

Exhibition at Ridge Art Association wows juror with high caliber

By CHRISTOPHER ZURCHER
News Chief

The Ridge Art Association's second event this season is the Annual Member's Show. Beginning Nov. 4, the exhibit consists of 50 works chosen from 98 entries by 43 member artists.

Media represented include painting, sculpture, photography, computer-generated art and mixed media.

The winners are Chryssie Tavarides of Lakeland, who won Best of Show; Pat Gooden of Winter Haven; and Meredith Pope of Lakeland.

Awards of excellence went to Tinia Brown of Winter Haven; Don Brawley of Lakeland; Todd Davis of Lakeland; Greg Jones of Lakeland; and Cindy Epps Smith of Lakeland.

From the accepted entries, a Banner Award winner will be chosen. The work by this artist will be used on the invitations to the Gala Reception for the Fine Arts Exhibit in January and will hang on a large banner at the entrance of the Ridge Art Gallery building.

Juror for this exhibit was Dorothy Cowden, an art instructor at the University of Tampa and a businesswoman in the Tampa arts community.

In choosing the work exhibited, Cowden commented that she was pleased with the high quality of all the entries.

In her juror's statement she said, "The variety of materials and techniques makes this a very exciting show. I found many to be unique in their composition, while others used the surfaces to create limitless dimension on a two-dimensional surface. Most unique were those in which the artist manipulated both media and space."

The winners include both representational and non-objective pieces, resulting in a balanced exhibit.

Hours to view the exhibit are from 12:30 to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday and evening hours during Theatre Winter Haven productions. It is open to the public and free of charge. The address is 210 Cypress Gardens Blvd., Winter Haven.

For more information call 291-5661 or visit www.ridgeart.org.



Don Frazier/News Chief

BEST OF SHOW: Acrylic Diptych "Lilies - Lilies" by Chryssie Tavarides of Lakeland.