



NEWS CONTACT: Portage Parks Board
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WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR THE RECYCLED ART IN THE PARK CONTEST!

Prize awards in six categories have been announced for the **2016 Recycled Art in the Park Sculpture Contest** held in Celery Flats Park from May 7-14 which are:

- 1st Place and \$1,000 to Portage North Middle School for their work titled "Husky Pack";
- 2nd Place and \$750 to Norm Slack with the Fountains at Bronson Place for the work titled "Lawn & Garden Decor";
- 3rd Place and \$500 to Raven Wynd for her work titled "Scourge of Society";
- Youth Division and \$100 also to Portage North Middle School for their work titled "Husky Pack";
- Sponsors Choice of \$500 awarded by Eaton also went to Raven Wynd for her work titled "Scourge of Society"; and
- Public Choice award sponsored by the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo for \$500 was won by Rosemary Parker for her work titled "Night and Day".

There were eleven entries this year, and the first place winning art will be displayed in the Portage Public Library throughout the summer for visitors to enjoy a sample of the amazing work created this year. The first, second and third place prizes were selected through a panel judging process by Beth McCann, Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo; Mary Whalen, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts; Dr. Oliver Evans, past president of Kendall College of Art and Design; and Mike Pixley, Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. The Public Choice Award was selected through a combination of on-site voting during the opening ceremony on May 7, and online voting that ended on Friday, May 13. The event was sponsored this year by Eaton, The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, Portage Friends of the Parks, and the City of Portage.

The Recycled Art in the Park event was a non-juried art show created as a venue for artists to express their creativity and create public awareness on recycling. The works-of-art were judged based on adhering to the 100% recycled content requirement, with 60% on creative use of materials as they were not originally intended, and 40% on overall artistry and originality. Entry is open to anyone, including artists and schools to express their creativity in giving unused items a new life in art.

The City of Portage Parks Board works on activities to promote family, health and educational oriented events for increase the quality of life in the community. For more information contact the Portage Parks Department at 269-329-4522.

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