

Art Forms

Summer Arts Festival Was Great Success

BY JULIE J. AMSBERRY
Yankton Area Arts



Julie
AMSBERRY

The 31st Summer Arts Festival was once again a successful weekend at Riverside Park! The weather was beautiful and the artists were busy! Congratulations to our Best of Show winners: in Fine Crafts, Barnwood Trays from Omaha, Nebraska, and in Fine Arts, RBrooks Designs from Britton, South Dakota. Both were new artists to the festival this year! Honorable Mention in Fine Crafts was Oxbow Natural Landscapes from Bellwood, Nebraska, and in Fine Arts, Cedars Studios from Mission Hill! The festival, however, wouldn't be possible without the endless hours our volunteers dedicated to the event each year! Special thanks to the Godfather of Summer Arts Festival and Assistant Director Craig Sherman!

The current exhibit at the GAR Hall Art Gallery, titled #ArtHappensHere, is a new exhibit featuring the yearly activities of Yankton Area Arts. Guests will see artwork created by the 2014-15 sixth grade students at Yankton Middle School with the help of artist and teacher, Cheryl Peterson-Halsey. Also on exhibit is a multitude of 2015 Art Adventure pro-

jects under the title "South Dakota: 125 Years." Elementary students in the Yankton Public School System studied and created South Dakota landscapes, animals, flowers, and buildings. Be sure to admire the costume pieces made and on display by this year's Art Advocate of the Year, Pam Kallis. Then join us for a reception in her honor tonight (Friday) from 5-7 p.m. Yankton Area Arts houses two art groups throughout the year who each have items on display: the River

City Area Woodcarvers and the Connecting Artists. We also hold various classes and events throughout the year including Kids Studio Art Classes, the Summer Concert Series, Summer Arts Festival, Crimson Door, Tour of Homes, Meridian en Blanc, Kids Art Fest and community art projects ... all of which are represented in this fun, interactive exhibit! #ArtHappensHere is on exhibit at GAR Hall through Oct. 6.

YAA was honored to take part in Graffiti Night & Downtown River Walk Tour on Wednesday, Sept. 2. With the help of renowned artists Mickey Harris, Yankton River-Walk, and First Dakota Bank, we had a great time adding color to the former Goetz Law Office building. Thank you to all the volunteers, kids, parents, and friends to help us with the underwater-themed graffiti! If you haven't seen it yet, be sure to

drive by soon ... it won't be there for long!

Thank you, Yankton, for helping me to have a fantastic first year at Yankton Area Arts! Please let us know how we are doing, visit our gallery, become a member, volunteer to help us out, and follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

Yankton Area Arts is a non-profit arts organization located at 508 Douglas Avenue in Yankton. The G.A.R. Hall Art Gallery is open to the public free of charge from 1-5 p.m. weekdays and from 1-3 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information, call the YAA office at (605) 665-9754 or email yaa@iaw.net

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