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Artwork by St. Mary's elementary school students in Grafton hung throughout the school on Thursday evening, May 7. Proud parents and students browsed through the exhibition. Grade 4 students made plaster masks of their faces. The workshop encouraged teamwork, as well as individual expression through the painting and detailing of the masks. This activity enriched the medieval social studies unit. Above is the work of Daina Thompson. Below is Karlee Cochrane's piece.

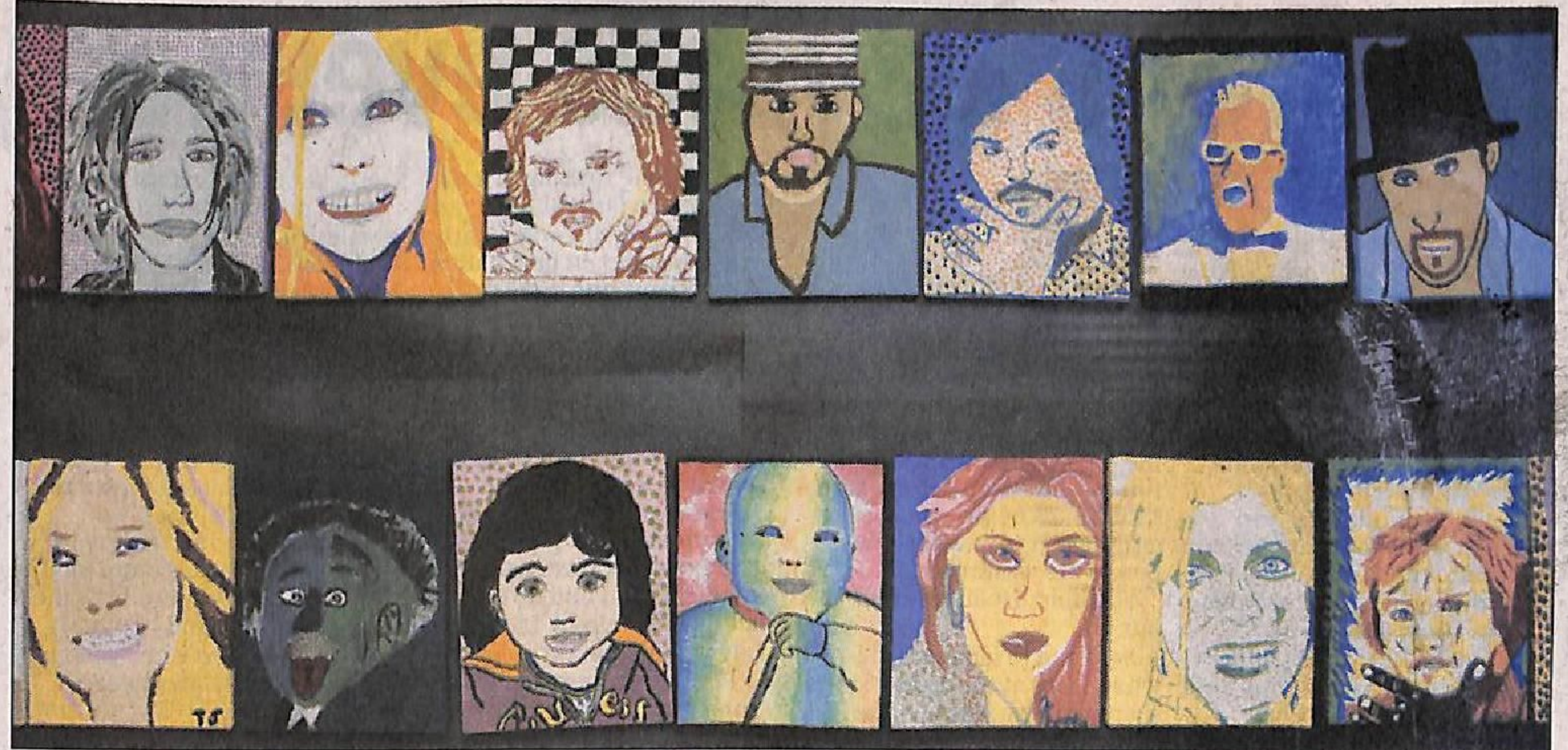


Karlee Cochrane

ART: Display shines light on the talents of students at St. Mary's in Grafton



Grade 6 student Collin Jarvis did a Toronto skyline called *CN Tower Starry Night*. Students studied the art of Vincent Van Gogh using the *Starry Night* painting. They learned to identify the elements and principles of design in the painting. They included their knowledge of this inspirational artwork to make their own modern interpretation with oil pastels. Duda said Collin used the oil pastels in a very painterly way by overlapping and blending colours. The result is an artwork with an expressionistic quality and a real feeling of movement in the sky. He even included details showing the reflections of the city in the water. She called his work, "quite exceptional."



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Grade 8 students used a grid to develop an acrylic portrait of their choice. They studied the work of Andy Warhol and Chuck Close, a 21st-century artist who overcame dyslexia to produce quality artwork. The portraits were painted on canvas, exploring various techniques.

Young artists exhibit their work



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Aimee Emerson, 10, poses with her mask and art instructor Jenny Duda during the exhibit.

GRAFTON – Budding artists from St. Mary Catholic Elementary School in Grafton had the opportunity to show their masterpieces May 7 at the Young Artists Exhibition.

During the past few months, art workshops facilitated by guest artist Jenny Duda have encouraged and nurtured the imaginations of the students, as well as developed their abilities and skills.

The workshops included exposure to a variety of media, some of which included chalk, oil, pastel, print making, fibre art, Plasticine, clay, plaster, graphite and acrylic.

"Visual art or any other form of art needs a lot of concentration, involvement and emotions to express," principal Christine Kolowycz said.

"It is important to encourage an appreciation and love

of art at a young age. Our school works very hard to engender a positive approach to art of all kinds developing the next generation of young artists.

"As part of this process it is vital to show the artwork produced, giving a sense of pride and achievement. I'm delighted the young people will be able to enjoy this opportunity."



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Coral Peloquin, 11, shows her Plasticine interpretation of Canadian artist Tom Thomson's painting *Beaver Swamp*.