Exhibit Room Report

Foundation Meeting, March 2023

Respectfully Submitted by Liz Kneer, Exhibit Room Coordinator

Past Exhibit

Women (December 10, 2022-January 28, 2023)

The school district art teachers needed to push back the start date for Youth Art Month, so we were able to extend Women by a week and host a reception for Doris Weed on January 30. 30 people braved the frigid weather to meet Doris and enjoy refreshments while exploring the exhibit.

Children's Department Librarian, Paula Reedy and I collaborated on a program on January 16, targeting our homeschool families, but to also benefit ALL families, since this was a scheduled day off of school. Since our *Women* exhibit featured the powerful *I Am Not Invisible* exhibit from the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, we invited Laura Colbert to share her story as a female veteran. 15 people of all ages attend this moving program.

Our Exhibit Room committee took down the exhibit on February 7, and loaned exhibits from the Wisconsin Veterans Museum and the Wisconsin Historical Society were returned to Madison. In total 2108 people visited the *Women*; final numbers were reported back to both organizations, and they were very happy that so many in our community attended the exhibit.

Current Exhibit

Youth Art Month (February 13, 2023-March 31, 2023)

Youth Art Month is installed, open off to a great start with 1267 visitors in February! This annual collaboration with the School District of Waupaca is an opportunity to draw new faces to the library and continue to spread the word that the library is open and hosting programs and events.

Two local artists judged the artwork. We hosted our Youth Art Month reception on February 13 and estimated that over 300 people attended; it was heartwarming to see the Exhibit Room PACKED with students and their caregivers, with additional people filling the Children's Department and up the stairway. A very big THANK YOU to the Library Foundation for generously donating awards (Chamber gift certificates) to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places as well as best in show. This was a wonderful evening for the library and school district and emphasizes the importance of collaborations that draw new people into our building.

We have a robust selection of programs for the exhibit with our great partners at the Waupaca Arts Hub. February 20 was another day off from school, so we (library staff and Laura Reynolds from the Arts Hub) provided a drop-in take-and-make program for children and their caregivers (or anyone who wants to participate!) from 10a-12. Laura will also provide 8 drop-in take-and-make programs spread across February, March and April. These programs will follow the Children's Department 10a storytime and serve the dual purpose of providing fantastic arts programming for young library patrons and their caregivers, and helping the Hub reach a new demographic as they continue to grow and serve our community. 89 people attended the 3 programs in February.

We are currently hosting 'Woven All Together', the 2023 community art project. It has had lots of participants and adds great color and energy to the exhibit. After Youth Art Month, this artwork will be collected by the Waupaca Community Arts Board and added to pieces from other community groups for display at Arts on the Square in August.

We have 3 rotating art projects available to patrons for passive engagement: Mondrian art, single line drawing, and Mandala art. Each station provides an opportunity to learn about that style of art and either work on a simple project in the Exhibit Room or take it home with you. We provided over 150 Mandala art coloring sheets and ran out before the end of February.

In addition to the in person exhibit, we have an online exhibit available for those that can't make it to the library: https://lizkneer.wixsite.com/yam2023 Watch for posts on Facebook to let the community know about the exhibit as well as an article in the Waupaca County Post.

These strong partnerships with entities like the School District of Waupaca and the Waupaca Arts Hub are increasingly important as we look at ways to reach new patrons for the library. Our programs are more dynamic and inclusive when we work together, and help us, our collaborators, and most importantly, our community.

Youth Art Month is open through March 31. We will take down the exhibit on April 4 and have all artwork ready for the school district art teachers to pick up and return to their students.

Upcoming Exhibit

Rotary: 30 Years & Just Getting Started (February 13, 2023-March 31, 2023)

Rotary has deep roots in Waupaca, and we are excited to help them highlight their contributions to our community (and the world!) with an exhibit celebrating their 30th anniversary. I met with the Waupaca Rotary committee and helped give direction/advice for what to include in their exhibit. We finalized a name and marketing for the exhibit and discussed programming options. Rotary will host a private reception for their members on April 19 from 6-8p in the Exhibit Room. They will serve appetizers and drinks; the permit has been submitted to the City of Waupaca for this. Rotary will also host a series of Wednesday evenings to highlight committees and projects.

Additional Exhibit Room Items

Progress continues on our Exhibit Room remodel project. The furniture and rail system are ordered and should arrive within the next month. I spoke with our new facilities superintendent, and city staff will be able to install the new rail system before our next exhibit is installed. The permanent display case is still on track to be installed ahead of our Summer Learning Program exhibit in June.

I met with Shaun Thoe from the Vergauwen family to discuss recognition for their generous gift. I explained the situation that we had a previous donor that helped with the initial construction of the Exhibit Room, so we would like signage to reflect both families. Shaun was understanding of the situation. We will update our existing signage to recognize both families and host a reception after the remodeling is complete (anticipating June) to celebrate this great update as well as thanking the Vergauwen family for their generosity.

Monthly Attendance Reports

The attendance charts for January and February are included with this report.

2023 Schedule

- Women: December 10-January 28
- Youth Art Month: February 4-March 31
- Waupaca Rotary: 30 Years & Just Getting Started: April 8-June 3
- Waupaca Solar Energy/Waupaca Prairie/Citizen Science (Summer Learning Program): June 10-late August
- Drake Hokanson photography-Late August/September
- Waupaca History 101 (digitized historic collection)-October/November
- Typewriters-December/January

2024 Schedule

- Typewriters-December/January
- Black History Month: January/February
- Youth Art Month: February/March
- Ecuadorian Art: April/May
- Creative Power Collection/ WorkLife (Artists with disabilities/Employment inclusion): Late August/September





We are working hard to welcome Spanish speakers into the library through bilingual signage whenever possible.



Best in Show: Lily Swendrzynski/ 11th Grade



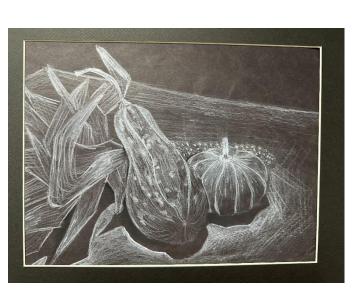
1st Place (High School): Lalita Renteria / 11th Grade

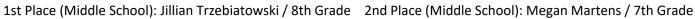


2nd Place (High School): Sydney Ruffalo / 12th Grade

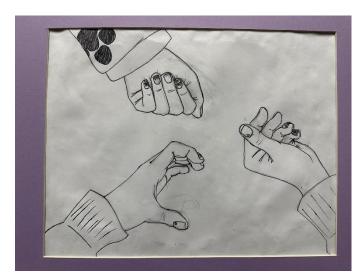


3rd Place (High School): Emma O'Keefe / 12th Grade









3rd Place (Middle School): Mags Kempfert / 7th Grade



1st Place (Elementary School): Juniper Strobush / 3rd Grade



2nd Place (Elementary School): Brady Siglinsky / 1st Grade Grade



3rd Place (Elementary School): Alana Koehler / 5th

Youth Art Month Reception



