

First GALA show at Murdock-Whitney until Oct. 17



Tracy Gambill and Greg Vine photos

First prize was awarded to this realistic canvas of the front porch of the Murdock-Whitney Mansion on a lazy summer day complete with a family cat. All the artwork on display is for sale, and this work, by Deb Giordano, is \$650.



A silent auction could win this fine print by Lori McDonald. At right is a sample of the fine wine also for sale by GALA through Event Wines.

BY TRACY GAMBILL
COURIER CORRESPONDENT

WINCHENDON — Upwards of 70 people of all ages admired the beautiful artwork at GALA's opening reception last weekend at the Murdock-Whitney Museum.

The Gardner Area League of Artists and Winchendon Historical Society partnered to host the exhibit of local artists who were inspired by the museum and grounds at 151 Front St.

The exhibit, which runs through Saturday, Oct. 17th, was a "great success" according to GALA president Deb Giordano.

"It's a mix of fine art, music, wine, and history," reflected GALA board member Ashley Bird. "It's fun to see all of the people come through and enjoy all of the elements."

The judges were members of the Winchendon Historical Society Board of Directors and it took them 3½ hours to decide which pieces would earn ribbons.

Anyone is welcome to vote for their favorites throughout the exhibit for the popular choice awards.

Art admirers milled about the main floor of the 22 room mansion, some tasting wine or enjoying refreshments, others lounging on the porch or in the music room listening to folksy music.

"I loved it!" said museum curator Mary Bulger.

"It was exactly as I envisioned it," remarked Historical Society President Don O'Neil. "I couldn't have asked for better."

"I hope we can do more things together in the future," added O'Neil.



An appreciative audience in the music parlor enjoyed music by local musicians. The music was also piped out to the front porch for those enjoying the day outside.



A collage representing Winchendon's toy history was a hit.



Doreen Lascola's colorful impressionist florals.



Detail from a painting by Deb Giordano. The robin makes her nest on the side porch every spring.