

Residents enjoy summer traditions in Laguna Beach Festival of Arts, Pageant of Masters

By Chloe Cunningham
News Editor

This summer marks the 75th anniversary of the well-respected Festival of Arts and Pageant of the Masters. Although the venue has modernized and the ticket prices of the festival have increased over the years (but always free for locals!), the original spirit of the Festival remains: a community coming together to enjoy and celebrate the roots of Laguna Beach.

"To me, the Festival of Arts is always a great place to visit when you are coming from out of town," said attendee Ann Rosen from northern California. "I always enjoy the sophistication of the festival."

As I entered the festival with a camera slung over my shoulder, I was asked, rather pointedly, if I knew that photography was not permitted. Well, needless to say I left without a single photo to show for myself.

As I wandered through
“Occasionally I would see something that, to me, looked like creativity backfiring, but art is art, right?”

the crowded maze of tourists who were waiting for the pageant to begin, I noticed the diversity in the art forms. Aside from what most people consider typical art forms (oil paintings, photography, jewelry) the festival has an array of

the more 'avant garde' art forms. Booths decorated with portraits of presidential candidates, fountains, masks, woven rugs, spirit keepers and stained glass were scattered among the festival grounds.

Occasionally I would see something that, to me, looked like creativity backfiring, but art is art, right?

"I think that because a great deal of the art is unconventional; that's what attracts so many different people to come here," a grounds keeper said.

I spent a good three hours at the festival, and all the while, a 2-man band playing acoustic guitar serenaded the art goers. Overall, it was an enjoyable experience to observe the eclectic taste of 140 of the Southland's most prominent artists

Sawdust Festival

By Chloe Cunningham
News Editor



Local, traditional, and eclectic, the Sawdust Festival is an important part of Laguna Beach. (Chloe Cunningham)

Artists who were revolting against the 'rigid and counterproductive jury system that excluded many talented artists' fomented the Sawdust Festival's beginning. You could say the Sawdust is Laguna's most bohemian art festival.

Throughout the 42 years that the sawdust has been held, the original vibe has remained from the beginning; the aroma of sawdust still abounds as people walk up and down the isles of booths. Our local musicians still go back, summer after summer, to groove there.

The Sawdust is eclectic: people, art and food. While eating some gyros and drinking a mocha frappuccino, you can have

a tattoo airbrushed on your face and listen to some Zydeco music.

Not only does the Sawdust embrace nearly 200 artists, but numerous students as well. Every year Laguna Beach students spend their summers hanging at the Sawdust and making money to do it. Math teacher Mr. Gary Shapiro is also known to play his guitar there every once in a while.

"Working at the Sawdust is great; everyone is in such high spirits," said sophomore Anna Stewart-Bussey of the children's art

booth.

Unlike the Festival of Arts, at the Sawdust each artist paints and decorates his or her own booth. When nearly 200 artists are given free range to decorate their booths, the result is as much as it should be: wild, bright and eccentric. The booths just add more appeal to the already charming Sawdust Festival.

"I love my summer job. What could be better than being able to eat Greek food all day and see all of these wonderful people?" said sophomore Victoria Ellis. "Nothing."

Editorial

To be or not to be in the yearbook?

By the *Brush and Palette* staff

Every year the yearbook circulates throughout the school, featuring clubs, sports, activities, classes and a picture of most every student, sometimes many pictures of particular students.

While students look through their yearbooks, the journalism students wonder why they didn't receive a page, a picture, or even brief mention anywhere in the book.

Although journalism does not take place during the regular six-period day, it still meets for several hours a week, and occasionally runs late if it needs to. A Model United Nations (MUN) class met once a week, as opposed to Journalism's two or more days, and a whole page was dedicated to MUN. Certainly, the hours we put in are not at issue here.

The journalism staff spends long and countless hours perfecting *The Brush and Palette* with no other purpose than pleasing the students, staff, and teachers at LBHS. After all of this work, we feel that we deserve to be recognized and remembered within the yearbook.

Besides, the school newspaper is a valuable part of any school, whether it entertains, reports the news, or features various aspects of the community. We feel that we were most likely forgotten by the yearbook staff, despite the importance of our existence within the school.

This year, things need to change! The journalism staff hopes that this little reminder will catch the yearbook staff's attention and remind them of one more aspect of LBHS that is worth preserving through the yearbook.

WOTM

Do you know what Hippopotomonstrosesquipedaliophobia means? Atrabilious? Probably not, but neither does anyone else! Be entertained monthly by people's futile attempts at guessing!

Word of the month: Atrabilious

By Masha Goncharova
Editor-in-Chief/Manager

Welcome back, eager students of LBHS! I certainly hope that your summer breaks were relaxing and fun. Saying goodbye to summer with a strawberry sunset and friends is what most people had planned. Things didn't turn out so sweet, however, because of the homework that had 2 months of procrastination written all over it.

Summer is only synonymous with procrastinating teenagers because it's the only time that we have to actually breathe. Now that school is back, with its suffocating homework and

college pressures, students tend to be a bit grumpier.

This socio-psychological pattern is abundant at LBHS based on the results of the very first word of the month for the 2008-2009 school year. YAY SCHOOL!

Students were asked to call on their definition-guessing skills in order to determine the meaning of the word atrabilious.

"Extra billy and extra atra," junior Alex Riechoff said, attempting to dissect the word.

"The anger associated with the need to shoot another person in the kneecap," said Chandler Davis, freshman.

Nick Brown, junior, said: "Leaving a message on someone's answering machine but they don't get it, and because they didn't get that you failed school."

"Filled with rebellious thoughts stemming from antisestablishmentarianism," said junior Michael Hay.

"The hatred of smiley faces because it looks like they are mocking me," said Sarah Davis, junior.

Well, students of LBHS, you are all semi-correct; your vocabulary skills have clearly not grown dull over the summer! Atrabilious actually means gloomy or morose; bad-tempered or irritable.

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