

High IQ society's highest award goes to Hills resident

American Mensa, the 55,000-member high-IQ society, has bestowed its highest honor, the Margot Award, on Gabriel Werba. The award, which recognizes "outstanding contributions to Mensa," had previously been bestowed only three times over the past 10 years.

Werba, a resident of Farmington Hills, heads Gabriel Werba & Associates, a Detroit-based public relations company. He is also chairman of The Werba Group, a communications holding company, and Meretsky-Re-

sponse, a Southfield-based direct marketing firm.

He has been a member of Mensa since 1974. A founder of Southeast Michigan Mensa, and its first president, he has been on the national board of directors since 1978, serving two terms as American Mensa's first vice chairman and two terms as American Mensa's chairman. He also served eight years as national ombudsman.

He is currently national development officer and a national representative of American Mensa on the international board of directors. He has served on the international board for eight years.

MENSA IS an international society with some 80,000 members in 98 countries throughout the world. It is headquartered in Great Britain. Membership is open to anyone with an IQ in the upper two percent of the general population. Admission is granted based on intelligence tests given by the organization, or on the basis of evidence of a previous standard intelligence test.

For information concerning qualifying test scores, contact: Mensa, 2626 E. 14th St., Brooklyn, NY 11235-3992.

Werba helped found the Southeast Michigan chapter in 1974, shortly after he moved from New York City to join a Detroit public relations firm. The chapter, which started with a dozen members, now has 1,100 members.

A native of Paris, France, he came to the U.S. at age 11, graduated from Harlingen High School in Texas in 1945, at age 15, and from the University of Texas in 1949, at age 18, with a degree in Journalism.

Upon completing his degree he went to New York City where he worked for 14 years in documentary films and in public relations before his move to Detroit.

He is married, with two children. His wife, Barrie, is director of development of The Attle Theatre. They have a son, Dean, at the University of Texas in Austin, and a daughter, Annmarie, at Grand Valley State University in Ann Arbor, Mich.



Gabriel Werba

Gymnasts to perform in "Nutcracker"

The Farmington Gymnastics Center has announced that three of its gymnasts were selected to perform in this year's Detroit Symphony Orchestra production of "The Nutcracker Ballet." The gymnasts were chosen by audition.

Chosen to perform in all 14 performances were 8-year-old Meredith Jones of Novi; 6-year-old Kelly Sopko of West Bloomfield; and 4 1/2-year-old Stephanie Vost of Birmingham. Meredith has been a member of the Farmington Gymnastics Center since January 1982; Kelly since November 1987; and Stephanie since September 1987.

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RANDY BORST/staff photographer

A day in the life of Michigan exhibited

The Novi Arts and Culture Committee and Meadowbrook Veterinary Clinic of Novi present "Michigan: A Professional Photographic Salute," a photographic exhibit open to the public, free of charge through Oct. 30.

The exhibits will be on display 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday in the Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile.

On June 1, 1987, a group of outstanding Michigan professional photographers gathered to record the events and activities of that day. Their collection of 150 photographs represents a visual memory of life in Michigan on that day.

An exhibit of historical camera equipment and images will also be on display to celebrate the 150th anniversary of photography.

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Kristina David, Elizabeth Boessler and Tricia Randolph, all fourth graders in Junior Girl Scout Troop 3103, get ready for their uniform exchange. Whether Daisy, Brownie, Junior, Cadette, Senior or Adult, the girls will be selling used uniforms 4:30-6 p.m. Friday, Oct. 6, in Flanders School, 32600 Flanders, east of Farmington Road between Eight and Nine Mile. Those with uniforms for consignment or a donation to the troop can call Claudia Heinrich, 476-6824.

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His parents felt it was time he had a place of his own. After all, he was 15.

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