

Updates, Continued

NCAG Offers Competitive Art Scholarship:

New Century Art Guild is pleased to announce it will be accepting applications for its First Annual Competitive Art Scholarship for an art student for the 2014 – 2015 school year. The scholarship award will include a \$500 payment toward tuition at the student's school of choice for the next academic term, evaluation of portfolio and academic/ career direction by a professional artist and an invitation to exhibit artwork at NCAG gallery. More information and the application form may be found on the NCAG website, www.newcenturyartguild.org. ■



Second Annual "Liberty" Poster Contest

NCAG is inviting area art students to again showcase their artistic talent and their commitment to protecting liberty in the Second Annual Liberty Poster Contest. Students may use paint, ink, colored pencils, photography, digital prints or other media to design a poster that will show how much they value liberty in the 21st century. First Prize will be \$100.00, Second \$50.00, Third \$25.00. Winning submissions and runners-up will be displayed at New Century Art Guild Gallery during Tivoli/ Memorial Day weekend beginning May 23rd, 2014. Contest information may be found on the NCAG website. ■



Living Liberty Monument Update

NCAG Board members met with Snyder and Associates of Atlantic, Iowa to discuss the engineering, layout, security and public services to the Living Liberty Monument. Plans were discussed regarding how to accept large buses and tourist groups. The park is being designed a destination point for visitors to the Danish Villages of Eastern Iowa. The area's natural beauty will serve as the monument's backdrop and will offer visitors a quiet place to reflect upon the memory of loved ones and upon the blessings of liberty. ■

Kimballton Featured in follow-up to Danish Documentary "Denmark on the Prairie"

Danish filmmaker Jakob Vølver has produced a sequel TV program about the Danish Villages of Southwest Iowa. Both the original program and its recent follow-up have been big hits in Denmark and have triggered waves of interest by Danish citizens in the small Iowa towns. Kimballton, Elk Horn's neighboring village to the north, was not mentioned in the first documentary, but it finally got its due in the sequel. Danish-speaking Loretta Christensen of Kimballton is featured in both films. She and Annette Andersen, also of Kimballton, take viewers to the new Hans Christian Andersen Sculpture Park in Kimballton. A number of the bronze statues depicting Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales, that were sculpted by NCAG Art Director Troy Muller, were seen (along with Troy) in the second film. ■

Message from NCAG President

In the first three months of 2014, we have seen significant growth of our organization: We are beginning to expand beyond the confines of Southwest Iowa, as demonstrated by the visit of Texas based veteran-artist Mario Lopez and our upcoming international art exhibit. Our website has recently been overhauled and has given us a much better way to communicate who we are, our mission, and our goals. The website is interactive and is easily updated with the most current information. We are now able to list our sponsors on the site, linking to their businesses or organizations, with the goal of mutual benefit. In our art gallery, new tract lighting has been installed, which will contribute greatly to the presentation of our exhibits. We are consulting a building engineer as a first step to developing the Living Liberty Monument and Sculpture Park.

Thank you to all of our supporters. I would encourage your active participation in membership and sponsorship recruitment. Please inform and encourage others to check out our website and attend our events. Thanks again!

Dr. Scott "Doc" Smith

President, NCAG

EVENTS

2014 Tivoli Fest During Memorial Day Weekend

The Danish Villages of Elk Horn and Kimballton, IA will be celebrating Tivoli Fest on May 24-25 with a parade and lots of aebleskiver and other authentic Danish cuisine. There will be plenty of food, drink and merriment the entire weekend! ■

International Exhibit Opens to Public in May

A major art exhibit entitled Unforgetting Iraq: In Search of Recovery will have its public opening Memorial Day weekend on Saturday, May 24th in the NCAG Gallery located at 117 Main Street in Kimballton, IA. A special Media Day will be held in advance of the public opening on Monday May 5th, 2014. Members of the media are invited to attend a special preview in an effort to garner the public's interest in the exhibit. All media are invited to attend our Media Day event on May 5th anytime between 10 am and 5pm. ■

Veteran Inspires Others at Dinner Event

NCAG hosted an art exhibition of Mario Lopez's work at a "Meet the Artist" dinner reception in their Kimballton Gallery. Mario and his wife Danielle inspired artists and veterans alike at the event held on Saturday, March 22nd. Lopez shared his inspiration journey as a soldier, family-man, minister and artist. He said, "I am a wounded warrior but I don't let my war injuries define me. I like that I can help people by showing them that even though life throws obstacles our way, there is no reason to give up because life is always worth living." Mario presented a gripping slideshow and testimony that kept the audience at the edges of their seats. Mario was made a lifetime NCAG member and also sold two paintings the night of the event. ■

NEW CENTURY ART GUILD

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