

Show to display prize winners

By **LESLIE MASTERS**
Prize winners of the 10th annual Hartland Art Show are being featured this month at the Robert Thom Gallery in Birmingham.

The Hartland show offers Michigan area artists a chance to exhibit their work as well as compete for generous money prizes.

Jurors Diane Kirkpatrick and Anthony Spina chose more than 200 art works from 150 artists. Ms. Kirkpatrick, Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Michigan and an expert in current trends in American Art, praised the versatility and the high quality of the over 500 works submitted.

Tony Spina, the Chief Photographer for The (Detroit) Free Press newspaper, commended the photo entries as being creative and varied.

Certainly the winners of the numerous prizes, (nine money awards and 26 awards of excellence) reflect a large variety of styles.
Delores Kennedy of Lansing won the "Best of Show" purchase award with her polypyle painting. This series of four canvases contains horizontal diagonal stripes that traverse the surface, seem to fold, change color, and flash bright spots as they move. Occasionally chaotic and losing focus, the painting is, nevertheless, challenging and striking in color.

In contrast, James Laughton's purchase award is for a beautiful abstract bronze sculpture, small and delicate in size, but satisfying in the progression of its three forms.

John Chaffee's steel sculpture, "Muskingham," creates a contemporary mood of mechanized power. The smooth, curled, claw-like fingers on top of a tilted, hollow maw of a base suggest the brittle beauty of a relentlessly efficient machine.

Norita Fricks of Troy won a cash award for sculpture titled "Cocoon." Ms. Fricks stacks thin cones of paper mache filled with millweed seeds and other weed seeds and suspends them within a box of glittering plexiglas, then lights them through translucent sheets of white plastic beneath and behind the weed forms.

This contrast of natural materials with the pristine elegance of its housing creates a feeling of life preserved in time.

There are several handsome ceramic pieces in the show. Peter Kennan presents a large, enclosed cylinder punched and glassblowingly. Eye scientist Schrier gives us a small box of white painted masonite filled with delicate bits of paper and thin ceramic shapes to feel and rearrange.

Linda Menzer-Butcher conjures up an unusual fabric wall construction entitled "Spumoni." The white knitted

fabric, dyed pink and green in streaks, bunches and pulls over foam shapes with delicious sleekness.

The photographs in the show garnered nine awards and range from traditional to quite experimental in style. Larry Mellon's series of black and white high contrast photos bring to the familiar farm scene a new sense of delicate beauty. The wire fence line hung with tiny icicles frames a group of farm implements and buildings with timeless serenity.

Steve Myers' double exposure of a cathedral ceiling superimposed on the stomach of a female figure jolts pleasantly.

Most unusual is Rober Alexander's color photograph, "UFO Writer w/ help for Planet Koros," this solarized print is a wide-angle shot of the interior of a room that seems to be lit up along all the edges of the forms with strange neon light patterns.

Not all the winners are presented in the Thom Gallery show, unfortunately. Several works got left in the shuffle, due to the large number of entries. Thus we are prevented from seeing good works from local artists Norm Stewart, JoAnne Westerby and Lorraine Chambers-McCarty, as well as those of several others.

The art works presented in the show are delightful, however, and reflective of the many styles and materials Michigan artists are using today. This exhibition will be on view at 175 W. Merrill, Birmingham, through July 30. Hours are 10 a.m. through 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

A cozy, little gift shop and two great restaurants.

After some great dining, browse the Inn gift shop. In one corner is a nook full of pewterware and hand-cut glassware, all reproductions of originals at Henry Ford Museum. You'll find antique jewelry, old-time toys, Oregon jams, and maple candy creams, too. (Obviously, all the good taste isn't in our dining rooms!) Gift shop hours: 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM. Jeannie Menzie Shopkeeper.

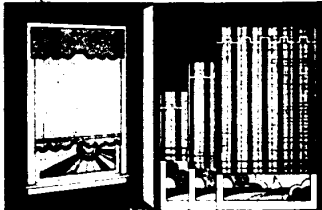


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Lobby queries the hopefuls in campaigns

All 19 state representative hopefuls in the 17th U.S. Congressional District recently received questionnaires from Michigan Common Cause, a national political reform lobbying organization.

The questionnaires included queries on political reform issues currently before the Michigan legislature such as public funding, campaign financing, conduct of interest and lobbying disclosures.

According to Bob King, Common Cause 17th District coordinator, "The results from this questionnaire will better equip the public to vote wisely in August and November."

"We hope all 19 of the candidates will let us know where they stand on some of the much-needed political reform legislation," King added.

Candidates that Southfield residents will be voting for or against who have received the questionnaires are:

• 64th State Representative District — Dante DiVito (D), 2300 Quail Hollow, Farmington Hills; Harvey Leon Katz (D), 2750 Franklin Road, Southfield; and Wilbur B. (Sandy) Brotherton (R), 2303 Beacon Farmington

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