

ART BEAT

Art Beat features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Mary Klemic, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, or fax (810) 644-1314.

IN EXHIBIT

West Bloomfield artist Jose Romero is presenting an exhibit, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing," in the Ayala Museum in Makati, the Philippines, Dec. 17 to Jan. 6. Rendered in acrylic on various paper grounds, the recent works are intimate expressions inspired by the artist's personal journeys and experiences that

subtly evoke the significance of the Nativity. Unrestrained interpretations of the Madonna and Child and of choirs of angels are set beside quiet landscapes depicting distant places through the passage of seasons, and vibrant floral compositions that verge on the abstract.

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing" is Romero's second display in his native land; the first was at the Cultural Center of the Philippines in 1994. He has also exhibited in Paris and Beijing. Romero was featured in a book, "Filipino Achievers in America and Canada: Profiles in

Excellence" by Isabela Cristomano.

TOUR GUIDES WANTED

Cranbrook is accepting applications for volunteer tour guides for public tour programs on the world-renowned campus in Bloomfield Hills. Training begins Sunday, Jan. 19, and continues for about 14 weeks. Individuals can be trained to give extensive tours of the entire National Historic Landmark campus or specific parts of the educational complex, such as the restored Saarinen House, Cranbrook House or Cranbrook Gardens, or work with the collections and exhibits of contemporary art at the art museum.

To become a Cranbrook docent, you must be a member of Cranbrook Art Museum or Cranbrook House and Gardens Auxiliary, and successfully complete all training. Docents should expect to volunteer about one morning or afternoon each week, including some weekends, throughout the year.

Applicants should be enthusiastic and outgoing individuals who are interested in art, architecture, history, historic preservation and/or Cranbrook in general. Docents also must be comfortable speaking to groups of people. Individuals interested in learning more about Cranbrook may attend the training course for a fee.

For an application or more information, call David D.J. Rau, curator of education, at (810) 645-3314.

CREATIVE COMMUNICATION

The purpose of the Artist's Talking News is to help artists communicate. The pamphlet, for beginners and advanced artists, sets out to help artists learn more about others. It profiles graphic designers, illustrators, musicians, painters, film makers, animators, cartoonists and oth-

ers. It describes artists' experiences and challenges, and can help artists explore a new media, try a new style or enhance current work. If you would like to help put the Artist's Talking News together, or for more information, call (810) 626-8493.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Gallery service volunteers are urgently needed to greet and assist visitors in the museum galleries at the Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward. You can make a difference in assuring the galleries are open during museum hours. Afternoon weekend volunteers are especially needed. A training session will take place 1:30-3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14, in the Holley Room at the DIA. For more information, call (313) 833-0247

between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays.

SPECIAL ORNAMENTS

Ornaments by American Indians are available at Native West, 863 W. Ann Arbor Trail in Plymouth. All residuals from the sale of these ornaments will be returned to Futures for Children, an organization that will help perpetuate three key community programs affecting 80,000 American Indians. The 1996 special edition ornament is a one-of-a-kind piece of art designed by Anthony Lovato of Santo Domingo Pueblo. The buffalo ornament is made from leather. Cost is \$21. Call Native West at (313) 455-8838.

LUDA ART SCHOOL

Russian-American artist Luda

Tcherniak will begin personalized instruction in all aspects of art at her private gallery/studio in downtown Rochester. For schedules and enrollment fees, call the Luda Art Gallery at (810) 652-7052.

Tcherniak was trained at the Moscow Art School from age 6 and subsequently at the Moscow Institute of Theatrical Arts. Her acclaimed works have been displayed at galleries in Russia and the United States and featured on PBS-TV.

Among the course topics are art history, composition, realism, cubism, impressionism, human form, perspective, basic techniques and media including pastels, watercolors, acrylics, tempera, ink, oils and collage.



Unicef card: Dearborn artist Jeanne Flevotomas' design for a Christmas card "Nativity - Gift for a King," has been selected by Unicef, the United Nations Children's Fund. This is the second consecutive year that Flevotomas has been selected as a Unicef artist. Unicef uses funds from the cards for numerous programs to help children worldwide. The Knollwood Gallery, 6447 Inkster Road, Bloomfield Hills, is presenting an exhibit of Flevotomas' art through Jan. 11. Gallery hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Friday and 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

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sentation." Blanco sees that need very clearly and bases his view on dollars and cents. The amount of money coming to the DIA decreases while the need increases, he said. "In addition to a \$1.4 million cut in state aid this year, the museum sits under the shadow

of "a \$50-\$60 million capital, deferred-maintenance bond to bring the 70-year-old buildings up to speed," he said. The city has agreed to sell the bond as part of the Founders Society's proposal.

"We have a 20-30-year challenge ahead of us to stabilize the DIA. I'm very concerned about

the viability," said Blanco. "The precarious nature of the DIA will make it impossible to recover (if the proposal is not passed)."

The Detroit City Council is expected to entertain a motion to pass the proposal at its first meeting of the new year. A date has not been set.

Florida gallery to feature local artist

Bloomfield Hills artist Linda Zalla is presenting a one-person exhibit at the Grace Lawrence Gallery in Delray Beach, Fla., Jan. 3-24.

The opening reception is 6-10 p.m. Friday, Jan. 3, at the Florida gallery.

The exhibit of abstract expressionist paintings has a theme of "passages."

"My paintings reveal that, out of adversity new passages opened which gave me the chance for self-growth and change. My mind saw the inner vision, conceived the images, saw the forms, determined the colors, texture and the composition. My heart gave the work, 'Joy, Magic and Life,'" she writes.

Zalla is a graduate of Wayne State University and attended the Center for Creative Studies. She has exhibited in numerous shows and galleries and won several awards for her work. She has also created cable programs on watercolor art and was named volunteer of the year in 1991 by JARC for developing an art program for developmentally disabled adults.



Painting: "My Passages" is an acrylic-collage painting by Linda Zalla.

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faces to deep colors with bursts of metallic.

"I strive for form and color. Form is more important than glazes but glazes are what sell," said O'Neill, who by day runs his Countryside Windows and Siding Co. in Livonia.

"Raku is an immediate gratification. Working with clay gives me personal satisfaction. It has a therapeutic value. It's nice to get in my studio by myself."

The Holiday Art Fair is spon-

sored by the 1500 member Michigan Guild of Artists and Artisans which produces the Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair. At the downsized December show, visitors will see a variety of mediums including glass, sculpture, clay, jewelry, photography, fiber, and wood.

Just as in July, the Holiday Art Fair will feature the ever-popular Imagination Station where families will be able to create cards, ornaments and wrapping paper for free. Hourly

drawings for \$25 gift certificates, courtesy of the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, will be held. You must be present to win. For more information call (313) 662-3382.

"It's the best and last little art show of the year," said show director Shary Brown. "Whether it's a last minute gift or treats for yourself, we'd like to encourage people to purchase original art to make it a part of their life."

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