

30 Days of Art

Area artist creating a new multimedia piece each day in June for online exhibit

Jun 12, 2011



Jody Parmann of Port Huron talks about a belt she made. Parmann has started a new project, creating a piece of art every day in June and letting people view the new pieces on an online calendar. / Wendy Torello/Times Herald

By AMY BIOLCHINI
Times Herald

Day 1 featured a drawing of a face emerging from a tree.

Day 3 showed a yellow belt adorned with orange Oberon beer caps.

Day 12? Well, we'll just have to find out, won't we?

Local artist and Port Huron native Jody Parmann, 31, has embarked on a personal challenge: To create a piece of art every day in June.

After showing her works at many area galleries, Parmann -- who also owns a freelance graphic design business -- was looking for a new mountain to climb.

Determined to find an outlet for her inspiration, Parmann discovered a peer's 30 Days of Art project and decided to give it a whirl.

"Sometimes, it takes a show or a deadline to motivate me," she said.

The daily artwork is featured on a calendar on Parmann's website. With each passing day, the numbers are replaced with a new piece created that day. Click on a day and an image pops up, as well as that day's weather and Parmann's mood (sometimes romantic; sometimes crabby). She also explains what motivated that day's creation.

The daily search for a subject or event to inspire her next work has caused her to view the world differently.

"I'm paying more attention," Parmann said. "It's inspiring to walk



Jody Parmann of Port Huron shows the first four pieces she created in June.



Jody Parmann works on her fifth piece of artwork in June. / Wendy Torello/Times Herald

AT A GLANCE 30 DAYS OF ART

» Online:

http://www.jodyparmann.com/30_days_of_art.html

around in that mind frame."

Working out of her home studio in a downtown Port Huron loft, she uses a variety of media and creative outlets. Each day's work is unique.

"I don't think I'm an expert at any one of them," Parmann said. "I get bored easily."

From a black-and-white drawing to a colorful bracelet, Parmann's creations reflect her day-to-day demeanor and life events.

On the first day of June, she drew a self-portrait -- the face emerging from a tree. She reminisced about her beginnings as an artist as a young girl, when all she would draw was self-portraits.

Date nights, Bowl-Wii-Oke with friends, skydiving and an afternoon at a nursing home all have found their way into Parmann's art.

Some pieces are for sale -- prices so far have ranged from about \$15 to \$50 -- while those that are more personal are not.

Even though it might take her until 4 a.m., Parmann finds the demands for creation to be worth it.

"I don't like hanging art," she said. "This way I can still have a show."

A tracking program allows her to monitor visitors to her website -- so as soon as she posts a new piece, Parmann watches the statistics climb. She had 624 visitors as of Friday evening.

With a personal goal to get web traffic in all 50 states, Parmann hopes her friends and fans stay connected. "It's rewarding, to have that instant response," she said.

**Contact Amy Biolchini at
(810) 989-6259 or abiolchini@gannett.com.**
