



Petite Kourtney Sterrett (at left) and Jennie Lepper try out the clothes of another era they will wear down the runway when Farmington Community Center stages its Antique Fashion Show on Wednesday, May 6. Kourtney wears brown cotton trimmed with velvet and satin with her pointed toes and high-button shoes. Jennie wears white batisse trimmed with lace and embroidery with a blue sash.



White batisse with intricate lace inserts makes up the gown modeled by Ellen O'Leary (at left). She is accompanied by Debbie Kaska clad in a gown and cape of beaded and lace applique over velvet.

From the Gibson Girl to Joan Crawford Antique fashion collection at the center for show

Twenty teens from Our Lady of Mercy High School will be modeling antique fashions from Helen Kopka's comprehensive collection of period costumes.

The parade of antique fashions will be staged as a benefit for Farmington Community Center beginning at 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 6, in the center on Farmington Road north of 10 Mile Road.

Mrs. Kopka has been honored in recent years as a Detroit Woman of the Year and has served in the past as promotional director of Goodwill Industries of Detroit. She is a Royal Oak resident and is expected to attend the fashion showing.

"It is doubtful that this authentic, carefully-assembled collection will ever be viewed again in its entirety," said Lois Bro, commentator for the event. "Mrs. Kopka has plans to offer it for sale."

The teen models, assembled this week in Mrs. Bro's Farmington Hills home for a try-on session, were overwhelmed with the feathers and rhinestone, the gold thread embroidery, velvet and lace they will be showing off next week, she said.

All of them are sewing students and most commented with the quality of the workmanship of the fashions.

All of the young models are petite in figure; a requisite for wearing the tiny-waisted apparel.

MRS. BRO will be lending her expertise to the show as an area authority on period costume design.

For 15 years Mrs. Bro operated Book Fair, a Royal Oak bookstore. On the second floor of Book Fair, about 1,000 dolls were housed in the Antique Doll Museum.

"My interest in dolls led to extensive study of antique fashions," she said.

Some of the knowledge she gained on the subject has been told in past Farmington Community Center lectures and demonstrations where she told about dressing old or new dolls in period costumes.

Of the show she's preparing for now she says, "The oldest dress to be modeled is from the 1880's. So the era from the Gibson Girl to Joan Crawford will be represented."

All of the clothes are what those of yesterday would have termed "Sunday-go-to-meeting" clothes.

"They would have to be good clothes; clothes that were only worn for special occasions or they wouldn't have lasted this long," she said.

Antique Fashion Show guests will view a fashionable walking suit from the 1920's, a glamorous peignoir of the 1930's, and a peach chiffon number reminiscent of Joan Crawford in the 1930's. okmf



Gabrielle Martell-Bowen wears an apron of dotted swiss fashioned of exquisite handwork over a maroon cotton dress with mutton sleeves, and with high button shoes, at left. At right, Annemarie Lesters sports one of the most formal costumes in the show made of velvet and rhinestone, net and gold thread embroidery. All of the models for the show are sewing students in Our Lady of Mercy High School.

Farmington Artists Club Giannantoni takes blue ribbon

By Loraine McClish
staff writer

James R. Giannantoni took the top honors for his watercolor called "Storm Warning at Tawas Point" in the Farmington Artists Club spring exhibit.

Davira Taragin, assistant curator of modern art for Detroit Institute of Art and judge for the show called Giannantoni's work "a very strong piece with a coloristically sense of foreboding, held together with strong ties of diagonal and central focus area."

"Storm Warning at Tawas Point" was the only piece Giannantoni entered in the spring show.

Tom Hale took second place honors with "Hills of Jerome," and third prize went to Marcie Kitch for "Lavender Scart."

The three walked away from the show with money awards provided by Farmington Area Arts Commission through Michigan Council of the Arts.

Criteria for judging were good technique used, no matter what the media; unified painting; compositional holding of strength and some of the artist's own feeling that came through in the work.

OTHER AWARDS, judged fourth through seventh in the running, came from local businesses.

The fourth place award, called the Tash Award, provided by Tash Home Center in Livonia, went to Donna Vogelheim for a watercolor called "Julie's Carousel Ride."

Fifth award, from Grumbacher, went to Ireta Ekstrom for a charcoal work called "The Trashman Cometh."

Sixth award, from Binney Smith, was given to Shirley Hulet for a mixed media piece called "Red Square."

The seventh award, from ASF Company, went to Jo Schmidt for an acrylic called "The Alley."

Artists who received honorable mentions were Jo Griffing, Barbara Spencer, Edith Shemke, Diane Lubaway, Marge Stock, Rose Marie Barr, Agnes Hodge, Dorothy Clark and Monica Leaning.

The Artists Choice Award, voted by the members of the club to honor their own, went to Ann Stirm for "Time Steps."

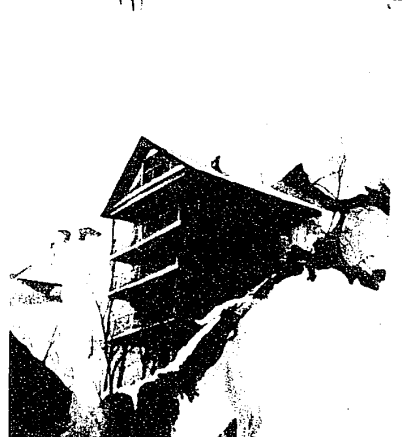
Ms. Stirm summed up her feelings about the win by saying "Winning a prize from a judge cannot compare to the feeling you get; the respect that is given you, when you win a vote from your fellow artists."

The artists second choice was "Blue

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Blue ribbon winner James Giannantoni, a resident of Farmington Hills for the past 25 years, took the top prize in Farmington Artists Club's spring show with "Storm Warning at Tawas Point." In the past he has been numbered among the "popular vote" winners, and last year took an honorable mention.



Three awards went to Tom Hale who shows "Hills of Jerome." The acrylic took second honors in the show's juried section and was the top vote-getter from the show's visitors. "Falling Porch" by Hale took the fourth place 'Artist's Choice' award.