroit Chamber Winds popular "Holiday Brass" concert will be presented Dec. 3 at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Grosse Pointe Farms and Dec. 10 at Christ Church Cranbrook. Both performances are at 3 p.m.

The ensemble will perform a variety of works spanning four centuries of brass music. There will be several holiday sing-alongs. Tickets are \$18, \$14 for senior citizens and students. Call (810) 362-2622.

A Christmas Celebration is the title of the selection that will be performed by the Birmingham Concert Band with the choir and organist of the Redeemer Lutheran Church 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 3 at the church, 1800 W. Maple Road, (west of Chesterfield) Birmingham. The band will perform a variety of winter and holiday selections including Leroy Anderson's "Sleigh Ride." There is no admission charge, but donations to the band's Interlochen Scholarship Fund are encouraged.

Oakland University Community Chorus presents its 30th annual Christmas concert 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8 in Varner Recital Hall on campus, near Rochester. Tickets \$8; \$5 seniors, \$5 students. Call (810) 370-3013 for information.

Cantata! an a cappella singing group presents an evening of traditional "Christmas Songs & Carols" at the Episcopal Church of the Advent, 3325 Middlebelt Road, Orchard Lake, 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 8-9. Seasonal desserts

and coffee will be served. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. Call (810) 642-2530.

Lyric Chamber Ensemble's annual holiday concert, "Musical Christmas Tales" is an event for the whole family. It will take place 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8 at Grosse Pointe Memorial Church, 10 Lakeshore Dr. Call (810) 307-1111 for tickets.

Celebrating its fifth anniversary, Detroit Oratorio Society, with The Detroit Chamber Winds, will perform "Messiah" 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 at First United Methodist Church of Birmingham, 1589 W. Maple Road. Tickets \$18 general, \$25 reserved, \$10 students. Call (810) 650-2655.

Enjoy an afternoon of classical and holiday music with the Michigan Flute Orchestra 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 in the Atrium of the Prudential Town Center (4000 TownCenter) in Southfield. Tickets \$5 available at the door or in advance by calling (810) 424-9022.

The Southfield Symphony Orchestra will present "An Afternoon in Vienna" 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 17 at the Southfield Pavilion. Guest soloists are DSO cellist Debra Fayroian, soprano Jennifer Roberts; and The Women's Chorus of the Japanese Society of Detroit. The concert will include selections by Suppe, Boccherini, Pergolesi, Bach, Bizet, and Berlin, for ticket information, call (810) 424-9022.

Farmington Community Band will perform its annual holiday concert 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 in the Harrison High School Auditorium on 12 Mile Road (between Middlebelt and Orchard Lake Roads), Farmington Hills. Titled "Holiday Collage" the concert will include holiday classics featuring the Farmington Concert Band and Jazz Band and several small instrumental ensembles. Tickets available at the door, call (313) 261-2202 or (810) 489-3412.

"Christmas Collage," a program at Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29887 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, 3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 10 will include choir, brass ensemble, handbell, and string orchestra performances with special guest "Mulligan Stew." Admission is \$3, plus a canned good for charity.

Cranbrook Music Guild will feature the Sutherland Ensemble at a holiday concert 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 12 in the library of Cranbrook House, 380 Lone Pine Road, corner of Cranbrook Road. The evening will include an afterglow in the Oak Room. Tickets \$20, student tickets also available. Call (810) 761-2435.

The Library of Cranbrook House is resplendent with holiday decorations. The Sutherland Ensemble is a Michigan chamber group, based in Ann Arbor. They are widely known and highly regarded for their programs of high Baroque and early classical works of music performed on period instruments.

Celebrate the Season with the Farmington Community Chorus 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Dec. 15-16 at Harrison High School in Farmington Hills. Tickets \$6 general admission, \$5 seniors and students. Call (810) 471-4515. This year the chorus is celebrating its 15th anniversary. Concert will include old favorites and some comical numbers.

Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association Holiday Sales Show

What: A juried art and craft show featuring more than 135 exhibitors.

When: Through Dec. 8. Hours are 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday, until 5 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

Where: 1518 South Cranbrook Road north of 14 Mile in Birmingham.

For information call (810) 644-0866.

New clay inspires artist

BY LINDA ANNI CHOMIN
SPECIAL WRITER

Warren Agee works with a new medium called polymer clay to craft jewelry and collectible boxes with an eye on designs of the future. Polymer clay, or Fimo as it's known by its brand name, is a man-made material resembling clay in its raw state. Once heated to 275 degrees F., polymer will take on the appearance of wood, plastic, metal and glass, depending upon the techniques used. Unlike clay, it like wood and metal. Agee works with polymer in much the same way as glass artists do when creating millefiori rods for bead making.

He layers long, thin canes of color to create patterned designs only revealed when the rods are sliced in

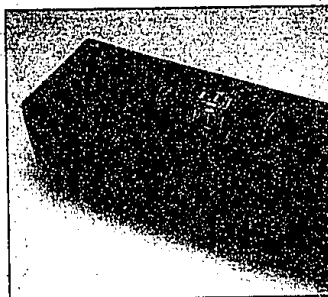
cross-sections.

"Since it's a new material, we use a lot of kitchen tools to work the clay. I use a kitchen processor to soften it up. A pasta machine rolls out thin sheets of it for making the boxes," said Agee, whose work is on display through Dec. 9 at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association Holiday Sales Show.

Polymer clay started about 20 or 30 years ago. It was originally used to make food placed in miniature doll-houses. Then artists started experimenting with it to make jewelry. It's a young material, so the possibilities are almost limitless."

Agee's architecture studies at Lawrence Technological University in

CLAY continued inside



Black Box: Agee flattens sheets of polymer clay with a manual pasta machine to make collectible boxes.

SPECIAL EVENT



Potters Market: The Oakland Community College Royal Oak Campus Potters Market draws crowds every year. The 20th annual event will take place this weekend.

Potters students learn how to market their craft

BY SURAN TAUBER
SPECIAL WRITER

Oakland Community College's Ceramic Technology program produces not only fine artists but also crafty businesspeople.

Students of the program based at the Royal Oak campus learn how to design and produce a variety of ceramic products. Then they participate in the annual Potters Market to learn how to market their wares.

The students benefit and so does the public. The public gets to shop at an all-ceramics show, featuring works by former and current OCC Ceramic Technology students.

This year's OCC Potters Market - the 20th - opens 7-9 p.m. today with a benefit preview and advance sale and continues through Sunday, Dec. 3. The show opens 10 a.m. Friday-Sunday and closes 8 p.m. Friday, 6 p.m. Saturday and 5 p.m.

Sunday. Admission is free.

The show is at the United Food and Commercial Workers Union Hall on Horace Brown Drive in Madison Heights. The hall is south of 13 Mile, east of Stephenson Highway.

Admission for this evening's benefit preview is \$10. Proceeds from the benefit and market support student technology purchases for OCC's Royal Oak and Southfield campuses.

Dee Wood of Bloomfield Hills is an 18-year veteran of the OCC Potters Market.

"It's a fantastic show," the potter said. "It's really well organized. The students handle every part of the show, from the kitchen to the cash register to runners and wrappers."

She explained the show operates differently from many others.

"Potters don't have individual booths. Each potter is allowed to only have 16 pieces on the floor at

one time. Once a piece is sold, another of that artist's pieces is placed on the floor."

A graduate of OCC's Ceramic Technology program, Wood is working in customer service during the market. This service helps customers find particular pieces they want either of a certain type or by a specific artist. With more than 150 advanced and former pottery students displaying their works at the show, Wood may be very busy.

Wood creates functional pottery and stoneware in her home studio.

"I make serving pieces, mugs, casseroles and soup tureens, for example."

Her style is to make pieces with a white glaze and paint the product with freestyle flowers and leaves with watercolors.

In addition to functional pottery and stoneware for sale, shoppers will find decorative and whimsical jewelry, porcelain, sculpture and raku pottery.