

Art Adventure I Sam Dalkilic-Miestowski

Area artists, budding talent



I will never forget my elementary, middle, and high school art teachers who pushed and inspired me to pursue a life in the visual arts.

Without their gifted art programs, after school art clubs and support, I would have never excelled in the visual arts. It seems like yesterday when my Merrillville High School art teacher Peg Ozimec encouraged me to submit my senior high school art to several local art competitions for which I was fortunate to win several awards including an art scholarship.

Winning awards as a young sixteen year old, gave me the confidence and reassurance that I

The contest was held at the Lake County Public Library. Several local high schools that participated in the competition were Lowell,

two acrylic and one watercolor.

Kronsell attends Lowell High School.

Tom Sufana, art teacher for Lowell High School, said "Ashley has taken every course at the school and excels in two dimensions.

This year she has taken Advanced 2-dimensional Art, Intro to 3-dimensional Art, Visual Communications, Ceramics, Sculpture and



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All photos provided to the Star
Ashley Kronsell's paintings, two acrylics and one watercolor, including "Lady Without a Face," acrylic painting pictured above, won first place ribbons and \$100 in a General Federation of Women's Club's art contest.

needed as a teenager about to go away to college in pursuit of my life's passion — art.

Though my parents were very supportive of my choice as fine art as a major, most parents don't jump for joy when their kids choose fine art because like the jokes says, "You have to be a dead artist in order to make money."

Though the world, technology and teaching requirements have changed tremendously since I was a high school kid over twenty three years ago, I'm thrilled to announce that there are still opportunities for graduating seniors who are intent on pursuing art at a college.

The North West District Generation Federation of Women's Club (IFC) is one of the oldest women's club in existence today. This very special local philanthropic organization has hosted an art contest for the past fifty years with prizes and money.

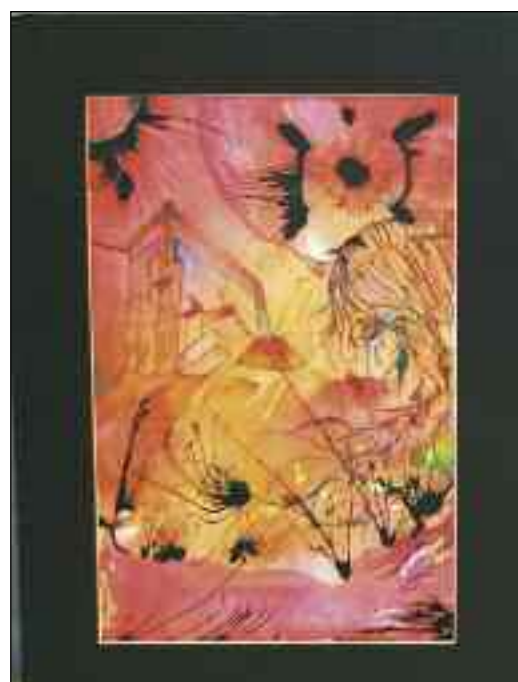
This past Valentine's Day, the IFC, an affiliate of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC), sponsored an art contest for any graduating high school senior who was plans on pursuing a degree in art within the geographic area of Lake, Porter, Jasper and LaPorte Counties.



Lake Dale Carla Chapter representative, Geanne Anderson poses with the artists' and the first-place ribbon with Tom Sufana, Lowell High School art teacher. Additional art works that won awards continue on page 3.

Chesterton, Kankakee Valley, Portage and Valparaiso.

The applications were available through the High School art teachers or through the North West District Art Chairman and the State Chairman, Barbara Black Eckert.



Each entrant submitted three pieces of art from all mediums.

The contest judges included Mary McClelland, art director, South Shore Arts in Munster, and myself, Samantha Dalkilic-Miestowski, owner of The Steeple Gallery, Ltd. in St. John.

The first place ribbon and \$100 went to Ashley Kronsell who submitted three paintings:

Studio."

The second place ribbon and \$50 went to Portage High School student, Taylor Hill. She intends to pursue a degree at the Herron School of Art in Indianapolis in association with I.U.P.U.I.

The third place ribbon and \$25 went to Portage High School student, Justine Herrera. Herrera plans on attending the American Academy of Art in Chicago. Paula Wiese is the art teacher for Portage High School.

Every student who submitted art received a certificate for their participation.

Scott Zborowski an entrant from Chesterton High School said about art, "I love to use my imagination and put whatever comes to my mind on paper." Zborowski submitted a drawing with pencil, and Photoshop illustrations. He was thrilled to share, "I have been accepted to the American Academy of Art in Chicago. I plan on pursuing a degree in Graphic Design."

Kankakee Valley High School student, Stephanie Boissy, submitted a wire tree sculpture, and two altered books. She explained about art, "I've had a passion for art since kindergarten. I've always wanted to fulfill my life with art. It make me happy."

Boissy plans on attending IPFW with a major in art education.

Kronsell, the first place winner, has an opportunity to submit her works to the state level for the prize of an IFC scholarship at the State Convention in Indianapolis.

Congratulations to the art students, their art teachers, and the wonderful ladies of the GFWC.

For more information about next years opportunities, please call Barbara Black Eckert at (219) 865-8738 or Tanya Bland at (219) 465-0891.

Additional photos, page 3

Area young artists win prizes and show talent at art show



PJphotos provided to the Star

The General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) sponsored the art contest for any graduating senior planning to pursue an art degree in college for students in Lake, Porter, Jasper and LaPorte counties. Clockwise from top left, is first-place winner and Lowell High School senior, Ashley Kronsell's "Amistad," an acrylic painting of a barn; Kankakee Valley High School student Stephanie Boissy, submitted a tree sculpture and her altered books as art; at right, a group of volunteers who helped make the contest run smoothly; and Scott Zborowski of Chesterton H.S., with his three entries.

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