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Galleries reflect the city

Art offered for every interest

By Lisa Erb
Of the Emerald

Eugene's art galleries reflect what has been called a very cosmopolitan city — for every taste and talent in art, there is a gallery available in Eugene. Listed are just a few of the art galleries in the community, all of which express deep concern for promoting appreciation of gallery arts.

Housed in the oldest church in Eugene, the Maude Kerns Art Center offers all types of fine arts and crafts. Although its close proximity to campus (1910 E. 15th St.) would seem popular with student artists, director Leslie Copeland says, "I don't think many students have considered bringing their work here, although they are very welcome to."

Throughout its 31-year history, the Maude Kerns Art Center has been a non-profit educational institution dedicated to showing quality exhibits of original arts and crafts.

"Quality is the underlying thing," says Copeland.

Although the art center is juried and subsidized by a membership organization, one need not be a member to have work displayed.

Members of the gallery review slides of works before accepting a few pieces to be displayed on trial. Prices run up to \$500. Ceramics are usually under \$50, and paintings and prints are from \$100-\$250. The exhibits change monthly.

The Maude Kerns Art Center offers a full curriculum of day and night classes for children and adults. The average 10-week session costs about \$40.

Besides a gift shop, the art center also features a coffee lounge, soon to be serving pastries. Copeland also plans for a "huge" annual Christmas sale on Dec. 3. The Maude Kerns Art Center is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 12-5 p.m.

The Opus 5 Gallery, located on 2469 Hilyard St., has gained more and more popularity in its seven years of existence. It features mainly crafts, such as ceramics, weaving, batik, jewelry, stained glass, wooden



Photo by Dave Kao

Opus Five features mainly crafts — and offers a lay-away plan for purchases.

toys, baskets and rugs. Prices range from \$3 to \$650. Popular with students are the bargain cart in front of the gallery and the three-month lay-away plan which allows for art works to be paid for in installments.

Owned and operated jointly by five artists, the Opus 5 Gallery represents a good portion of the regional artists from Northern California to Washington. The co-owners evaluate pieces on workmanship before displaying them, and one must be willing to leave one's work at the gallery two days for evaluation.

"The purpose of our gallery is to give the artist-craftsman a fair shake," explains co-owner Locey Pfeifer. "We wanted to open a gallery that would consider the artist-craftsman and his position."

The Opus 5 Gallery welcomes tours and questions. There is a featured artist every month. "Cuttlebone Cast Jewelry in Gold and Silver," by Nancy Paccioni, will be featured through Sept. 30. The Opus 5 Gallery is open Monday through

Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Operating for 14 years, the oldest commercial gallery in the Eugene area is the Original Graphics Gallery on 122 E. Broadway St. According to Joel Donahue, who calls himself the "owner, director and janitor," the gallery is "strictly commercial. We deal with investment-grade art by internationally known artists."

The gallery displays mainly oils, lithographs and etchings, ranging in price from \$500 to \$50,000. Tours on lithographs and etchings are available on an appointment basis. The Original Graphics Gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

A gallery which allows a great amount of flexibility in art form is Our Olde Towne Gallery, located on 27 W. 5th St., in a building which was once the only hotel in Eugene.

Our Olde Towne Gallery runs on a membership basis, displaying all types of work, including porcelain and watercolor. The average painting

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Bruno's

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