



ARTS LEAGUE OF MICHIGAN NEWS

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ARTS LEAGUE OF MICHIGAN STUDENTS UNIQUE ADDITION TO ANN ARBOR SUMMER ART FAIR

Detroit, MI -- If you are among the tens of thousands of art aficionados who will be browsing the booths at this year's Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair, look for the booth that is truly unlike any of the others. It will be the one with the **Arts League of Michigan (ALM) banner-and the only booth that will have youngsters, school-aged students, running the operation and selling their own artwork.**

The youngsters are products of the ALM's Young Artists Training Program. It is one of the many Arts-focused summer programs at the **ALM's new home, the Virgil Carr Center in Harmonie Park.** In the camp, the students spent four weeks working with noted artists, teachers and mentors, honing their art skills, finishing pieces to sell and preparing for what amounts to a short co-op in the Arts business.

“ It is a great honor for these young people to be invited to be a part of this show. They are very talented, they've worked hard, and they have earned the rewards of having people admire and purchase their art,” said Raymond Wells, artist and one of the camp instructors. “An experience on the level of the Ann Arbor show is rare and really helps the students by giving them a chance to immediately use what we have taught them about the professional business side of art. They are showing beside long-time professionals which is a great way for them to learn how to properly use their talent and business sense in the real world,” Wells added.

The students will have a variety of drawings and other pieces for sale at very reasonable, but junior professional level prices. This is the third year that ALM youngsters have represented the organization. Overall, approximately 60 students have participated in the Ann Arbor Fair.

Support these talented young people by visiting their booth which will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesday July 15 through Sunday, July 19. The ALM booth is located between booths 45 and 48.

For more information about The ALM programs and membership, call 313-965-8430.

The Arts League of Michigan/Virgil H. Carr CULTURALartsCENTER is the only African/African American focused program of its kind that offers all Arts disciplines and opportunities for entry into creative enterprises, in one location. It was named after the late Virgil H. Carr, the former Chairperson of the Board.

Please visit our website at www.artsleague.com

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The following is an excerpt from an unsolicited endorsement of our students and The Carr Center Visual Arts program. It is a testament to the talents of the students and the excellent training they receive at the Carr Center which includes an appreciation of the arts, a sound foundation in the principles of the creative process, and the business side of becoming a working artist. Our students have been participants in the nationally-known, Ann Arbor Arts Fair for the past three years. This year they sold 49 pieces of art in 3 days.

"I'm so delighted that the association has been such a good experience for the Arts League. We have been continually impressed with the quality and talent of your students. In addition the young artists' interest in the event is inspiring! I always make sure to stop by the booth and talk with them during the event. I have been so impressed with their presentation skills. I wish I could clone your program and share it with arts organizations across the nation. We look forward to having the Arts League be a part of the Ann Arbor event for many, many years to come."

Debra "Max" Clayton
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