

CHOMIN

FROM PAGE B1

This is O'Daniel's first class at PCAC but she's been teaching at The Summit on the Park Community Center in Canton since last spring.

"I've seen a new interest in oil painting," said O'Daniel of Plymouth. "People are getting tired of the watercolor look. You can't beat oil for its color. It's vibrant and the way light shines off the pigment."

F'TON HILLS CULTURAL ARTS

"Lighthouses and Legends" is sure to be a popular with kids and adults taking classes through the Farmington Hills cultural arts division. On Sept. 21, children ages 6 to 11 will spend the day exploring the topic with teacher Barb

Cicchelli. Ages 17 through adult will sketch or paint lighthouses while learning about the legends behind them Oct. 1-22. A "Paint-In for Kids ages 5-11" introduces children to techniques Saturday, Oct. 12. Or learn marbling and paper folding techniques to create a journal or photo album. Adults can choose from painting classes with Donna Vogelheim (watercolor and acrylics) (enamel media), or make paper covered boxes or porcelain dolls.

Part of the fun is spending time in the new studio classroom in the historic Stables Building in Heritage Park. Students can enjoy the setting of the park and stables which are only used for tours now.

For more information or to register, call (248) 473-1800. There is a painting and pottery all sorts of clay for kids called said Nancy Compoundours,

coordinator of the cultural arts division. "We're especially excited about our new kiln."

Beginning acrylic painting and jewelry and basket making are just a few of the other choices.

"Classes give you a whole new outlook on art. It's a wonderful stress reliever. The rest of the world falls away."

VAAL

Relaxation isn't the only benefit of taking art classes. Students can walk away with original paintings to hang on their walls. Fall's rich colors provide plenty of inspiration for those enrolled in new workshops "Autumn Montage in Watercolor" (Sept. 20-21) and "Fall Groundscape in Watercolor" (Oct. 25-26) with Canton artist Kay Rowe at the Lyndon Arts Association of Livonia.

If watercolor isn't your medium since it can be difficult to control, pastel, monotypes, collage, and colored pencil short-cuts are a few of the other classes and workshops offered at VAAL. Or paint your own glass ornaments for the holidays at a Saturday, Nov. 16 workshop with Marge Maske. To register, call (734) 455-9517.

DANCE DO'S & DON'TS

There's nothing to make you feel more alive than dance. Choosing an instructor is important to avoid injuries especially in children who are still growing. While a college degree in dance isn't necessary, teachers should be certified by one of the nationally recognized organizations such as Dance Masters of America, Dance Educators of America or the American Association of Teachers of Dance. According to Jan Sickle, owner of The Dance Connection in Canton, "teachers must apply for membership, pass written, oral and performance exams, and continue to study or update their knowledge of dance."

"Sammy Davis Jr. and Savion Glover didn't have dance

degrees. Look for a teacher that's knowledgeable about control, pastel, monotypes, collage, and colored pencil short-cuts are a few of the other classes and workshops offered at VAAL. Or paint your own glass ornaments for the holidays at a Saturday, Nov. 16 workshop with Marge Maske. To register, call (734) 455-9517.

"Children have to study enough and pass Cecchetti grade one, and usually study another one to two years after that before going on pointe. We recommend about age 12. We don't want our kids injured. At first they just learn to walk in the shoe and how to point the feet and learn the correct posture. They start out slowly and practice at the barre. If you see a child struggling you take them off for a year."

MUSIC & SHOW CHOIRS

So maybe you're not coordinated enough to dance (although dance does improve gracefulness), why not give music or singing a try? Children as young as newborns can experience the joy of moving to the beat in Kindermusik classes at Village Music in Plymouth. Or how about learning to play piano, guitar, violin, cello, or hammered dulcimer. Brand new is "Shower Singing in Public" a three-hour vocal session for beginners, older teens and adults.

"It's for people who always

wanted to sing," said owner Norma Atwood. "People have been asking me for a long time about offering a class like this. We want to introduce people to good vocal health and it's for those who don't have the courage to take classes on their own."

Lucky for us, kids don't need as much encouragement to sing. Listening to the angelic voices in a young children's choir is heavenly. Several exist in the area, among them the Rising Star Singers at Village Music (ages 8-15) and the Livonia Youth Choir for boys and girls in grades 4-8 with unchanged voices.

For information about Rising Star Singers, call Village Music at (734) 354-9825. To try out for the Livonia Youth Choir, call Halka Gay at (734) 425-1749. Auditions take place in September in Livonia. The choir practices weekly on Monday evenings and performs two concerts a year.

Have an interesting idea for a story? Call Observer & Eccentric reporter Linda Ann Chomlin at (734) 953-2145 or send e-mail to lchomlin@oe.homecomm.net

OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Grid of movie listings for various theaters including National Amusements Showcase Cinemas, Star John B, United Artists Theatres, The Road to Perdition, and others. Includes showtimes and contact information.

AREA2

FROM PAGE B1

This year's tour features the much-anticipated performance by rock icon David Bowie. There was a chance the bill wasn't as difficult as one might imagine. Moby admitted it was a longshot, a dream really -- but the man who created alter egos like Ziggy Stardust didn't turn him down. There was at least one condition, though.

"David Bowie didn't want to do a very long tour," said Moby. "For Bowie to be involved, we had to shorten the tour." Bowie is also touring in support of Heathen, his eighth CD released last month.

But it's not all about big names. Area2 festival has shined a light on DJs who are renowned in their own country, but have remained relatively unknown in the States. Carl Cox, the only repeat performer from last year's line



David Bowie joins the tour.

up, John Digweed and DJ Tiesto deserve a shot at massive audiences in the states.

"We're trying to get people to come out who might not otherwise get the chance," said Moby. "In the process, we're giving everyone a wonderful show."

If there's one thing to do at Area2 this year, it's dance. Like a traveling road show, the Detroit Electronic Music Festival, Area2 has become an interactive summertime event.

And the metro Detroit area is certainly one of its destinations.

"I think the first time I played in Detroit was 1992, just 10 years ago," said Moby. "I remembered at the time being so honored to see Jim Atkins, Kevin Saunders, Derrick May and Richie Hawtin in the audience. It meant a lot to me."

As early purveyors of electronic music, Atkins, Saunders and May were all part of Area: One last year, when the DJ dance tent will return to DTE Energy Music Theatre.

AREA2 features performances by David Bowie, Moby, Busta Rhymes, Carl Cox, DJ Tiesto, Blue Man Group, Ash, John Digweed, The Avanchaz, DJ Dan, DJ Tim Skinner and Dieselboy. It will be held Tuesday, Aug. 6 at DTE Energy Music Theatre, Independence Township. Call (248) 645-6666.

scasola@oe.homecomm.net (734) 953-2054

Large advertisement for Detroit Ducky Derby. Includes text: 'Save the Date: Sunday, August 25, 2002', 'Fun Carnival for entire family including: Moonwalks, Face Painting, Arts and Crafts, Music and Dancing', and 'ONE WEEK VACATION TO CABO SAN LUCAS!'. Features a logo with a duck wearing sunglasses and a hat.