

Ontario artists set to color Erin's world

By STEFFANI LOVIE

Banner Staff Writer

More than 30 artists from Southern Ontario will 'easel' into next weekend, by exhibiting at Erin's Art in the Park.

Wendy Melbye, of the Erin and District Arts Council said entries include water colors, pencil sketches,

wood carvings, fused glass, stained glass, silver jewelry and photography.

"The only criteria we used was that the art had to be original and it had to be handcrafted," Ms. Melbye said. "We stayed away from anything that was patterned or used manufactured materials - like t-shirt painting."

The show will run from 9 a.m.-4

p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the Erin Lion's Club park.

The show is the final event for the arts council before the fall.

"This is our first show. We're doing it to promote artists from all over southern Ontario. We hope to show people that you don't have to go to Toronto to get your share of

culture."

Artists from Barrie, Erin, Orangeville, Grand Valley, Burlington and Toronto will be showing their work at the show.

Rosemaire Harris and Robert McMichael will be judging the work and prizes will be awarded for top placements, she said.

"All of the work at the show will be of professional quality. We want the show to have a reputation for high standards, without being elitist. We also want to be careful not to discourage beginners.

"If a new artist does a piece of work that shows a lot of promise - that person will be given the same opportunity in future years to exhibit their work as more established artists."

Ms. Melbye said the show will also feature a children's exhibit, called 'Artists of Tomorrow'.

"We'd really like to encourage serious young artists. There are so many awards for sports and scholastics, but there's not much around for young artists."

The youngest entrant in the show is a six-year-old water color artist.

"She's really very good. The grasp this little girl has on perspective is amazing."

She said awards for children will be presented at 3 p.m. Saturday and adult presentations will be done at the

PREVIEW

EVENT: Erin's Art in the Park.

WHEN: June 28 and 29.

WHERE: Lion's Club Park, Erin.

WHAT: 30 artists from across southern Ontario exhibiting their work.

same time Sunday.

"We're really excited because all of the artists will be at the show to sell their work. They're very approachable and we're hoping that will make the art more personable to the public."

Discover the Grand Valley trail

The Village of Alton, just 3 km south of Orangeville, is the northern point to the Grand Valley Trail.

The Grand Valley Trail, which was started in the Kitchener-Waterloo area in 1973, now has a length of 255 km.

From the southern end at Lake Erie near Dunville it winds through the Grand River Valley to Alton, in the Caledon Hills.



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