

An Offering of “Small Treasures”

The Central Kentucky Art Guild to hold the Heartland Regional Fine Art Exhibit

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IF YOU GO: The Heartland Regional Fine Art Exhibit held by the Central Kentucky Art Guild will be Saturday through Sept. 30 at Woodland Gallery and Framing, 2410 Ring Road, Suite. 300, Elizabethtown. For more information call (270) 735-9698.



A Texas landscape, an outside eatery and secluded park bench are among the subjects of artwork entered in the Heartland Regional Fine Art Exhibit held by Central Kentucky Art Guild.

About 30 artists — guild members and non-members — have entered works to be considered for the show, an open event which is held every two years by CKAG. This year, for the first time, the exhibit will be held at a commercial business, Woodland Gallery and Framing in Elizabethtown.

Previous exhibits have been held at various community locations including Elizabethtown Community and Technical College and the Historic State Theater. The new location will be beneficial to both the business and the artists, said CKAG publicity and public relations

chairwoman Judy French.

“It gets them exposed to a different audience,” French said.



Because the space at the exhibit location will be limited, entries were restricted to one per artist, and the maximum artwork size is 24 inches by 30 inches. The exhibit will be called “Small Treasures.”

For Jo Friel of Bardstown, inspiration for her entry, titled “Sea Grapes,” came during an out-of-state trip.

“Actually I was in Florida and this was a Florida scene ... and I thought it was striking,” Friel said.

“Actually I was in Florida and this was a Florida scene ... and I



The transparent watercolor depicts a “floral study” of palm fronds and round leaves of the sea grape.

Friel, who has been painting since she was 3, said this is her first entry in the CKAG show.

A beach-themed watercolor titled “Playing Around” is the entry from Phyllis Blakeman of Hodgenville.

The painting features a beach ball and Adirondack chair with the circular shape of the ball superimposed in various sizes on the image.

“I like to take something familiar and do something different with it,” Blakeman said.

The acrylic on canvas entry from Rebecca Mach of Shepherdsville is titled "Dining Outside" and features a dinnerware setting including a fork in a faceted water glass.



"My subject matter is pretty much what is of interest to me," Mach said.

The artist thought the subject would be "challenging" to try to capture. The result is a work of striking colors in a close-up view of a dining table scene.

"I like to try to exaggerate the color," Mach said.

In Vennie Beeler's "Peace," the subject is a landscape of Palo Alto Canyon in Texas.



"I'm a Texas girl," said the Elizabethtown artist.

The acrylic work is bright with reds, oranges and yellows.

"It's not far from where I was raised," Beeler said.

"Rural Kentucky" is the title of Cecilia resident Carl McKinley's offering.

The watercolor depicts pasture and woods, complete with cows and a fence.

"This is taken from my mom and dad's old farm," McKinley said.

The scene is taken from an image from an old slide he found.

"I haven't had any formal training, just God's gift," McKinley said. "I always want to give him the credit. He's the one who gave it to me."

Joyce Lupresto of Elizabethtown found her subject in a park in New Harmony, Ind.

"I was fascinated with the trees," Lupresto said.

The canopy of trees in the artwork shelters a park area that includes a water fountain. The work is titled "A Walk in the Park."

The works will be judged by Kentucky artist Tom Poole on an "in or out" basis, French said. The entries reflect a variety of media including acrylics, watercolor and photography.

Though "Small Treasures" is the name of the exhibit and not necessarily its subject theme, some artists took it to heart.

Judy Stice painted a miniature of an area of Bernheim Forest that offers visitors rest in a secluded area.

Most of Stice's work is done on 4-inch by 6-inch or 5-inch by 7-inch format. The park scene was a personal one for the artist and seemed to fit the exhibit name.

"It's a bench, when I wanted solitude I would go to this place," Stice said. "To me, that's a small treasure."
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