

Best of Show Awards at the Harford Fair Schoolhouse



Madison Lutz, a fifth grade student at Abington Christian Academy in Clarks Summit, displays her collage art work based on Eric Carle's techniques, which was awarded the Best of Show Mary H. Karhnak Award for grades K-6 in the School Department at this year's Harford Fair.

Rachel Farnelli is presently a tenth grade student at Elk Lake and proudly displays her prize-winning acrylic clock painting which received the Best of Show Joan O. Peters Award for grades 7-12 in the Schoolhouse at the 2017 Harford Fair.

The Little Red Schoolhouse at the Harford Fair had over 1,700 pieces of children's work representing public and private schools as well as entries by individuals. These were attractively displayed and skillfully judged once again this year. An acrylic painting of a clock was selected as the Best of Show in grades 7-12 to receive the Joan O. Peters Award. The Mary H. Karhnak Best of Show Award for an outstanding entry in grades K-6 was awarded to a flower collage. In memory of both Joan O. Peters and Mary H. Karhnak who dedicated years of service to the school department at the Harford Fair, these awards are given in their names. The winners of the awards respectively are Rachel Farnelli who will be entering tenth grade at the Elk Lake High School and Madison Lutz who will be entering fifth grade at Abington Christian Academy in Clarks Summit. Rachel's art teacher is Brandi Stone and Madison's art teacher was Annette Brush.

Rachel is the youngest of eight children and has always pushed herself to be as good as her older siblings, especially in art. Her art teacher always encourages her students, whatever the assignment or medium is, to select a focus which means something personally to them. Because Rachel is always afraid of deadlines, she selected a clock for her monochromatic color scheme with acrylic and watercolor for the lesson. She worked on the drawing and painting during many 45 minute art periods to produce her prize-winning entry. Her other interests in art produces portraits with calligraphy pens, usually done from memory. She also collects glass bottles and uses them for drawings with things in them.

Her art teacher, Mrs. Stone, has been entering the artwork of her students in the Harford Fair for thirteen years taking many ribbons back to the Elk Lake School. She proudly acknowledged her students' talents.

Madison was so excited about her painting being selected as the Best of Show winner for grades K-6. Her art teacher, Annette Brush, was especially pleased since she is the superintendent of the School Department at the fair. The lesson that led to this prize-winning piece of art work was based on the collage techniques and books by Eric Carle. She continued to enjoy doing different art projects throughout the summer some of which included a Mickey Mouse Collage, painting on canvas, book binding by hand, three dimension lantern and a shadow box. Madison's grandmother displays many pieces of her artwork in her office.

Rachel and Madison each received ribbons and an engraved clock for her winning entries. In addition, their names have been added to each of the perpetual plaques which hang in the Schoolhouse on the fairgrounds every year during fair week.

Teachers and parents are encouraged to check the listing of different categories of items which can be submitted to the School Department at the Harford Fair. Start planning now. The listing can be found on the fair website at www.HarfordFair.com. Give your students or children an opportunity to exhibit at next year's **Harford Fair August 20-25, 2018.**