

KIDS IN PRINT

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Making Art for Everybody

By T. Lee Brown



"I love art because I grew up around it," Rachel Sienna told Kids in Print. She is an artist who likes to draw. Recently she made copies of her black-and-white line drawings, and invited people to color the drawings or make their own.

The artwork was on display at Sisters Coffee, on a large board. People of all ages joined in.

A kid named Berin created their own, purple-outlined drawing for the board. An 8-year-old named Ellie made a multicolored flower design. Other kids and grownups colored in Rachel's drawings

of Sisters Country sights like hiking boots and llamas.

Every participants' creativity became part of the art piece. Some people call this "participatory art." Sometimes, art activity that turns spectators into collaborators is called "social practice" artwork.

Growing up, "I was always coloring, doodling, or drawing in moments of waiting," Rachel explained. "It would calm me. It would help me concentrate. It would give me a calm blank space and then freedom to create something I liked."

Rachel placed an Artist's Statement at the

coffeehouse to help audiences understand her work. It read: "I love appreciating the ordinary. My pieces are meant to do that through capturing everyday objects and portraying energy through contrast and line variation."

She hopes that children will be able to have the experience of enjoying creativity while their parents get coffee. "Being able to create while they wait, to color something is a simple joy and freedom in life," Rachel said. "There is such beauty in learning how to create and a joy in sharing it with others."

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Sylvia was "president of the community association when we were actively running Cold Springs."

We asked many questions. Scott Henderson, a 7th grade student at BBS, asked, "What is one of your most memorable moments from Camp Sherman?"

Sylvia replied, "Camp Sherman was a very close-knit community when we moved in here. The people were just so friendly. The day we moved in, the lady that run the store, Mrs. Smith, cooked up a big pot of beans and ham and sent it over to us. And it was just a very warm and close-knit community." She described Camp Sherman as "a very peaceful place to come. There's lots to do: there's fishing and hiking and it's just a very safe, comfortable place to go. It's a special place to us because when we first come here it was such a warm community and the people were so welcoming. It seemed to work out that we were meant to move down here."

Leon agreed. "This turned into a real positive thing, being able to come to Camp Sherman," he said.

Sylvia said the neighbors were really



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nice. "I don't know how many times our youngest boy climbed up to get the neighbor's cat out of the tree — but if I wanted to find Mark he'd be hanging out of a tree someplace." Sylvia said, "I've thoroughly enjoyed raising our children here."

We all were very interested in the community because we wanted to see if it had changed over the years. "I think the community has changed a little bit but not much," said Addison Russell, a 5th grade student at BBS.

In the next issue of Kids in Print, read about good times and friendly animals in Camp Sherman.

— "CODE BREAKER" —

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