

13TH STUDIO TOUR

Artist taught herself glassware painting while recuperating

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When an accident forced Jane McLellan to become housebound for a while four years ago, she needed something to occupy her time and mind while the body healed.

Prior to the accident, Ms McLellan finished furniture in her spare time. While recuperating, she looked around her home for other items that could use some TLC and prettying up.

She found glassware, salt and pepper shakers, candle holders, jars and canister sets fit the description.

"To make life more special," the 60-year-old married mother of two said.

'Pottery or jewelry opens it up to people who aren't too sure about art for their walls.'

Diana Bullock

spokesperson for the Stouffville Studio Tour

Ms McLellan is a self-taught glassware painter who used books and photographs posted on Pinterest for design ideas.

"I just tried," she said.

"I think I have a lot to learn in terms of skill," Ms McLellan admitted.

The Stouffville Studio Tour jury, however, thought her work was solid enough that they invited her to be a part of this year's show.

Ms McLellan is one of 29 art-

ists showcasing their work in 18 locations throughout Whitchurch-Stouffville during the 13th annual Stouffville Studio Tour and Sale, which runs Oct. 19 and 20. Admission is free.

Ms McLellan and her painted glassware, which are both new to the tour, join a growing number of functional artists on the circuit.

"Pottery or jewelry opens it up to people who aren't too sure about art for their walls," said Diana Bullock, spokesperson for the Stouffville Studio Tour.

Ms McLellan uses folk art enamel paint specifically created for glass. Only the outside of the item is painted and the artwork begins below the mouth area.

All of the pieces are usable but need to be hand washed.

The artists are opening up their studios to the public for the self-guided tour. In some instances, they are also sharing that space with a couple of other artists.

"If you're in a big room you might not be able to see all the artists. This way, the artist is right there ... you get to talk to them," Ms Bullock said.

Other media on the tour include acrylic, encaustic, oil, Sumi-e and watercolour.

There are also graphite drawings, photography, silk scarves, totems, wood block printing and wood turning.

For information on studio tour locations, go to www.stouffvillestudiotour.com



STAFF PHOTO/SUSIE KOCKERSCHIEDT

Jane McLellan paints a set of glasses in preparation for next weekend's Stouffville Studio Tour.

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