

Crafty Mercantile, Opal Center sponsor student art contest

The first-annual Crafty Mercantile & Opal Center Student Art Contest is now open for submissions.

Student artists ages 5-18, who live in Cottage Grove or surrounding areas, are invited to participate by creating and submitting original artwork.

There are three age categories, 5-8, 9-12 and 13-18.

Prizes include, art supplies, gift certificates, art

classes and more.

Artists can use any mediums but pieces must be able to be hung or displayed on a table. Artists can enter up to three pieces but one is fine as well.

Label your entry with your name, age and contact information.

Fill out the release form.

Drop off pieces at The Crafty Mercantile, 517 East Main St. in Cottage Grove.

The contest is open to entries through Feb. 26.

No entries will be accepted after the Feb. 26 deadline. Winner's will be notified after March 8.

Pieces will be displayed in the windows of The Crafty Mercantile and The Opal Center.

Judging criteria:

All properly labeled entries will be judged by a panel of area artists. Judges are looking for:

- Innovative presentation

- Unusual perspective or viewpoint

- A message or idea that is being conveyed

- Skill with the medium appropriate to the age group (although sometimes the significance of the message is more important than the medium)

- Colors coordinated or contrasted for emotional impact

- Design elements that work together

School inoculations



COURTESY PHOTO

South Lane School District (SLSD) Executive Assistant Tonya Kerns received her COVID-19 shot during the recent rollout to vaccinate the education industry. Vaccines began to be administered to SLSD educators and staff Jan. 29, at which time 103 shots were given. Last Friday (Feb. 5), 100 more were distributed, bringing the total to 203.

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HOME IS WHERE THE HEART IS THIS VALENTINE'S DAY



With many couples planning to celebrate at home this Valentine's Day, a little planning can go a long way! Think ahead to add some romantic touches to your evening or weekend, make your takeout plans or pick up the perfect gift.

8

Great At-Home Dates

for Valentine's Day or Anytime!



Game Night

Collaborate on a puzzle, or place a romantic wager on a board game or card game.

Paint Night

Surprise your sweetie with a paint night setup. Sites like yaymaker.com offer virtual classes for purchase, or find paint-by-number canvases at your local art supply store.

Set the Mood

Take takeout to the next level with romantic table touches like candles, flower petals and bubbly.

Play Q&A

Write down fun questions for one another and take turns pulling them from a hat, or just ask away.

Movie Night

Create a lineup of your favorite films, paired with your favorite shared snacks of course.

Cook Together

Choose a recipe together, or participate in a virtual cooking class. Sites like travelingspoon.com offer virtual classes for purchase, or try searching YouTube.

Go Stargazing

If weather permits, bundle up in the backyard with a warming beverage or picnic to enjoy the night sky together, or take an evening walk under the stars.

Spa Day

Treat one another to at-home facials, manis, pedis, massages and more.

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