

Rossmoor artists receive awards at annual spring art show in Danville

Robert Moore takes home prize for 'best of show' painting

Rossmoor residents Robert Moore and Angela Cheng received awards at the Annual Open Spring Art Show at the Danville Fine Arts Gallery.

Moore won best of show for his oil painting, "Gatehouse at Charleston," and Cheng received second place for her acrylic and collage, "Silk Road and Gobi Desert."

The show is co-sponsored annually by the Alamo Danville Artists Society and the Danville Area Cultural Alliance.

The show is open to anyone who applies. A committee of artists selects the entries and a distinguished independent artist judges the entries.

The Alamo Danville Artists Society is a non-profit group of more than 225 artists, many of them professional artists. The Danville Area Cultural Alliance is a nonprofit organization that fosters cultural activities throughout central Contra Costa County, sponsoring about 10 shows a year.

The gallery is located at 233 Front St. (above the Village Theatre), Danville. Its hours are Wednesday through Saturday noon to 5 p.m. The show will run until Friday, April 1.



Robert Moore's painting, "Gatehouse at Charleston," received best of show at the art show in Danville.



A painting by Bob Moore.

Art Association meeting features painting demo

For the monthly member meeting, the Rossmoor Art Association will feature a painting demonstration by Bob Moore, a Rossmoorian and active member of the R.A.A. the meeting will be Wednesday, May 1 at 2 p.m.

Moore will complete an oil painting for this program, starting with a sketch, and his subject will be either a still-life or a full figure. Moore is a realist and has become known for his vibrant and representational works. He paints rapidly and expects to complete his work in 1-1/2 hours.

Moore began painting seriously on Jan. 1, 1999, after making a resolution to dedicate himself to oil painting as a hobby and avocation, in retirement.

His interest in art developed at an early age and when attending high school, he took extra classes in drawing, sketching and life drawing, in addition to his regular studies.

At the end of World War II, an art instructor offered to be his mentor if he promised to seriously pursue art. At that time, abstract expressionism was in vogue and the "prospect of throwing paint on a canvas" was not something he could conscientiously embrace.

Instead, he followed a business and academic career, far removed from art. For the next 50 years, the only art he engaged in was an occasional pencil sketch during dull meetings or lectures through the years. However, whenever possible, he visited museums and galleries and he now considers these trips his real art education.

He spent some time sculpting in clay and marble as retirement approached and he enjoyed these activities almost as much as he enjoys painting, now.

After auditing an art class at his university, a year before his retirement, he found that students were encouraged to spend more time talking about their work, rather than actually learning the techniques of painting. So he turned to "how to" books and since then, has been largely self-taught.

He finds rewards in painting portraits, figures, still-lives, landscapes and moves from one to the other, as the mood strikes him.

He paints in oils as its colors have vibrancy and translucence found in no other medium. Also, oils are very "forgiving." When one makes a blunder, in oil it can be easily corrected.