

Art Works Trace 'Pageant of Christmas'

Madonna Row Inspires North High Effort

By JERRY REYNOLDS
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Inspired by El Camino College's Madonna Row, art students and teachers at North High have created a major new collection of Christmas art which, they hope, will continue to grow in years to come.

Known as "The Pageant of Christmas," the collection was begun in 1963 under the direction of Gary Parton, a North High art teacher. The collection is being exhibited away from the school for the first time this year.

Now on display at El Camino College, "The Pageant of Christmas" will be moved to the Walteria Methodist Church, 3646 Newton St., on

Dec. 19. It will be on view from 7 until 8:30 each evening through Dec. 23.

Both original works and reproductions are included in the collection, which was developed to create a sense of understanding and appreciation of great art in both the students and those who will view it.

"The Pageant of Christmas" provides a great opportunity for the talented art student to discover a part of the history of art," Parton explained. "He is able to develop an understanding and appreciation not from textbooks, but by creating something as original as the artist did — using the same materials and techniques." Usually the best students

in advanced art classes are selected to work on the yearly project, which may be an original, such as the Madonna done in 1965, or a reproduction, such as the 1964 project which was a reproduction of Botticelli's "Adoration of the Magi."

The particular project is selected by Parton and Mrs. Judy McDonald, another North High art teacher, but students are pretty much on their own once work is started.

The collection now includes the following:

- A mosaic reproduction of the Archangel Michael, completed in 1963 as the first piece in the collection. The mosaic reproduces a fragment from the 6th Cen-

tury Church of Saint Apollinare in Classe, Ravenna, Italy, and was done by Ann Taylor, Larry Kappen, and George Gregor.

• An original stained glass window, done in 1964 by Peggy Wood. Miss Wood worked under the supervision of shop teacher Clifford Dahlquist and Parton.

• A reproduction of Sandro Botticelli's "Adoration of the Magi," a 15th century oil painting. Kappen, Anita Weaver, Pierre Rademaker, and Jeff O'Connell did the work, which required five months to complete. It also was done in 1964.

• A Madonna and Child sculpture of original design completed in 1965. Stefan Doten, Terry Griffin, Linda

Patty, Marjean Shaw, and Steve Wareing worked on the piece, which is covered with some 25,000 pieces of Venetian glass.

• Seven Byzantine Icons which were completed just last week. Icons generally are oil paintings on wood and portray important religious figures.

Students who worked on the icons include Meredith Baxley, "St. George and the Dragon;" Stefan Doten, "Mother of God Elvsa;" Christina Gilson, "Trinity Icon;" David Leventhal, "Mether of God Platytera;" Chris Mostert, "Archangel Michael;" Christopher Russell, "Crucifixion Icon," and Michael West, "Annunciation Icon."



Completes Icon

Chris Mostert, a junior at North High, works on a reproduction of the Byzantine Icon "Archangel Michael." The icon is one of seven which were completed by students this year for the growing "Pageant of Christmas" collection at North High.



First in Collection

Gary Parton and his wife examine the mosaic "Archangel Michael," the first work in North High's "Pageant of Christmas" collection. Completed in 1963, the mosaic reproduces a work from the 6th Century Church of Saint Apollinare in Classe, Ravenna, Italy. Venetian tile, the same material used for the original, was used in the reproduction.



Compare Works

Stefan Doten, a senior at North High, and art instructor Gary Parton compare the design of an original Madonna and Child with earlier sculptures. The Madonna, covered with some 25,000 pieces of Venetian glass, was completed in 1964 by Doten and four other students.



Students at Work

Three North High students work on Byzantine Icons which were added to "The Pageant of Christmas" collection at North High this year. Icons are oil paintings on wood. Students are Stefan Doten, David Leventhal, and Meredith Baxley.



Adoration of the Magi

Gary Parton (right), under whose direction "The Pageant of Christmas" collection has been completed, points out some details to Mrs. Eloise Euger, assistant librarian at North High. The painting is a reproduction of Sandro Botticelli's original, which now hangs in the National Gallery in Washington, D.C. Four students worked for five months to complete the work in 1964.



Stained Glass Window

Clifford Dahlquist, a teacher at North High, examines a stained glass window completed by Peggy Wood in 1964 as part of "The Pageant of Christmas." The window, an original design, was inspired by stained glass windows in Gothic cathedrals.

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