

## Celebrating the Arts



Art appreciation: Betty Almberg enjoys some of the art displayed at Costick Center during the Festival of the Arts Senior Day. Activities this week included various awards ceremonies, the Farmington Community Library's Battle of the Books and the Ridgwaiteers' "Poetry, Prose and Tea" readings. Students will visit the exhibits on Thursday and Friday, and the festival closes this weekend with concerts by the Mighty Meaty Swing Kings and Farmington Community Band.

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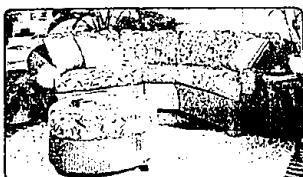
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## Teen writing contest winners named

Winners of the Farmington Community Library Teen Creative Writing Competition 2002 were honored during the Farmington Community Arts Council's Festival of the Arts on April 28-May 5.

They are:

## POETRY 11-14 YEARS

1st place: *Silence* by Fatima Borkina, Mercy High School

2nd place: *Ballet Class* by Colleen Burke, Mercy High School

3rd place: *On Saturday Mornings* by Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoue, Mercy High School

Honorable Mention: *I Wish* by Kendra Marshall, O.E. Dunckel Middle School

2nd place: *I Love You* by Linda McNamara, O.E. Dunckel Middle School

3rd place: *November Drive* by Alexandra Stankovich, East Middle School

## POETRY 15-19 YEARS

1st place: *Silence* by Fatima Borkina, Mercy High School

2nd place: *Ballet Class* by Colleen Burke, Mercy High School

3rd place: *On Saturday Mornings* by Jacqueline-Bethel Mougoue, Mercy High School

Honorable Mention: *Le Soleil* by Courtney Whitmore, East Middle School

## PROSE 15-19 YEARS

1st place: *In Case You Were Wondering* by Elizabeth Nellums, Farmington High School

2nd place: *Reflections* by Angel Bolhous, Mercy High School

3rd place: *A Midsummer's Night* by Anne Strasko, North Farmington High School

## Empty Bowls: A student's perspective

Reaching for the low set handle on the door leading into Highmeadow Common Campus, I was thinking back to my five wonderful years there.

Now seven years later, along with other Farmington High School students, I was helping children myself. We hustled to get ceramics supplies ready for the kids — setting placemats, plastic bowls, plastic wrap, tools and popcicle sticks. We were helping the kids to make clay bowls for an event called Empty Bowls, a hunger relief campaign.

Empty Bowls was started in 1991 by two high school teachers to raise money for a local food bank. They wanted to use art to effect a positive social change. The younger and older students construct bowls out of clay, then fire them, glaze them and then fire them again. From there the bowls are given away for donations and 100 percent of the proceeds go to people in our community who are not as fortunate as most of us.

You might think that Farmington does not have any hungry people in its population; but in fact it does — they're just not easily identifiable. That is why all of the food we buy with proceeds from Empty Bowls will be used locally.

After the Empty Bowls event we get a grocery "wish list" from the Farmington/Farmington Hills Neighborhood House and the Farmington Hills Salvation Army Community Center, and the students go out and buy food to re-stock the food pantries.

Empty Bowls will take place 5:30-7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 8, in the Farmington High School cafeteria. The event includes a simple symbolic meal of soup, bread, and water and will feature an exhibit of Farmington High School and Highmeadow Common Campus art work.

The suggested donation is \$10 per ceramic bowl. Our hope is that every time you use your bowl, you are reminded of all the empty bowls there are



Empty bowl artists: Monique Pothoff, Robert Easterday, Timmy Devine and Meghan Ebrat helped make bowls for the event.

in the world, and how by attending this event you helped to fill some of them. Everyone in the community is invited to attend.

—by Monique Pothoff

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