

An evening of “Art Uncorked” at International Bank in Raton

By Kimberly Adams Staff writer | Posted: Wednesday, September 17, 2014 10:35 am

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RATON – Wine and plenty of hors d’oeuvres made for a perfect early Friday (Sept. 12) evening soiree at the Raton Arts & Humanities Council 38th annual International Art Exhibit & Sale.

Art viewers and artists from Northern New Mexico and southern Colorado mingled together in a maze of 57 unique, colorful, art pieces in International Bank’s International Room.

Local professional photographer, Raton High School teacher and freelance writer Tim Keller won First Place in the Photography division of his piece titled “Clovis Train Yard.”

With this piece particular piece, Keller took advantage of natural light in the early morning hours in Clovis, New Mexico.

Trinidad-based sculptress Lora Nava had on a display a tall piece titled “Her Joyful Noise” which she dedicated to animals “that elate you.” Nava incorporated into the piece her cat that drapes around her neck and shoulders.

“It’s the spirit that the animals make you feel,” she said. More of Nava’s work can be seen at the Corazon Gallery in downtown Trinidad, Colorado.

Mixed Media artist William O’Keeffe of Raton displayed two unique abstract impressionist pieces using “matter material” consisting of sand, hair and bone which is signature in all of his work, he said. The art exhibited by O’Keeffe used material collected by the Capulin Volcano located east of Raton near the borders of Colfax and Union Counties.

Natural Landscapes inspires O’Keeffe’s work.

“I’m obsessed with natural history, he said.



Tim Keller (middle left) of Raton receives a First Place award for a photography piece titled “Clovis Train Yard” at the 38th annual International Bank Art Exhibit & Sale Sept. 12.

International Bank is the official sponsor of this long standing local event. Featured art judge this year was Santa Fe-based Glen Neff, a Jack-of-All-Trades of sort in the New Mexico art and music scene. Best of Show went to Frank La Lumia with a piece titled “Enchanted Forest.” Some of the artists were successful in selling their pieces, as seen by the volunteers who handled the crowd at the entrance table to the reception.