



'Lesbian Laundry Day' cleans house

by Chuck Foley

Most people are more educated than they think when it comes to art, according to art professor Mary Warner.

Warner is one of six directors at the Contemporary Arts Collective, a non-profit organization, which held the Second-Annual Las Vegas Juried Art Competition Friday in its new space at 4171 S. Maryland Parkway.

The competition was in celebration of Women's History Month.

Warner finds that when people are willing to present their opinions on the exhibits they see they are quite often "right on the button."

"They do have the vocabulary, but not the confidence," Warner said.

One of the pieces she was

referring to was the winner of the competition called "Lesbian Laundry Day," by Anne Davis Mulford, a ceramic-mixed media work.

At first glance, it appeared to be a plaid G-string on a clothesline, with laundry pins attached at the three angles.

On closer inspection, you could see a pocket at the top of the piece.

Warner confirmed the ceramic form was uterus-shaped. She had talked with the artist, who said the plaid indicated flannel, as in the flannel shirts that lesbian women often wear.

"The bottom line is that it's a nice piece just to look at," Warner said.

Among other things, it's also important how the idea works with the image, she said.

Mulford won \$1,000 for

first place, while Dan Labree was awarded \$400 and Jeanne Voltura \$300 for second and third place, respectively.

There were 49 exhibits in the competition, plus exhibits in the back that featured works by members.

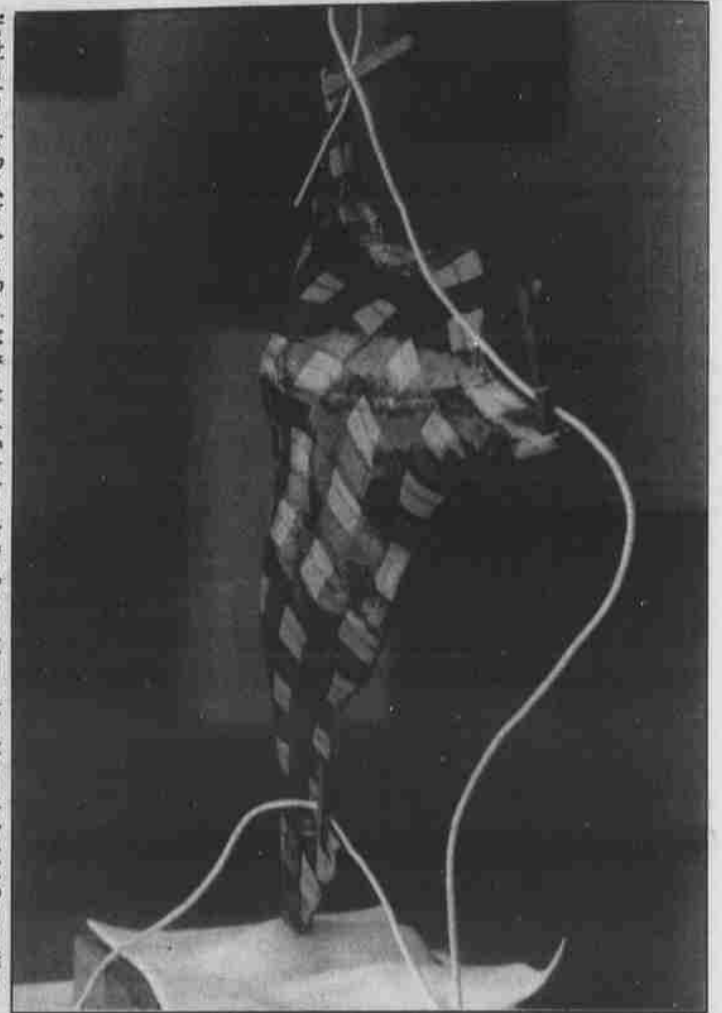
The arts collective wants to establish a network for professional artists and plans to have more exhibits to promote the works of Las Vegas artists.

Eleanor Antin, an award-winning performance artist who judged the competition, said she was pleased with the interaction she saw between the community and the university in Las Vegas.

"It's nice to see a really active, alternative space," she said.

The works in the competition will be on display through April 30.

"Lesbian Laundry Day" by Anne Davis Mulford took first place in the Second Annual Las Vegas Juried Art Competition



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