

## Art, entrepreneurs and Van Gogh: Shaker Traces

**George Becker, Shaker Traces** By **George Becker, Shaker Traces**

on May 02, 2014 at 9:36 AM, updated May 02, 2014 at 9:53 AM

SHAKER HEIGHTS, Ohio – For the second consecutive April, the **Shaker Heights Public Library** and the city’s Tree Advisory Board did not let Arbor Day and National Poetry Month slip by unnoticed. Nor did a host of preschoolers and elementary school students.

Each took part in the 2014 Arbor Day Poster and PoeTREE contest co-sponsored by the library and the advisory board. Besides gaining recognition for their efforts, the winners will have an opportunity to plant flowering trees donated by Gali’s Florist and Gardening Center. This year’s winners are:



- The Shaker Heights Cooperative Preschool: First Place, Preschool Division:
- Poster: “The Four Seasons”
- Becki Harper, preschool director; teachers Alison Day and Amy Fredricks
- Preschool artists Samuel Moyer; Micah Lewis; Gwyneth Vokes; Ava Hirsch; Emmi Puussaar; Henry Starinsky; Krystal Escobedo; Tamim Al Qahtani; Elizabeth Day; and Maisie Fredricks
- Ali Chaudhry, Mercer School, First Place, Kindergarten Division, Poster
- Umer S. Chaudhry, Mercer School, First Place, Third Grade Division, Poetry, “We All Like Trees”
- Morgan Leeson, Onaway School, First Place, Third Grade Division, Poster
- Jakayla Douglas, St. Stanislaus School, First Place, Fourth Grade Division, Poetry, “What a Beautiful Day”
- Andrew France, schooled at home, First Place, Sixth Grade Division, Poster

On hand for the awards celebration were Mayor Earl Leiken, Library Director Luren Dickinson, City Forester Pat Neville and City Councilwoman Nancy Moore.

Entrepreneur Institute of University School launches new program:

Three University School middle and high school students are doing more than just studying retail: On May 10, they will sell different granola, loose-leaf tea and waffle-and-pancake mixes at the Shaker Square North Union Farmers Market. Each product is based on a business plan that they have developed with their teachers.

The new program, part of the school’s Entrepreneurship Institute, is called The Young Entrepreneur Market (YEM), funded by The Burton D. Morgan Foundation and The Veale Foundation, with support from the popular market.



Jakayla Douglas, first-place winner in the Fourth Grade Division of the second annual Arbor Day and National Poetry Month poster and poetry contest co-sponsored by the Shaker Heights Public Library and the Shaker Heights Tree Advisory Board

Other East Side schools participating in the YEM program on Saturdays at Shaker Square through June 28 are Laurel, Beaumont, Gilmour Academy, Montessori High School at University Circle, and Hathaway Brown.

University School's Entrepreneur Institute began in 2006 to help students learn "entrepreneurial skills and provide opportunities to experience entrepreneurship..."

"Students enjoy learning about entrepreneurship at their schools but many want to experience it," Institute Director Greg Malkin said.

YEM Director Reka Barabas added: "By experiencing entrepreneurship first-hand, students will develop sales and customer service skills, assess customer response, hone pricing, gauge competition and polish promotion. In addition, the Market will serve to raise public awareness of youth entrepreneurship in Northeast Ohio."

The program is open to all middle school and high school entrepreneurs who are affiliated with a school or organization, Barabas said.

Shaker psychiatrist discusses Van Gogh's mental illness at Art Museum symposium:

Recently, the art of life of Vincent Van Gogh was very much on the mind of Joseph Calabrese, M.D., director of the Bipolar Research Center, Mood Disorders Program, of University Hospitals. With curator William H. Robinson, Ph.D., Calabrese appeared at a symposium at the **Cleveland Museum of Art** that took up the controversial question of whether Van Gogh suffered from bipolar disorder, a hereditary condition formerly known as manic-depressive illness.

Their appearance was part of the Museum's program devoted to relationship between creativity, bipolar disorder, and suicide. Van Gogh's life – his art, his mental instability – was the focus of enormous scrutiny.

During his presentation Calabrese posed the hypothetical question: If this diagnosis of bipolar disorder was correct, what effect did the disorder have on the artist's life and creative achievements? The psychiatrist pointed out that Van Gogh experienced his most productive during periods of clinical depression and hypomania before finally taking his own life. For example, he said, during a 10-year span the troubled Van Gogh created between 4,000 to 5,000 paintings and sketches.

In reviewing many of the artist's paintings and sketches, Robinson's remarks were devoted to: "A Troubled Diagnosis: Manic Depressive Illness, Suicide, and Creative Temperament." He is the Museum's curator of Modern European Art.

Following their presentation, Calabrese talked about the diagnosis of bipolar disorder, its relationship to the creative temperament, and its management and treatment.



Joseph Calabrese, M.D., presenter at a symposium at the Cleveland Museum of Art that focused on the art and troubled life of Vincent Van Gogh

**Send news about people or events to [george@gabecker.com](mailto:george@gabecker.com) or **GBecker1018****

