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Laguna artists sought for city centennial celebration

SEBASTOPOL — Artists walked the Laguna de Santa Rosa Wetlands Preserve this week looking for interesting landscapes in preparation for the city's centennial celebration next year.

Members of the The Art Workshop of Western Sonoma County (AWS) and the Laguna Foundation are organizing an art marathon in preparation for the centennial celebration next year.

The Laguna de Santa Rosa Centennial art marathon will run until June 2002. Members of the art community are invited to visit the Laguna once a week to create paintings or other media showcasing the beauty of the area, organizers said.

Artists will have the opportunity to paint areas of the Laguna during three different seasons, organizers said, and to capture a variety of waterfowl and other native birds on canvas.

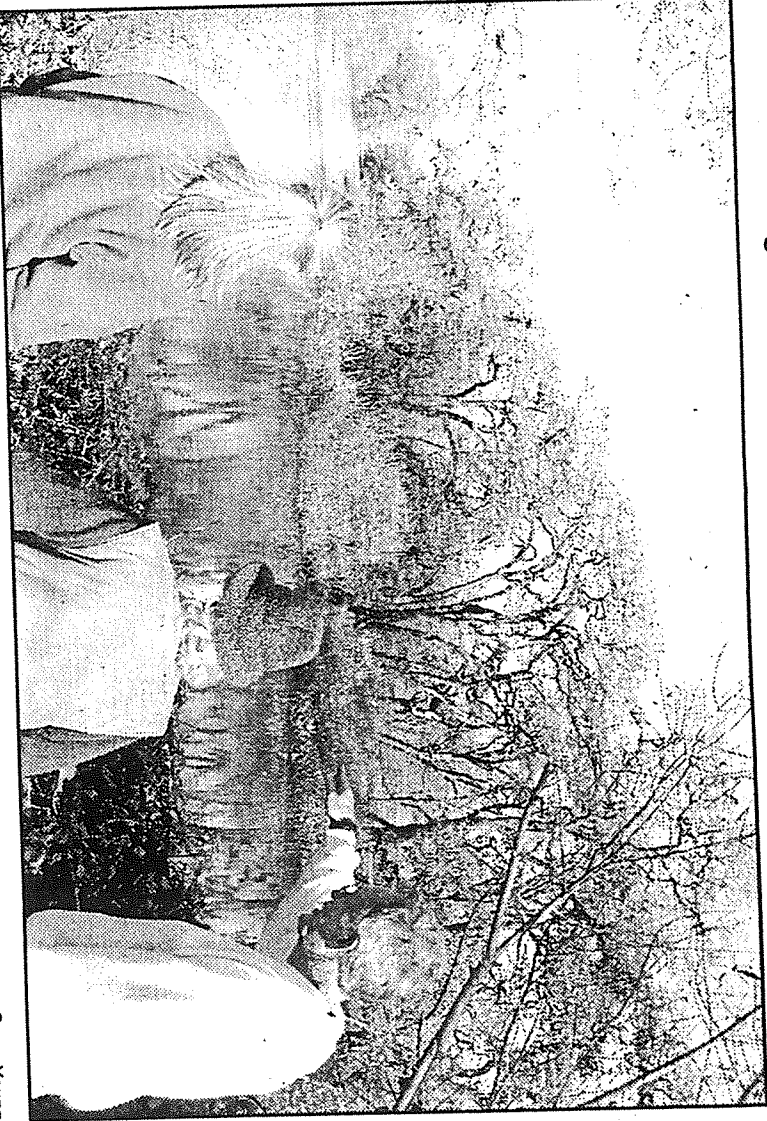
Laguna docents will lead the artists to vistas not normally open to the public. The locations will change every

week. "We want to cover a lot of the area," said organizer Helen Shane. "We're going to be all over. I think it's exciting."

In the week before the centennial celebration, the public is invited to attend a "paint-out" at the Laguna to watch the artists at work. To be eligible for the centennial exhibit, artists must attend at least four of the weekly Laguna art sessions.

On Friday, June 14, 2002, the AWS and the Laguna Foundation will hold "Laguna de Santa Rosa Centennial Night" at the Sebastopol Veteran's building, where informational material and displays about the Laguna will be provided. The Laguna paintings will be exhibited and sold at a silent auction, with proceeds going to AWS, the Laguna Foundation and the artists.

Artists not affiliated with the AWS are invited to participate in the marathon. For more information, contact Shane at 823-3744 or shane@monitor.net.



LANDSCAPE — From left to right, artists Andrea Way and Helen Shane and Laguna docent Bob Evans look out over one of the vistas they hope artists will paint during a weekly painting workshop.

Corey Young

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