

**KAREN'S FLOWER SHOP**  
 Thanksgiving  
 October 11th  
 487 Laurier Ave.,  
 878-2881  
 "Family owned for over 30 years"

# Champion COMMUNITY Page

## Autumn sees blossoming of arts festival

By IRENE GENTLE  
 The Champion

On Thanksgiving weekend, Milton's various arts groups will join together to throw what is essentially a giant party celebrating homegrown talent in voice, dance, storytelling, theatre and fine arts.

"It is a rebirth of the creative spirit in town," said Arts Milton president Laura Jeffrey. "Hopefully this will help people who don't know what we have in Milton see what we have."

The Celebration of the Arts festival will run Saturday, Oct. 9 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 10 from noon to 6 p.m. Activities will be staged indoors and out all through the downtown core.

Tickets are \$10 per adult and \$5 for students and seniors. Children under 12 get in free.

A ticket will buy attendees a pass to all the indoor events.

The festival will kick off with a cake and ribbon cutting ceremony at the Farmer's Market, Saturday at 10 a.m.

All day performances at the Knox Presbyterian Church and St. Paul's United Church on Main Street will follow.

### Juried art show among the activities

Both Hugh Foster Hall and Town Hall will be bursting with fine arts talent through a juried art show and sale featuring established area artists.

But the fine art future of Milton will also be on display through a smaller show of emerging talent.

And to keep it personal, the artists of both shows will be on hand for meet and greets and questions about their work.

But the affair will contain at least one no-show.

Actor David James Elliott, a Milton native who now stars on the television series JAG, has had to back out of attending the event due to work obligations.

"This year we'll just go with what we have," said Ms Jeffrey, who added that she is hoping to invite Mr. Elliott again in the future.

### Arts encouragement crucial, says Jeffrey

On the positive side, there are few better times than Thanksgiving weekend for families to enjoy an outing together, said Ms Jeffrey.

The arts, after all, are about enjoyment and life.

"I think it is the most important thing, in terms of quality of life," said Ms Jeffrey. "It would be a very dull life without it."

She sees encouragement of the arts as crucial, especially in children.

"I see where children are losing it in the schools and I see the desire of the children to have lessons," she said. "It is certainly important to the families I talk to."

But an anticipated growth spurt in town should prove a boon to the arts community over the next decade, said Ms Jeffrey.

"I think it can only have a positive impact. We'll have larger audiences," she said. "Of course, we'll have to work for them." That is something some arts groups and individual artists have had trouble with in the past, she said.

"A lot of these people work in anonymity. They don't often plan their promotions," said Ms Jeffrey. "It is just the nature of



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Laura Jeffrey holds some of the Celebration of Arts passports in front of one of the works of art available to be won during the October 9 and 10 event. The J.E.H. MacDonald painting entitled 'Algoma Bush' was donated by the Dorland-Haight Gallery.

these groups. Publicity is not the first thing they think of."

In the often solitary world of creativity, neither is working communally. But learning the value of both could give the arts community a leg up in one of their pet goals — a new arts facility.

"We are hoping to see if Milton will be able to get a physical building for its arts groups," said Ms Jeffrey. "Anything we can do to get ourselves in front of the public and let everyone know what a vibrant arts community this is."

The idea for the Celebration of the Arts stemmed from a successful art show held previously by the Fine Arts Society of

Milton.

Arts Milton took that premise and opened it up to embrace all artistic forms.

But it really got off the ground thanks to a \$5,000 grant from the Region's Halton Healthy Communities Consortium.

"We felt that encouraging the arts groups to come together and showcase their talent is a sign of a healthy community," said Ms Jeffrey.

So did the Milton Rotary Club, which also came on board as a partner.

**CABLEWORKS**  
 COMMUNICATIONS  
 Registered Name  
 Acton  
 21 Main Street North,  
 Acton, ON L7J 1V9  
 519-853-1270, or 853-4700

### Cableworks 14 Programming Schedule — September 28 - October 4, 1999

Tuesday, September 28th	Wednesday, September 29th	Thursday, September 30th	Sunday, October 3rd	Monday, October 4th
5:30, 6:30, 7:30pm Plugged In!	5:30, 6:30, 7:30pm Plugged In!	5:30, 6:30, 7:30pm Plugged In!	Sunday Programming Returns Next Week!	5:30, 6:30, 7:30pm Plugged In!
6:00pm Down To Earth	6:00pm Hands Up Puppeteers	6:00pm Spot The Dangers		6:00pm Classics Against Cancer
7:00pm No Man's Land	7:00pm The Garden Tour	7:00pm Internet 101		7:00pm Living on the Edge
	8:00pm Milton Council			8:00pm SportsZONE Live

Feature of the week: SportsZONE Live Returns Monday, 6pm!

T a k i n g   y o u r   c a b l e   f u r t h e r