

On display

Students show their work at Main Street Gallery event

By Kirk Hanna
Times sports editor

The Rawlins Main Street Art Gallery is mixing things up a bit for its fourth show.

It will feature artwork from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday from Rawlins High School students.

"We are ecstatic for this opportunity to

Main Street Gallery

One year down with Friday's Rawlins High School art show being the fourth art show at the Rawlins Main Street Gallery, Kristi Baxley, the gallery's artist coordinator and Rawlins DDA/Main Street program assistant, said the gallery has been very successful for Main Street.

"Gift certificates are taking off," she said. The gift certificates became available within the last couple of months, but Baxley said they're a hot item.

"There's been increasing interest," Mira Calton, the contracted project coordinator, said. "The summer was a little slow, but it's picked right back up."

"We've had really good sales lately," Baxley added.

"Maybe it's because of the holiday season. We're not really sure."

But the increase began in the fall during hunting season.

"We had a lot of hunters coming in," Baxley said.

"And the hunters' wives would come in."

"They really enjoyed the wildlife," Calton said. "The wives would pick out a piece and tell their husbands:

"Here, we should have this. It's art, and it's an elk."

"It was nice to see we were appealing to the hunting sector," Baxley said.

Calton said that high school artists could lose possible scholarship money for selling

welcome the

next generation of artists in the gallery and display

their efforts to

the community," Kristi

Baxley, the

gallery's artist

coordinator

and Rawlins

DDA/Main

Street program

assistant said.

RHS was an

original partner with Main

Street when

the art gallery

first opened,

Baxley said.

"And we've

been working

with Roger

(Davidson, the

RHS art

teacher) to try

and get them a

show," Baxley

said.

"The reason

it's taken so

long," said

Mira Calton,

the contracted

project coordinator, "is that most of the art

won't be for sale, so we had to make it a

special show."



Artwork by Rawlins High School art students is on display at the Rawlins Main Street Gallery in preparation for Friday's art show. Doors to the gallery open at 5 p.m.

artwork because it takes away their amateur status.

So Main Street is using this art show as a way to bring in a new demographic, and try to sell some of their smaller gifts.

"We have a lot of little things that are perfect little gifts for a grandparent or a neighbor," Baxley said.

"They're really cool pieces, but it's not stuff that can be displayed year round."

Calton said.

And with the art show displaying high school students' work, Baxley said she hopes it brings in more high-school aged kids.

"I'm sure we're going to get the parents and grandparents," Baxley said, "but we're hoping some of the high schoolers come down to see their classmates' work."

And like the shows in the past, Calton said appetizers would be available.

However, alcohol is not being served.

As for the displays or work, Calton said it was up to the students to decide what they wanted to display at the event, which takes place at the corner of Fourth and Cedar.

Most of the entries as of Thursday afternoon were sketches, paintings and photographs.

— Contact Kirk Hanna at 324-3411 or kirkhanna@rawlinstimes.com