

Harrison 'gallery' shows well

BY TIM SMITH
STAFF WRITER
tsmith@oe.com

Who needs to go to a museum? Just make your own.

Harrison High School students did just that, recently unveiling a "Museum of Artifacts" featuring displays on everything from baroque art to Van Gogh to angels. All classrooms were invited to check out the 13 mini-museums Friday, April 23.

"They made a museum from scratch," said Harrison humanities teacher Laura Sparrow, proudly scanning the array of completed works.

Having been apparently inspired from a field trip in March to the Toledo Museum of Art, the teams of six students came through on short notice. Sparrow said they were given two weeks to create their 2-D table-top galleries, using the Internet and libraries as valuable resources.

"After being down there (in Toledo), they fell in love with how museums work," Sparrow said.

Students had the chance to spotlight whatever or whomever they wanted to. Junior Crystal Brahm and the others in her team were more than happy to focus on the tranquil art of Thomas Kinkade, in what they titled the "Painter of Light Museum."

"He has a different style of art that a lot of people don't know about," explained Crystal, a museum curator. "I want to

paint like him."

Teammate Amanda Cusac, also a junior and museum curator, likes his style so much that she's planning a Thomas Kinkade mural for her bedroom.

"The way he paints is amazing," she said. "His colors are amazing."

Bounding out the "Painter of Light Museum" staff were: secretary, Ana Ivezic; usurers, Ben Ilmer and Eric Sweet; head security, David Butler.

"It's a really neat experience," said Ana, a senior, about the project. "There are a lot of different artists from different times."

Of the many Kinkade paintings duplicated for the exhibit, several students said the best and most popular is "Spring Gate," depicting a winding road splitting through sunlit trees.

Elsewhere in the Connections classroom, visitors walked past displays on "Visions of Van Gogh," "The Museum of Manipulative and Perspective Art" and "The World's Finest African Museum."

The latter was the only museum to stray from the 2-D aspect; ceramic masks from the Kikwebe and Mbuysa tribes were exhibited, for example.

Other displays featured Spanish art, Salvador Dali, M.C. Escher, animation art and tattoo art.

Sparrow, assisted by student teacher Kimmi Dukes, said the "Make a Museum" pilot project snowballed out of a previous



Another example: Mike Riebesohl (right) talks about his display.

assignment.

Last fall, students "took unknown artifacts from the ancient world, identified and researched them, then developed professional displays and took them on the road," Sparrow said.

This time, students chose a museum theme, selected and gathered up the artworks to put on display ... they even used desktop publishing to create a Visitor's Guide pamphlet.

With the schoolwide showing a success, the students will soon take their museums on the road, to other schools, churches and senior citizen homes.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL EISENBERG

On display: Above, the Harrison High School Connections classroom recently took on the appearance of a museum, with many student projects displayed.

Discover Novi's Most Affordable Luxury Retirement Community.



- Large, Stylish Apartments with Full-sized Kitchens
- Fine, Restaurant Style Dining
- Full-time Social Director
- Dynamic Activities Program
- Scheduled Transportation
- 24-Hour Emergency System
- Weekly Linen and Housekeeping
- Assisted Living Services On-site

ALL FOR ONE AFFORDABLE MONTHLY FEE

The
GRAND COURT

45182 West Rd. • Novi, Michigan 48377
www.grandcourtlifestyles.com

Please send me more information on The Grand Court.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Mail to: The Grand Court • 45182 West Rd. • Novi, Michigan 48377

**CALL
(248) 669-5330
FOR A FREE
BROCHURE OR
PERSONAL TOUR**



Light fixture:

The "Painter of Light Museum," honored the work of Thomas Kinkade. The museum staff, pictured right, included Ana Ivezic, Ben Ilmer, Eric Sweet, David Butler, Amanda Cusac and Crystal Brahm.



The Wonderful POOL & PATIO FURNITURE CENTER!

Lowest prices are just the beginning - Come In and be surprised!



Cornwell Pool & Patio carries the nation's most elegant brands and models of outdoor furniture - Winston, Lloyd/Flanders wicker and aluminum, Homecrest, Hatteras, Woodard wrought iron and more!



- PATIO FURNITURE
- SWIMMING POOLS
- POOL SUPPLIES
- ACCESSORIES
- LARGEST SELECTION IN SOUTHERN MICHIGAN

ONE DAY SPECIAL

ANN ARBOR
3500 Pontiac Trail
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
734/662-3117

CORNWELL
pool & patio

PLYMOUTH
874 W. Ann Arbor Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170
734/459-7410

Store Hours: Mon., Thurs. & Fri. 10-8; Tues.-Sat. 12-6; Sun. 12-4; Closed Wed.

Save up to \$53,000 in Mortgage Interest.

INTRODUCING THE BIWEEKLY MORTGAGE

The Great Lakes Biweekly Mortgage enables a borrower to pay off their loan principal earlier, which adds up to a substantial savings in interest and results in a faster build-up of equity.

Call a Great Lakes Bank mortgage loan specialist and ask them for more details about how you can save thousands of dollars in interest!

1-800-334-5253

**Great
Lakes Bank**

