

# LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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Wednesday, March 28, 2007



"Kings," by Kaylan George, 2-D entry, 1st place

Photo by Lee Borrowman

## You Know it's Spring When our Parks Grow Eggs!

By Lee Borrowman

The annual Eggstravaganza was held at the Moraga Commons last Saturday. Children aged one to six raced up the hill to find the traditional hidden treasures. Co-sponsored by the Moraga Junior Women's Club and Moraga Parks and Rec, the Eggstravaganza once again attracted families from across Lamorinda. Photos were taken with the Eggstravaganza Bunny, faces were painted by local Girl Scouts and lots of sugar-induced energy was bounced away in a pair of inflatables. The Eggstravaganza is a charity event, which will this year benefit A Friendly Manor, a daytime drop-in center for homeless women in Oakland.

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## Students Take the Prize from the Orinda Arts Council

By Lee Borrowman

The Orinda Arts Council presented awards to the winners of the 2007 Student Visual Arts Competition during a reception at the Orinda Library Art Gallery on Sunday, March 25. Program Coordinator Ann Mordine said of this 5th year of the competition, "We received more entries this year than ever before, and we are very excited because we received some truly interesting and compelling work. Each piece that came in showed a lot of innate talent; there is a lot of promise in every artist that entered."

Mordine went on to say that this year's artists employed, "Some incredibly challenging techniques, not just for the sake of technique but in support of their material. The judges were excited to see a high level of sophistication. This is a reflection not only of the incredible talent of the artists, but of the high quality of art education and technical guidance they are receiving."

Bentley School art teacher Sue Anderson, who attended the ceremony, believes the event is a fantastic opportunity for students. "For these young artists, having a chance to show their work in public, rather than just in the classroom, is like taking the next step. For them to take the risk and the pleasure of showing their work to others, and to consider the answers to questions such as 'How do people respond to my work? Do they understand my message? Am I communicating with them?' means they are moving on to the next phase of their artistic lives."

The competition was divided into three categories, Photography, 2-D and 3-D. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards were given in each category, as well as twenty-seven Honorable Mentions. Some of the judges' comments on the winning pieces were placed near the entries.

The 1st place award for Photography went to Lucy Wittenberg, who is in 10th grade at Miramonte. Her entry was titled, "Be Mine?" The judges particularly liked "the quality of light and strong composition of 'Be Mine?'" It is poetic, expansive and leaves a lot to the imagination. The offset figure provides an ethereal narrative."

In the 2-D category, "Kings," by Kaylan George, a Campolindo senior, took top honors. "Kings" is a 5-panel painting. The judges were "impressed with the overall

composition and technique of 'Kings.' The artist's appreciation of paint gave energy to the subject." They loved "Kings" "pop-culture sensibility and slight representational approach," and they were "impressed by the diverse color palette and use of text."

"Pointed Amphora," by Richard Alex Krevin, a senior at Miramonte, was awarded the 1st place prize for 3-D work. The judges all felt that "Pointed Amphora" was an amazing piece. They

*Inspiration is where you find it. Daniel Seymour found his in the internet game, "World of Warcraft." Seymour's 2nd place 3-D work, "Orcish Fishing Pole," contains elements similar to those used in the popular role-playing game. Seymour cast the metals himself, and assembled the chainmail using links purchased, of course, from an on-line vendor.*



"Orcish Fishing Pole," by Daniel Seymour, 3-D entry, 2nd place


Photo by Lee Borrowman

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found its "concept and execution excellent. It showed an intuitive understanding of the material." When picking it up, they were "further impressed by its light weight, which further indicates that it was well thrown."

An exhibit of the 212 entries received in the 2007 Student Visual Arts Competition will be at the Orinda Library Art Gallery until Friday, April 13.

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"Protest," by Andy Hurrell, 2-D entry, tied for 3rd place

## Goodbye, Chief!

By Lee Borrowman

Mike Fisher has been the Chief of the Lafayette Police Department since July, 2004; he retires this week. During his tenure, Chief Fisher successfully handled some very high-profile cases. But he takes the most pride in some of the other issues he has tackled.

"I'm proud to have been able to recruit good officers," said Fisher. "Last year overall crime in Lafayette dropped by 16%." Fisher's

efforts to maintain a high quality staff did not stop at recruitment. Seeing an increasing problem with methamphetamine use in the area, Fisher sent some of his officers to drug enforcement training. Fisher considers one of his most valuable achievements to have been: "Getting on the meth dealers. Meth was driving the crime in this city."

As a result of a 330% increase in drug arrests and an occasional prostitution bust, the Police Department coffers have seen a new influx of funds by way of asset forfeitures.

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