

Monday, May 10, 1982 O&E

Weismann, Hale and Hull take the honors in spring art show

By Loraine McClish
staff writer

Corrine Weismann, Tom Hale and Beth Hull took the top honors in Farm-

ington Artists Club's juried gallery in the spring art show.

The event was judged by Barbara Price of Cranbrook Academy of Art.



Tom Hale took a double award for his watercolor, "Falling Forch." It took second place in the juried show and came in second as the favorite of those who attended the three-day exhibit.

The three artists represented the best efforts of the close to 300 works that were submitted for the juried section.

"The paintings were challenging pieces that held together visually, with good decisions in regard to color and composition, and they all realized space from corner to corner," Price said.

Weismann, a Birmingham resident, took the blue ribbon for her abstract watercolor "Interior IV."

The painting was described by Price as having "a freshness and risk, an inner rhythm that draws the eye toward the quiet space in the center to the edges that are exciting with form and color."

Weismann was also awarded an honorable mention for her watercolor called "Interior III."

HALE WALKED away from the show with triple honors.

"Falling Forch" took second-place honors in the juried gallery of the show and also captured the second-place spot in the Popular Vote category.

Popular Vote is given to the artist whose work is chosen as the favorite of the show-goers.

Hale's "Jerome-High Road" took third place in the Popular Vote.

Both followed Martha Barnes "Babies Breath" which got the most votes from guests during the spring show.

Hale is a Northville resident, a multi-award winner and a member of the American Watercolor Society. "His work is beautifully executed, creating an active mood and complete space," Price said.

Hull took third place for her watercolor abstract "Equinox."

"This work depends on pattern and movement," Price said, "giving a sense of planes and creating a world you can enter."

Honorable mentions were given by Price to Erma Butterworth, Marjorie Chellator, Bernice Forrest, Jerrie Habsburg, Edie Joppich, Walter Reddig, Jo Schmidt, Shirley Sloane and Yolanda Styke.

PRIZE MONEY for the awards in the show's juried gallery is provided by Farmington Area Arts Commission and Michigan Council for the Arts.

The prize given to Barnes came from Art Alcove in Farmington.

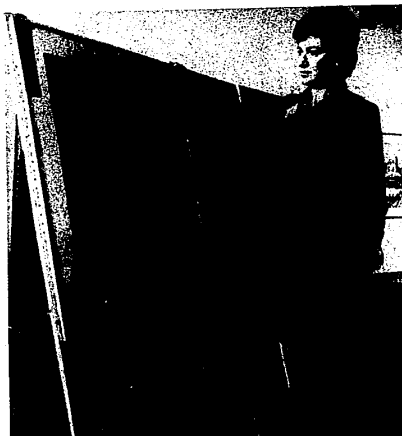
Hale's second and third prizes in the Popular Vote came from Livonia Custom Frames and Northwest Blueprint in Livonia.

Certificates of achievements for gathering up votes from the show-goers went to Fran Nicholson, Schmidt, Joppich, Eleanor Nief, Harriet Vickery, Jane Rochelleau and Barnes.

During the opening reception for artists and patrons, Farmington Artist Club members vote for their own favorites.

This spring the "Artists Choice Award" went to Jo Schmidt for her oil painting, "Michilinda Cliff."

Second place went to Bernice Forrest for "Butterflies," and third went to Nief for "White Iris."



Evanthis Samra studies "Interior IV," the work of Corrine Weismann that took first prize in Farmington Artists Club's spring show. Weismann also took an honorable mention for her watercolor called "Interior III."

Photos by
Randy Borst



When Farmington Artists Club members honored their own this spring, their choice was Jo Schmidt's "Michilinda Cliff." Schmidt painted the scene at one of her favorite vacation spots in Michigan.

Handbell ringers join for 'Spring Ring' Kitch works on display

More than 150 handbell ringers will congregate in Farmington Hills at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 16, in Farmington Hills Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 29857 W. 11 Mile Road, for the Spring Ring Bell Festival. The third annual festival of English handbell choirs brings together 10 handbell choirs from the Birmingham-Bloomfield-Farmington area.

Each group will perform two selections of classical, sacred, or secular music. All 10 groups will join together in three massed choir pieces under the direction of Rodney Peterson, director of music at First Methodist Church of

Birmingham. There is no admission charge for the "Spring Ring."

Handbells have their roots in England where, two centuries ago, they were devised as a way to conveniently practice bell patterns rung from tower bells. These patterns conveyed different messages, peeling forth in a unique form of communication before there were telephones, telegraphs, radios and television to quickly disperse information. Handbells, used for easy practice of tower bell "change ringing," became increasingly popular in their own right.

ALTHOUGH many groups may be

interested in starting handbell choirs, not all organizations have the funds to do so; the average three-octave set of handbells costs about \$3,500. Each additional octave of bells has a price tag of more than \$1,000.

Handbell sets range in size from two to five octaves. In Spring Ring Handbell Festival, the choirs are three, four, and five octave choirs. Three-octave choirs consist of 37 musical tones; four octave choirs have 49 bells or tones; and five octave choirs use 61 bells.

Handbell ringers receive special satisfactions from their participation in handbell choirs. Musically, each ringer is responsible for playing several tones. His or her absence from a practice creates problems similar to those of a piano with missing keys. Teamwork is essential; each member is important.

"Socially, the handbell choir meets the members' needs to be an essential part of something, to give of their talents, and to form strong ties with people of similar interests," said Betty Love, spokesperson for Nardin Park's choir.

ELIZABETH SPRY, music director at Northbrook Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, is the Spring Ring Handbell Festival chairman. Questions about the event can be directed to her at 642-0200.

Churches taking part in the festival include Congregational Church of Birmingham, Jean Jones, director, four octave choir; Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Bloomfield Hills, Leslie Alvin, director, three octave choir; Faith Covenant Evangelical Church of Farmington Hills, Fred Rohrbach, director, three octave group; First Baptist Church of Birmingham, Hazel Lawrence, director, five octave choir.

Others participating are First Methodist Church of Birmingham, Rodney Peterson, director, four octave choir; Nardin Park United Methodist Church, Farmington Hills, Mel Rokus, director, three octave group; Northbrook

Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, Elizabeth Spry, director, three octave and four octave choirs; Orchard Lake Community Church, June Harting, director, four octave choir; and Our Shepherd Lutheran Church of Birmingham, Lynn Witt, director, five octaves.

A showing of Farmington Hills' artist Marcie Kitch's paintings will be on display in Farmington Hills Branch Library through the month of May.

Her works represent the translating of the human figure through water color or in contrast against the white of paper or in the figure's involvement

with surrounding areas.

Her works have been displayed in Farmington Artists Club and Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association juried exhibits, where she has received various awards. She has also been invited to exhibit in Edie Joppich's Bay Street Gallery, Northport.



SANDI MORNE/photographer

Among the handbell ringers joining for Spring Ring Bell Festival are (left) Eve Richardson, Irene Fleming, Barbara Esler and Susan Brown. The four are members of Nardin Park Ringers Handbell Choir, a three-octave choir under the direction of Mel Rokus. The festival brings together 10 handbell choirs from the Birmingham, Bloomfield and Farmington areas.

FOUR OCEAVE CHOIR

The Farmington Hills Branch Library is pleased to present a special exhibition of paintings by Marcie Kitch.

Marcie Kitch

in our gallery

on

Sunday, the fifth month of May

at

the library in the morning

Fabric Paintings