



Photo by Meaghan Moody

ACHS band director Patrick Hayes, conducts the Jazz band through their performance at the "Art Crawl." (above) The event was held on May 5 at the bandshell in downtown Antioch.

Antioch students jazz up downtown 'Art Crawl'

By Meaghan Moody

District 34's "Art Crawl" transformed downtown Antioch into a celebration of the fine arts on Saturday, May 5.

Visual artists and many musicians performed in various locations such as the band shell, the coffee house, and the PM&L theatre.

Among the performers were Antioch Community High School's jazz band and choir, who both performed in the band shell.

"The idea is people will stroll around Antioch hearing the different groups performing and to get all of the artists in Antioch together to showcase their talent," said ACHS band director Patrick Hayes.

The "Art Crawl" originally started out as an art festival for just the District 34 students and was held at Antioch Upper Grade School (AUGS).

"The district has been encouraging us to continue that tradition and this year, with Dr. Deborah Harding's leadership and encouragement, we made it happen," said AUGS choir teacher Cathy Scott.

Those producing the "Art Crawl" wished to reveal to others the positive impact fine arts has on not just students but communities.

"The 'Art Crawl' was designed to show that participation in the arts continues beyond the school years and throughout life, and these activities bond families and communities together," added Scott.

Students said that they also enjoyed performing for the community.

"It was a really good venue, and I think it helped jazz band and young musicians perform for a crowd," expressed senior and drum set player Chris Pracht.

The jazz band and choir used

the experience as a summary of the numbers they practiced for the year.

"I was really excited that the jazz band had so many pieces to choose from. I'm also glad we had at least one more performance before the end of the year," said Hayes.

The entire community took part in producing the "Art Crawl."

"The Fine Arts teachers worked with the Village of Antioch, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Roger Shule of the Art Foundation to bring the community and schools together in a day that celebrates the theme 'Arts Build Community,'" said Scott.

Many that attended the event hope to see the "Crawl" for many years to come in downtown Antioch.

"Overall, the 'Art Crawl' was a big hit. We received lots of positive feedback from students, parents, performers, and business people," said Scott.



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One of three soloists at the "Art Crawl", freshman Joe Utter jams out a tune on his alto-saxophone.

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