

Local art project draws varied responses

BY ALEX HENDERSON
STAFF WRITER

The Chapel Hill Public Arts Commission asked one question for this year's Community Art Project but received a spectrum of answers.

The question was "Why?"

More than 250 residents of Chapel Hill, Carrboro and surrounding areas submitted art pieces during the project's drop-off period Friday and Saturday, said Kate Flory, executive director of the arts commission.

The pieces ranged from cut-and-paste collages and mixed-media sculptures to poetry and quilts.

The only requirement for submission was that the pieces be able to hang from a wall, because every work will be displayed at one of eight participating locations in Chapel Hill and Carrboro, Flory said.

The idea behind the arts project was to engage the entire community in making art, she said.

"Maybe people who don't consid-

er themselves artists — anyone who lives, works or plays in Chapel Hill."

Erica Rothman, co-chairwoman of the community art project committee, said that she came up with the idea for the project after witnessing a similar event in England and that its goal is to foster a deeper understanding of the community.

"It's an opportunity for people to get to know their neighbors in a really different way," she said.

Roberta Wallace, a social worker from Durham, submitted a work of three photographs stitched together, each photo the image of a black cloth hanging on a white background. Wallace titled her work "Grief."

Wallace, a photographer of 10 years, said the photographs deal with the question, "Why is it so difficult to talk about loss?" by emphasizing the need to take time to slow down and work through grief.

Chapel Hill Town Council member Mark Kleinschmidt said the proj-

ect allows for the artist's individual introspections to come together and form a means of mass reflection.

"We have extraordinary people living here in Chapel Hill," he said, and the project gives "an interesting insight into the psyche of who the people of Chapel Hill are."

Linda Larriva, a kindergarten art teacher in Chapel Hill, said her cut-and-paste cardboard collage answers a different question: "Why not just enter the show?"

Larriva, whose husband just built her an art studio, said she enjoys "making something out of nothing."

"I want to get everyone enthused," she said. "(I want) to do something great before I become as old as Grandma Moses."

Zuzanna Vee, a yoga teacher from Pittsboro, said this year is her first time participating in the community art project.

"It's kind of a big step," she said of submitting her work for public

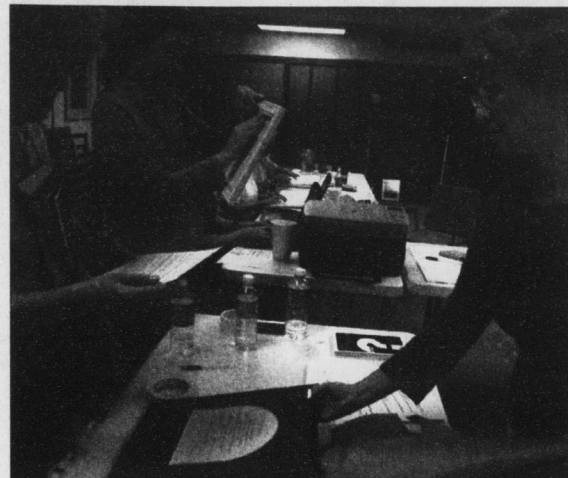
observation. She said her work, a painting of the Sanskrit symbol "Om," embodies the spiritual focus that can answer the question "Why?" while also raising further questions.

All of the works submitted will be dispersed among the Chapel Hill and Carrboro town halls, the Carrboro Century Center, the Chapel Hill Museum and the Chapel Hill Public Library, as well as the PTA Thrift Shop, Jack Sprat Cafe and Carol Woods Retirement Community.

"We wanted people to 'bump into art' around town," Rothman said.

The artists' explanations of how the art answers "Why?" will accompany each piece so residents can "find out what your friends and neighbors are thinking about," Flory said.

The exhibition will begin April 1 with a reception at the Chapel Hill Museum and will run until May 30.



DTH/EDYTHE MCNAMEE

Zuzanna Vee, a yoga teacher from Pittsboro, drops off a piece of her art to answer the question "Why?" Saturday at the Chapel Hill Museum.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

Women's Week 2007

Redefinition of Identity: Magdalen Hsu-Li



Wed., March 28 at 6 p.m.
Union Cabaret

A unique interactive lecture exploring the haven for "cultural identity" through the personal story of Magdalen as an out, Asian-American woman growing up in the rural south and overcoming these obstacles.

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Levy speaks on a "raunch culture" of "female chauvinist pigs" who are "typical of a culture obsessed with Britney Spears, breast implants, and Brazilian bikini waxes."

Thurs., Mar. 29 | 7 p.m. | Chapman 201

Student creates cultural study abroad Web site

Aims to support UNC's minorities

BY DEBORAH NEFFA
STAFF WRITER

When junior Jennifer Andrews decided to study abroad in Madrid, Spain, one of her central concerns was how being a minority would affect her experience overseas.

"I tried to research the experiences of minorities abroad and why we were so underrepresented," said Andrews, who is black.

"However, I found that there was a lack of information available."

As a result, Andrews said she decided to develop a Web site catered specifically to minority students at UNC.

The site, International and Cultural Awareness for Minority Students, seeks to promote and support study abroad among minorities and can be found within the UNC Study Abroad Web site at studyabroad.unc.edu/icams.

The site gives students advice from other students and advisers, links to need- and academic-based scholarships and lists national statistics demonstrating the underrepresentation of minorities studying abroad.

The site's statistics, provided by the National Association of Foreign Student Advisers, show that in 2003-04 almost 84 percent of U.S. students who studied abroad were

Caucasian, 6 percent were Asian, 5 percent were Hispanic and only 3.4 percent were black.

"Nationally, the statistics are not as shocking to me just because most minorities do come from a lower socio-economic class," said Erika Lopez-Finn, a Hispanic sophomore who said that she plans to study abroad in Spain in spring 2008.

"Students aren't focusing on studying abroad," she said. "They're focusing on just paying for college itself."

Arnav Saha, a sophomore of Indian heritage who studied abroad in the Singapore first-year immersion program last summer, said he strongly encourages minority students to take advantage of any scholarships available.

Saha said if it weren't for the scholarship he received through the immersion program, he probably wouldn't have gone abroad.

"I couldn't afford a \$10,000 program over the summer," he said.

"Minority applicants have one of the coolest opportunities to study abroad," Saha said.

"You get so much out of it. You get a more pragmatic perspective on things, greater self-confidence and a much greater thirst for knowledge."

"I want to reiterate to minorities how important it is to study abroad in ... a global economy."

JENNIFER ANDREWS, JUNIOR

Bob Miles, associate dean for study abroad and international exchanges, said ICAMS gives minority students who are concerned about racism abroad positive encouragement.

"It's the atmosphere that's created," Miles said. "It's about peer identity. It says, 'If my peers have done this, this could be for me.' And that's extremely valuable."

Andrews said she hopes ICAMS will help dispel some of the common misconceptions minorities might have about studying abroad.

"The study abroad experience is something that you cannot receive from a textbook," she said. "The work environment is becoming increasingly global, and ... we have progressively more access to global markets."

"I want to reiterate to minorities how important it is to study abroad in such a global economy."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

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				4	1	3	7	
1	7					5	4	
	3	2	5		7	4		
2		8	7	3			5	
5					3	2		
4		7						3
	5		2	1	7			
7	3			6				

To Play: Complete the grid so that every 3x3 box, row and column contains the digits 1 to 9. Just use logic to solve. No number is repeated in any column, row or box.

Solution to Friday's

9	1	3	2	7	6	5	4	8
2	7	8	4	9	5	1	3	6
5	6	4	3	1	8	2	7	9
7	2	6	5	3	1	9	8	4
3	4	5	7	8	9	6	1	2
1	8	9	6	4	2	7	5	3
4	9	1	8	2	7	3	6	5
6	3	7	9	5	4	8	2	1
8	5	2	1	6	3	4	9	7

THE Daily Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

ACROSS

- Eton rival
- Fly high
- June honoree
- Tropical lizard
- Rabbit relative
- Novelist Levin
- Everyone's home
- Moral misdeed
- Moves furtively
- Ferber and Best
- Weep loudly
- Actor Ray
- Richard of "Chicago"
- Difficult to deal with
- On the qui vive
- Observe again
- Parakeet's pad
- Kind of meat
- Picnic crawlers
- Philosopher
- Kierkegaard
- Tender spot
- Support
- Tarzan's friends
- Jules of sci-fi
- Cooperative interaction
- Spooned
- Jubilant gaiety
- Dumbfound
- Parched
- Perk
- Seem
- Assay
- Savory
- Segno
- Exult
- Rancor
- Manatee
- Air
- Rae
- Adage
- Wiley
- Post
- Ripen
- Idas
- Hair
- Straight
- Sone
- Itsy

DOWN

- That man
- In the past
- Boring routine
- Cheers
- Roadwork situation
- With caution
- Military hat
- Galley tools
- Special skill
- Do some cobbling
- Orlando attraction
- Opera song
- Duryea and Dailey
- Conclusion
- Decked out
- Sandal ties
- "The Gift of the Magi" writer
- New England newspaper
- Narrow valley
- Try a new arrangement of letters
- Quite a while
- Money-maker
- Rapid
- Facsimile
- Have a life
- Herb for stuffing
- Ice cream pick
- Input additional revisions
- Kuala
- Like sailor's stories
- Trifle
- Tibetan priest
- Object of devotion
- Supreme Court count
- Get smart with
- Volcanic emission
- To the degree
- Sniggler's prey
- Make an effort

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