

Fiber Connections Show Opens At Scenic Regional Gallery



Story by **Rebecca Aldrich**
Advertiser-Courier Correspondent
Photo by **Tony Carosella**

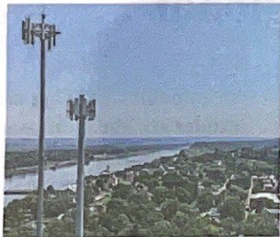
Lynette Watts awards several of the fiber artists for outstanding work at the opening of the new show

It was a full house at The Gallery at the Library on Friday night, Aug. 2 for the opening of another great art exhibition, "Fiber Connections: Missouri Fiber Artist (MOFA)." Scenic Regional Library, Hermann Branch Manager Tiffany Richards was very pleased with the turnout. "Seeing all these people here is what makes me happy," she said, gesturing towards the crowded gallery. The space is a somewhat hidden gem in Hermann, and it was gratifying to see the show so well attended. The exhibit includes a wide range of pieces created by 30 fiber artists from all over the state.

A fiber artist in her own right, Hermann resident Lynette Watts was one of the Jurors for the show, along with fellow artist Bartow Molloy. "Bartow could not be here tonight," said Watts, "but she wanted me to say that working on this exhibit was a lot of fun. I would also add that it was very challenging," said Watts. "It's exciting to see where fiber art is going, from what was traditionally a functional art form and now moving to art that can just be enjoyed as art,"

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Cell Tower Replacement Projected For November



AT&T and Centurytel Cell Towers overlook the downtown historic district and sometimes have difficulty on festival weekends.

Photo and Story By Tony Carosella

Cell phone coverage sometimes grinds to a halt when big events happen in town. The City requests AT&T to boost capacity with mobile units that sometimes are booked elsewhere. The two cell towers located adjacent to the St. George Cemetery and operated by AT&T and Centurytel cover the Hermann area with 5G and 4G and the Centurytel tower that will come down upon completion of a new 5G tower that is projected for November. This past weekend with the Jazz Festival, Sound of Music Show, and regular live music at local venues brought a multitude of cell phone users to town and caused an overload of data usage.

Upcoming Events

Saturday

Live Music at Stone Hill Winery, Hermannhof Winery and 1837 Cellar Bar & Grill

Hermann Wedding Trail 2024

Yoga on the Bluff at Hermann Hill Weddings

Sunday

3pm Ebenezer Stone Church Ice Cream Social

Live Music 1837 Cellar Bar & Grill





Photos and story by **Tony Carosella**

Hot Jazz was served up at the Hermann Jazz Festival. The event was held at the Clara Eitmann-Messmer Amphitheater and featured Pablo Sanhueza and KC Latin Jazz, and the Ernest Melton Trio also from Kansas City. The Festival started at 3pm and had the audience seeking shaded from the sun but were chilling after the sun went down.



ardelli caramel. Topped with whipped cream.



Photo by **Tony Carosella**

Kammy Downs, from Kansas City won Best of Show for her fabric panel painting "Elderberry"

Fiber Show At The Scenic Regional

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said Watts, before announcing the winners.

The Best of Show piece was created by Kammy Downs, from Kansas City. Her fabric panel painting "Elderberry" is one of a series of ten panels of layered, whimsical, translucent material that Downs painted using medicinal herbal tinctures and other natural materials. A second panel was also in the show, titled "Pulsatilla." Downs shared that herbs and natural remedies became important to her in her health journey, and she began to use them in her artwork to express the healing she experienced. Downs was accompanied to the show at Hermann by her daughter, Dr. Sabra Coop, who became a functional medical doctor as a result of her mother's influence.

There were so many wonderful pieces at the show, it was hard to choose a winner, according to Watts. But the two Honorable Mentions were chosen as "bookends" to the exhibit, she said, "one looking back, and one looking forward." The looking back winner was "Measure a Year Stitch Journal" by Jennifer Wax, from Columbia. This work was a wall hanging of 365 squares, each delicately embroidered using different stitches and coloring, reminiscent of a sampler from long ago. The other bookend piece was a vibrant, sunny screenprint wall hanging called "Reflections" created by Joyelle Proot, from St. Louis. Proot is

an embodiment of her name, her eyes and smile, her entire person exudes joy. She didn't want to reveal her age, but the friends who accompanied her to the exhibit said that people would probably like to know that Proot is a member of the School Sisters of Notre Dame in St. Louis. Proot said her inspiration for "Reflections" was from one of the Smithsonian buildings in Washington, D.C. "The outside of the museum is all mirrored," she said, "and as I sat there, I began to notice what was being reflected." She shot several pictures, and in the darkroom took out all the gray tones. The resulting screenprint, in hues of bright orange and yellow is a fantastic collage of those images. It was an interesting juxtaposition to have the forward looking "bookend" be the product of perhaps one of the elder artists in the show.

Other winners included "The Spinster" by Janet Moore of St. Louis for best technique, "Peacock With Slow Stitch Study" by Rhonda Schrum from Wentzville for most expressive use of color, and "Werrifesteria" by Neosho artis Stacy Heydt for best surface design. The "Fiber Connections: Missouri Fiber Artist (MOFA)" exhibit runs through Friday, Oct. 18 at The Gallery at the Library. Admission is free.

