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larger works top \$6,000. For the average person, the lacquer master paints brooches, barrettes and napkin rings starting at \$8.

"It's very unique, very rare, with 30 coats of oil and 16 coats of lacquer," said Aranaoutova. "When you start doing something Rubens would do hundreds of years ago, it's rewarding to get three dimension with layer after layer of paint."

Stimulating environments

Norris Hardeman jokes that his job for Ford Motor Co. takes him to Minnesota in January and Arizona in August, not exactly ideal months. The Canton photographer takes advantage of these harsh environments, where he oversees the testing of cars, by shooting landscapes. He's bringing a variety of his landscapes to Art in the Park.

Dramatic images of a lone, leafless tree in the snow or craggy old tree in the desert relay emotions for the viewer to decipher.

"At a test facility in Yucca, Ariz., there's no life during the day," said Hardeman. "The desert comes to life at night with

owls and rabbits."

Hardeman's memories of being stuck in the snow may overshadow the Minnesota photographs but weather never detracts from his enjoyment of shooting Michigan scenes. He's shot over 50 images of lighthouses, one of his favorite subjects. To photograph them Hardeman must sometimes lug 60 pounds of equipment to a rocky site, but no matter. The destination is worth the trek.

"I try to find that unique perspective, what in this saying to me," said Hardeman. "Anyone can document. I want to find meaning in the subject. 'Alpine Twist' is a tree that's a work of art. The wind weathers them and they become gnarly. I'm able to see the raw, rugged beauty, when altitude testing (cars) at 14,000 feet, that few people can."

Hardeman admits to "practically sleep walking" for the early morning shots. He prefers sunsets himself unless he's photographing the Grand Canyon.

"When I'm standing on the edge of a cliff, my wife gets nervous," quips Hardeman. "But it's the experience of the big outdoors and nature. I like seeing what the Creator has put out there."

From the mouth of the artist

Will Pardee's violent collision 18 years ago with the bottom of the Muskegon River left him a quadriplegic. After the diving accident, his wife Sarah suggested he try drawing with a pencil adapted for his mouth. Today, Pardee travels to 30 art shows a year throughout the state of Michigan. He's bringing a variety of pencil and color pencil drawings of lighthouses, wildlife, country scenes, and an old Model T pickup to Art in the Park.

"The Lord gave me the talent but I never took an interest until then," said Pardee. "Now I meet a lot of really nice people and I like to minister while I'm doing the shows."

Pardee usually begins by drawing the nose of an animal. Then he lays out the eyes and creates a general outline before beginning to shade. Larger works take three to four months to complete, the 9-by-12-inch pieces two to three months.

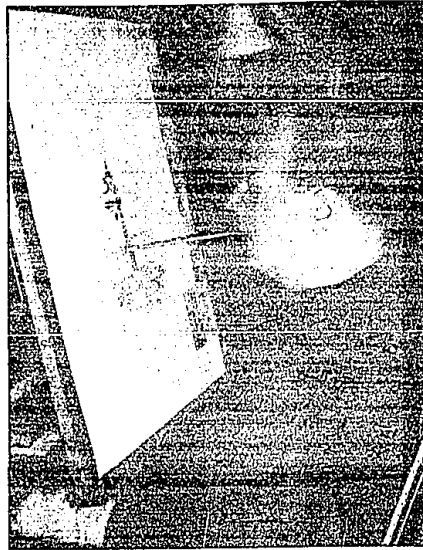
Quinn receives great satisfaction from giving artists like Pardee, who spend hundreds of hours creating their work, the opportunity to exhibit. The satisfaction of knowing that she's

helping artists is all Quinn needs to continue the massive task of producing Art in the Park. It's taken her and daughter Rachel a year to set up exhibitors, entertainment, vendors, and a tent for the mural to benefit C.S. Most Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor.

When the task of jurying artists applications is completed in early spring, Quinn is "ready for the fun part to begin." Coordinating the more than 60 volunteers, is gratifying, she said, "because every year there are more people who want to work."

Participating local artists

Among the local artists exhibiting in this year's Art in the Park are Tom LeGault, painting; Michael McCullough, wood block printer; Village Potters Guild; Ted Nelson, photography; Katherine Kidston Renberg, jewelry; Alicia Conger, ceramics; Joseph Wisniewski and Christine Fleischer, glass; Diane Dunn, tiles; Kathy Sandberg, ceramics; Sharon Dillenbeck, painting, and Robert Frateski, custom hand-forged iron designs including pot racks, tables and ranch signs.



Mouth stick art: Will Pardee creates lighthouses and animal drawings with pencils adapted for his mouth.

Conversations from page C1

Febbo taught at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center. Her work was exhibited at the Posner Gallery. Her gentle soul and pursuit of honest expression touched many people in the community.

Despite the hype and commercial success, 13-year-old Alexandra Nchita is firmly rooted. She is unmistakably an adolescent who is refreshingly humble.

Nchita's exhibit at the Peleg Gallery in West Bloomfield is interesting because of the questions it raises about the marketing of the prodigy as well as the quality of her art.

Congratulations to Brandi Pritchett of Bloomfield Hills, currently on a European tour with the Birmingham Bloomfield Cantata Academy.

Pritchett, 16, is a junior at Lahser High School. She is the youngest member of the group.

Special recognition to the Understudies, a group of 80 volunteers from throughout the area who raised more than \$2 million for the Wayne State Theatre Department since its incep-

tion 35 years ago. In May, the Understudies received the Arts in Service Award from the state of Michigan.

Courage Awards: To Mary Klemic, Stewart Francke and Noub Provenzano.

Klemic, the Art Home editor for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, and Francke, one of the area's most recognized songwriters, both battled serious health problems and have returned to work.

And, of course, to that remarkable 7 year old recovering from a vicious dog bite to his face for noting that "Things like this happen, dad. I'll get better."

Thanks for the inspiration. For now, a bon fire on the northern shore of Lake Michigan awaits. Time to focus on two thoughts: Is the sky actually closer and the stars brighter the farther north you go? And, why do people take "work" rather than "life" so seriously?

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ART BEAT

Art Beat features information about events, individuals and groups involved in arts and entertainment.

Send Oakland County arts news leads to Art Beat, Eccentric Newspapers, 806 E. Maple, Birmingham, Mich., 48009, fax (248) 644-1374.

TRIP TO GERMANY

The Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center is leading a tour of the art and architecture of Cologne and Berlin, Germany, Nov. 9-17. The new German Art and Architecture - Dynamic Future/Historical Past. Deposits for the trip are being taken now. Trip led by Russell and Nancy Thayer will concentrate on the renewal of building in the reunified Germany and include specially arranged artist studio and gallery visits, and trips to museums. Call (248) 644-0866 for more information.

Feast for your eyes

The Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center offers children an opportunity to "play with their food" in its summer art class, "A Feast for your Eyes," one of nearly 40 children's and teen art classes offered this summer at the center.

"A Feast for your Eyes," provides children in grades 1-3 the opportunity to work with a variety of materials as they create their interpretation of a yummy full-course meal made from paper-mâché, foam, fabric, plastic, paint and clay. The course runs 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday, July 7 through Aug. 11 at the BBAC, 1516 S. Cranbrook (Evergreen) at the northwest corner of 14 Mile Road. Call (248) 644-0866, Ext. 102 for more information about "A Feast for your Eyes," and other summer art classes for children and teens. The cost for "A Feast for your Eyes" is \$55 for members, \$70 for non-members, plus \$18 materials fee.

Jess Collins, a freelance art director who earned her bachelor of fine arts at the Center for Create Studies, will include instruction of the artist Claes Oldenburg whose work in the realm of soft sculpture inspired the creation of the class. Oldenburg creates larger than life size imitations of every day objects.

In the course students will experiment with mixed media and learn about what materials



Yummy burger: Kids can have fun playing with their food during "A Feast for your Eyes!" a summer class for children starting July 5 at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association. The hamburger and fries pictured here were created out of papier-mâché, foam and other materials.

will produce the ultimate effect they want for their artful meal. They will also learn how design makes a food presentation look delicious by using a variety of colors and textures.

After completing their meals, the children will send out dinner invitations for a gallery presentation.

New ceramics department

Under the direction of newly named department head and noted ceramic artist, Paul Young, the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center is introducing a completely revamped ceramics department with six new teachers and nearly 20 new classes.

The summer session of classes begins Monday, July 5. Young earned his art degree from Alfred University New York State College of Ceramics, and apprenticed with Michigan ceramic artist John Glick.

With the addition of six new teachers, the EBAC ceramics faculty now numbers eight. "We look forward to expanding involvement with the greater Michigan ceramics community including more active participation with the Michigan Potters Association and bringing in noted national artists for lecture demonstrations," Young said.

The ceramics department and its new classes are just part of a full roster of summer art classes

for all ages from preschoolers to advanced artists. For more information, call (248) 644-0866, Ext. 102.

The Bohemians Club

Herbert Couf of Farmington Hills, president of the Bohemians Club (also known as the Musicians Club of Greater Detroit) recently announced the winners of the second annual Solo Concerto Competition for orchestral instruments.

Mischa Lakirovich, an Ann Arbor student, won first prize (\$1,500), Jessica Lizak, a University of Michigan School of Music student won second prize (\$1,000) and James Marshall, a high school student from Jackson won third prize (\$500).

Lakirovich, 19, will enter his third year at the Juilliard School of Music in New York. Lizak, 21, will begin a graduate degree in music this fall at the University of Michigan after teaching flute at the Interlochen National Music Camp this summer. Marshall, 18, will attend Juilliard this fall.

Once a social club, the Bohemians Club mission has been redefined to one of ongoing commitment to music education and scholarship. "We believe," said Couf, former principal clarinetist of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, "through the participation of DSO teachers, the Bohemians and music professionals throughout Michigan, the

program will grow into a leading statewide music competition."

Judges for this year's competition included Couf and Felix Resnick, a DSO violinist and the conductor of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra. The Bohemians Club is one of the oldest musicians clubs of Detroit and is comprised of present and retired DSO members and music teachers throughout the greater Detroit area and music lovers of all backgrounds.

For more information about the club or the Solo Concerto Competition, call Herbert Couf, (248) 482-4234.

American Ballet Theatre

Dance students, 160 to be exact, are enjoying four weeks of intense dance instruction and some fun metro Detroit adventures. The students range in age from 13 to 18, and have had intermediate to advanced dance training.

The four week summer dance intensive is a collaborative project between American Ballet Theatre, the Detroit Opera House and Wayne State University. Thirty of the 160 students chosen to participate are from the metro Detroit area. Classes started June 28, and culminate in two final performances 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Friday, July 23 at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway. Tickets are \$10, call (313) 961-3500 for more information.

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