

The Gordon House decorates its interior

Interesting shapes, colors adorn Wright-designed walls

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Appeal Tribune

September 20

SILVERTON — It's a classic art pair: the Gordon House and "Evelyn's Friends," a new art show running until Oct. 29 featuring Northwest artists.

The show, which opened Sept. 10, features the works of artists who attended Mills College in California, the alma mater of the Evelyn Gordon who once owned the house that is now located at the Oregon Garden.

Gordon was an advocate for the arts, collecting works and creating her own. In fact, when the blueprints for the Gordon House were drawn up, Evelyn specifically requested an area in which she could practice weaving.

Today, the home has an alcove overlooking the main stairwell Wright called the "Loom Room" where Gordon often wove with her small loom.

To pay homage to Gordon's affinity of the arts, the "Evelyn's Friends" show is designed to occur every other year, beginning with this year's event.

"The art is an interesting blend of styles," Gordon House Manager Molly Murphy said. "There are several different eras and several different styles represented, with the art of alumni from the '50s, '60s, '70s, '80s, '90s and even from 2001."

Featured artwork includes watercolor, photography, oil paintings, lithographs, sculpture, glass, scarves and weavings.

"Some of the pieces that were created recently have a real '50s flavor," Murphy said.

It is this flavor that makes the art exhibition and sale so appropriate for the Gordon House.

The Gordon House was designed in 1957 in the traditional Frank Lloyd Wright style, which efficiently uses space and materials.

Artwork featured during "Evelyn's Friends" similarly use Wright's '50s-perfected theory of using materials and methods in unexpected ways in order to perfect the spaces in which we live, often ending in an abstract yet soothing piece, according to Murphy.

"We're hoping to see people from all over come and enjoy the art," Murphy said. "This is really great."