

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

“Contemporary Realism” winners celebrated at Municipal Gallery

By **ARMANDO E. PADILLA**

Sparkling on the corner of Grand Avenue & Juniper is Escondido’s artistic gem. Known to locals as EAP, the Escondido Arts Partnership Municipal Gallery hosts a vast array of local talent. Each wall mesmerizes art collectors, rendering it difficult for them to peel their eyes from the art.

“Attention!” Executive Director Chrisanne Moats said, “We will be announcing the winners of this year’s Contemporary Realism exhibit.” The reception was held May 12 at the gallery located at 262 East Grand Ave. This exhibit will be running from now until June 3.

Each month, EAP hosts friendly art competitions critiqued by respectable local personalities. The evening’s event was judged by art instructor Michael Steirnagle, an accomplished artist himself.

First place was awarded to Nicolas Kuenzi’s “*Still Life*,” a painting with bold yet whimsical composition. “*Hometown Blues*” by artist Robin Razkick’s was awarded third place.

It was second place winner Michael Steirnagle who stood out amongst the artists. The photo realism of his paintings was so pristine you could practically walk the sidewalks of his art. His subjects depicted architectural struc-



Michael Steirnagle in front of one of his paintings.

tures of northern San Diego. Another standout feature to his art was the fact that he actually painted the streets. This minute detail rendered the compositions even more photo realistic.

Almost every art collector and spectator is intrigued by the influential pasts of the artists. Steirnagle quoted one of his former art instructors about his artistic discipline.

“You students are complaining about doing one piece of art,” Steirnagle quoted: “Imagine going to college and having to do one-hundred of the same thing!”

With three paintings on the walls of the gallery and a second place win, that quote has proven valuable. A 3-D digital designer by day, Steirnagle finds that primitive methods of traditional art clears his mind. Passionate about his day job, he also feels like traditional art compliments his digital works.

“I enter these events to be around other artists,” Steirnagle explains.

Competitions are oftentimes entered for friendly camaraderie among artists. The enthusiasm of the conversations between artists is contagious. This was an event where placing was an honor. Through it all, every artist wins through their quest for freedom.

You can learn more about EAP at: <http://escondidoarts.org/>

SCHOOLS



The grand entrance to the prom was created to emulate the entrance to Disneyland.



Mickey and Minnie greeted the guests to the Mormon Prom.

Mormon prom has Disney theme

This Disney Themed Wonderland Mormon Prom took place in Escondido at the Felicita Stake Center on May 5.

An array of Imagination and hard work went into making the evening a success. The evening started with the entrance to the dance, which featured everything you would expect to see upon arriving to Disneyland, including The Mickey garden, Mickey and Minnie welcoming guests to the “Happiest Prom on Earth,” a Barber-shop Quartet to entertain, and even a roped-off line with a sign to let guests know the “wait time from this point.”

Chaperones were adorned in a wide array of costumes, all Disney!

Each room was decorated with different themes of:

“*Beauty and the Beast*”—the first stop where the rules for the evening were sung to the guests to the tune of “Be Our Guest.” Cinderella’s Castle for the dance hall.

Tomorrowland - with glowing stars, Light sabers, space age foods and the “Star Wars” movie playing.

It’s a Small World and the glowing Electric Parade adorned the halls as guests passed from theme to theme.

The “*Pirates of the Caribbean*” - where treasure was found in every corner, along with the animatronic dog holding the keys to the prison photo-op.



Cinderella’s Castle was one of the themes.

The Enchanted Tiki Room - a respite outside under the giant palms where Dole Whip floats were served, Tiki music played and “Moana” the movie played for guests.

Modest standards in dress, music and conduct were in attendance making this Prom a wonderful place that everyone could be proud to say they attended.