

Artists take inspiration from Havering in theatre exhibition

A special exhibition showcasing creative and colourful pieces by Havering's artists is currently being held in Queen's Theatre.

For the past three weeks the venue, in Billet Lane, Hornchurch, has proudly showed exceptional artwork by 39 local artists.

This is the second year the exhibition has been run by Havering Arts Council, and the number of entries has gone up by 10.

The work was on a "complete variety of subjects", said Paul Kelly, Arts Council chairman.

Several of the pieces have drawn inspiration from Havering.

Richard Pescod's *Man at Work: Gone With the Wind* is a portrayal of the old Towers Cinema in Hornchurch, while June Francis has drawn an old view of the Swan Inn, in Romford.

Terence Pitcher painted *Autumn* in Raphael Park, Romford.

Mr Kelly explained: "We are welcome to give our artists the opportunity to display their art in a public way.

"Hopefully the public are

THARSA SAKTHIPAKAN
newsdesk@romfordrecorder.co.uk

inspired to pick up a pencil or a paintbrush after seeing the art."

The Best in Exhibition piece was *Trees on the Horizon* by Jill Mackness.

The work is vibrant and full of colour, done with acrylic paint going against the simplicity of the title.

Mr Kelly continued: "All the art was extremely clever, I couldn't possibly pick a favourite because there were so many outstanding works to be seen."

The Best in Exhibition award was judged anonymously, and there is also a separate prize voted for by the public.

"By giving people the opportunity to vote for their favourite, it has brought the community together," Mr Kelly said.

"The public have been very kind in their comments."

The Arts Council aims to encourage artists from the borough to pursue their talents, in dance, music and drama as



Local artists with their work at the Havering Arts Council exhibition at the Queen's Theatre. Top, Yvonne Englefield with her mixed media winner. Above left, Richard Pescod with his work of the Towers building in Hornchurch, now demolished. Above right, Jill Mackness with her work.

Pictures: KEN MEARS

well as fine art.

Mr Kelly added: "We had to limit the number of entries for each artist because the number of entries had gone up."

You have until Saturday, September 2, to see the pieces at Queen's Theatre, in Billet Lane, Hornchurch.

You can also vote in the public

vote in person, via telephone or email.

Send your nominations to haveringartscouncil@live.co.uk.



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