What is the Lemont Center for the Arts?

The Lemont Center for the Arts opened in September 2010. The Center showcases exhibits from various disciplines in the arts. Each exhibit is usually up for eight weeks. This is a dream come-true for the commissioners. The Lemont Center for the Arts received the 2010 award as the “Arts Friendly Community” from the state’s Illinois Arts Council.

The seven commissioners of the Art and Culture Commission of Lemont are appointed by the mayor. They work closely with a village board liaison, Ron Stapleton. The mission is to enrich the lives of Lemont residents by cultivating and promoting the appreciation of our heritage through public art projects. The commission was created in 2004 as an evolution of Alice Chin’s PAAL, Public Art Advocates of Lemont.

The overall goals of the commission include promoting the creation and participation in the artistic work of all disciplines by all ages in Lemont. They want the residents of Lemont to have access to an artistic community through the Art and Culture Center that includes artistic projects in the community. That public awareness focus led to the creation of the mosaic planters found in the downtown area. The mosaic pilasters on the Stephen Street Bridge are further constructive evidence. These projects were produced by artists and community volunteers. During the spring of 2008, painting jams were held that produced paintings created with only black and white acrylic paints. In 2009, the commission brought Matt Lamb and his international Umbrellas for Peace to the schools and community to promote peace with a final Peace Parade that marched through Lemont. The most recent community project is the 65’ x 20’ Pride of Lemont mural facing the Font Street Lofts. It depicts the historical life of Rudy Kling, a nationally acclaimed airplane racer and Lemont hero from the 1930s. Over 100 community volunteers and two lead artists completed the project.

Throughout the years, the commission voluntarily participates in village sponsored events such as Heritage Fest, Halloween Hoedown, and Hometown Holiday to bring fun art activities to the children. These activities are usually free of charge. During the month of October, various special events will be sponsored by the Art and Culture Commission of Lemont in celebration of Illinois Arts month.

Various art classes are offered each season for children and adults. Instructors submit proposals and the newsletter informs the public. Artists are also encouraged to submit proposals for exhibits. Forms are available at the Center. During November and December a Holiday Artists’ Bazaar will have unique gifts available to shoppers.

Art is a reflection of life. It has the ability to wash away dust from the soul. Art is made by human beings in an effort to make sense of the complexity of life. One of the objectives of the Art and Culture Commission of Lemont is to demonstrate how art and cultural activities can contribute to the growth of a community. Art is insight into an artist’s experience. It makes a statement about the human condition of its time. Every work of art stands as something unique in the world.

The Center is currently open on Fridays from noon to 4:00 p.m., Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday noon to 4:00, and anytime a class is being held or there is a special art event. Come and experience, produce, and/or just appreciate the art that the Lemont Center for the Arts hopes to provide the community.
Exhibits

July 13 ~ September 2

Honesty
The second annual exhibit featuring artwork of residents and staff from the art therapy department at Timberline Knolls.

Please join us for a Reception and Open House on Tuesday, August 21st, 4-6 p.m. TK staff will be on hand to discuss the benefits of art therapy.

“Timberline Knolls is a residential treatment center located on 43 beautiful acres in Lemont, offering a nurturing environment of recovery for women ages 12 and older struggling to overcome eating disorders, substance abuse, mood disorders, trauma and co-occurring disorders. By serving with uncompromising care, relentless and an unconditional joyful spirit, we help our residents help themselves in their recovery.”

September 7 ~ November 4
Second Anniversary Exhibit: Spark

This year's theme:
"Is It Love, or Has the World Gone Crazy?"
Spark, our Second Anniversary Exhibit, features collaboration between the Illinois State Poetry Society and local visual artists. Poems and artworks reflect upon the theme, "Is It Love, or Has the World Gone Crazy?" Many types of love exist, and many of those types are explored in original poems written by members of the ISPS. Local visual artists each selected one of those poems and created art as a reflection of that poem - one form of expression providing the spark for another.

November 9 ~ December 23
Holiday Artists Bazaar
Enjoy holiday shopping and choose exquisite gifts of original art and fine craft at the Lemont Center for the Arts. Look for expanded gallery hours for your shopping convenience.

For more information check us out at
LemontCenterForTheArts.wordpress.com
www.facebook.com/LemontCenterfortheArts
e-mail lemontcenterarts@gmail.com
or call 630 243 7375

Fall 2012 Class Schedule
Now Available

Volunteers Needed
As the Lemont Center for the Arts expands its programming, it is in need of volunteers to staff the gallery. If you have a few hours that you could donate to helping our efforts, please contact us or stop by to fill out an application.

RIDDLE: What do get when a broke artist runs out of gas on her way to pick up her kids at soccer practice?

Spark

Please Join Us
Reception/Open House
Friday, September 7, 2012
6 – 8 p.m.
Open to the Public
Refreshments
Poets and Artists will be in attendance

LCA regular hours are:
Friday, noon – 4 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday, noon - 4 p.m.

ANSWER: Someone with no Monet to buy Degas to make the Van Gogh.

Fall 2012 Class Schedule
Now Available