

These banners are a bid special

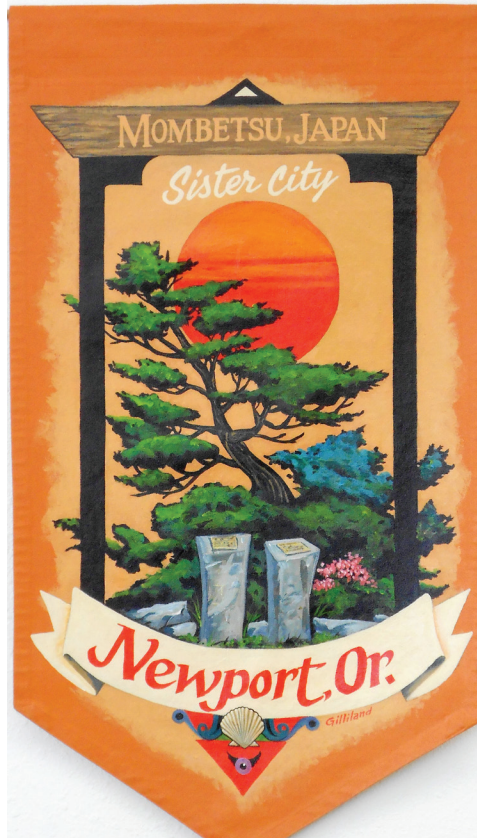
The Nye Beach Banner Auction will return to Newport this Sunday, Nov. 10, with organizers hoping for bids that get as high as the artwork itself, which fluttered proudly from the area's light posts throughout summer.

Now in its eleventh year, the Nye Bear Banner Project celebrates local artists and beautifies the coastal neighborhood of Nye Beach while raising funds to support youth arts education and permanent public art through the Oregon Coast Council for the Arts.

Area artists are encouraged to paint depictions and themes related to the region onto double-sided canvas banners, which are then hung on light posts throughout the neighborhood. This year, many artists chose to pay homage to Newport Sister City, Mombetsu, Japan.

"It is an honor to create a banner for your enjoyment," said Rhonda Chase "This year's Sister City theme inspired me to discover the similarities between Newport, Oregon, and Mombetsu, Japan — both port towns that pride themselves on a crab-based economy."

Chase is one of 43 artists who took part in this year's project, working alongside Robin Beckwith, Barbara Breaden, Linda Briggs, Colleen Caubin, Annie Clark, Mario Danna, Cheri Dessero, Tish Epperson, Lauren Graece Gabriel, Arlon Gilliland, Bo Harrington, Eileen Hearne, Bridget Herbers, Cynthia Jacobi, Elijah Jarrett,



By Arlon Gilliland

Cristina Kartsioukas, Kay Kartsioukas, Marcy Kenyon, Luke LaMont, Jennifer Larsen, Rowan Lehrman, Bobby Love,



By Anita Tanner

Carlo Navarra, Helen Nighthawk, Caroline O'Brien, Amy Jillaine Pattison, Sandra Roumagoux, Gilbert Schramm, Sara

Siggelkow, Julie Smith, Ben Soeby, Ken Spencer, Dian Seslar Svendsen, Emy Syrop, Jeff Syrop, Anita Tanner, Linda Taylor, Marilyn VanBuren, Hanna Vokos, Shonnie Wheeler and Sara Young.

"We honor and thank every artist involved with the banner project over the years," said project founder Veronica Willemmin. "They have helped to build a strong youth-arts program through OCCA at the VAC."

"Walking around the narrow streets of Nye Beach in Newport, it's hard not to notice the creativity of area residents," said OCCA Director Tom Webb. "Banners hang from light posts like beckoning sentries, inviting residents and tourists alike to watch for the next piece of original artwork at the next street corner. We encourage the community to attend the banner auction and support their efforts."

Sunday's auction will run from 5 to 8 pm, at the Newport Visual Arts Center, 777 NW Beach Drive. The event features food and beverages donated by local merchants and restaurants, and live music from Barbara Lee Turrill and Bill Merckens & Friends. A catalog of banner art is available for sale as well. Auction bidding closes at 7 pm.

New this year, pre-auction bidding will be allowed from 1 to 5 pm on Saturday and Sunday, Nov 9 and 10.

The Nye Beach Banner Project is a program of the Nye Beach Merchants Association.

Art in the spotlight

The found and recycled art of Penny Billinger takes pride of place in the current Spotlight Show from Newport's Yaquina Art Association.

Billinger loves the outdoors now that she is retired and has free time to explore the Oregon Coast. She collects most of her materials off the beaches and in the forest while walking or hiking.

The show will run through Friday, Nov. 15, available to view from 11 am to 4 pm daily at the Yaquina Art Association Gallery, 789 NW Beach Drive.

• Interested in becoming a member of the Yaquina Art Association? Annual membership dues are \$40 and 30 staffing hours. Membership forms are available at the gallery.

