

THIRD ANNUAL “ART IN THE PARK” ART FAIR IN TECUMSEH



“Art in the Park” took place on Saturday and Sunday June 6th and 7th. The fair took place in John Smith Park, an inviting wooded setting. The weather was beautiful and the attendance was excellent. Artists and fair-goers alike were impressed with the high quality of the art presented.

It is one of the major fundraisers for Community Arts of Tecumseh (CAT). It was held in conjunction with the annual Promenade Tecumseh home tour -- a long-standing tradition that brings visitors from southeastern Michigan and northwest Ohio to visit Tecumseh’s historic homes and sites, shop, eat and participate in other events and activities.

Tecumseh is a beautiful and picturesque town 25 miles southwest of Ann Arbor. It is well known for its vintage downtown, quiet tree-lined streets and lovely historic homes.

The event was a juried art fair featuring 23 area artists in 22 booths. The artists displayed a wide variety of media – painting, watercolor, pastels, photography, jewelry, wood, sculpture, paper, ceramics, fiber, glass and handmade canoes and paddles.

There were many other activities for the fairgoers to enjoy. A local art teacher offered children’s activities throughout the weekend. The children created interesting paper hats and experimented with shaving cream marbling on paper. Three local artists were on site to demonstrate their art throughout the weekend featuring plein-air painting, pastels, book making and felt accessories. Community Arts of Tecumseh members created handmade items for sale including raku pendants, felt flower brooches, hand painted gourd birdhouses, memory books and mosaic lawn ornaments.



Sunnyside Café, a local favorite, offered delicious Mexican food for sale.

The Art Center had an exhibit of the work of students, members and instructors. The information booth offered class brochures for the summer art and music camps, a schedule of member gatherings for next fall and the opportunity to join CAT.



In the last few years, funding for K – 12 art and music programs has been cut, and many schools in the area no longer have these programs.

Community Arts of Tecumseh was founded nearly five years ago to address this situation. One of the primary objectives of CAT is to provide much-needed classes for school age children who would not otherwise be exposed to the arts. Other important objectives are to provide adults with cultural enrichment and draw the community into

the Art Center for classes, art exhibits, open studio opportunities and member gatherings.