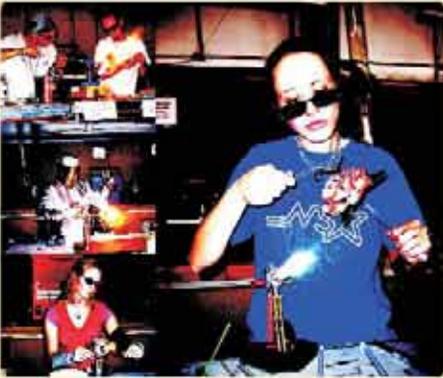


F L A M E



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Eugene, Oregon, located in the heart of Lane County, could arguably be the mecca of modern flameworking in the good 'ole US of A. Home of the Oregon Ducks, the late Ken Kesey, Bob Snodgrass, Saturday Market (the oldest open-air market in the America) and of course, the Eugene Glass School. Bringing in such notables as Robert Mickelsen, Milton Townsend, Karen Willenbrink-Johnsen, Jenny Newton and Lori Copeland, the school teaches over 60 workshops throughout the year as well offering studio rentals. The Glass School for the past 6 years has served as a nexus for the West Coast glass community.

August 26th-28th, The EGS staff and volunteers came together for the 3rd Annual EGS Flame-Off. Preparations started Thursday as staff and volunteers made ready the 10,000 square foot teaching facility. Hoses and manifolds spread like vines as the demonstration area was finished. Tents were raised as vendors arrived to show off the newest in torches, kilns and color. By evening the school had been transformed into an arena in which many of the most innovative flameworkers would go all out over the next two days.



Friday came earlier than any of us were prepared. Eager attendees and contestants came early to the gathering. The joint was a swirl of badges and didyiums as the torches were lit that morning. A myriad of curious marbles, beads and sculpture were making their way to the annealers. Didi Dahlsrud of G.A. and Hugh Salkind kept up with the scheduling of 45 contestants and kept the action hopping. Filip Vogelpohl unveiled his GTT Cobra to produce a 5" vortex marble in just under the 1 1/2 hour time limit. Corrine Winters sculpted a graceful rose that later won her 1st place in the "wearable" division. As day turned to evening, the crowd kept growing to view the amazing levels that new artists are achieving in the flame.

Thank goodness Eugene has a coffee kiosk on every block. Saturday morning could have easily been Saturday afternoon without a stout quad-latte. The day was packed with non-stop action as 6 stations and 2 lathes stayed in continual use. As the studio heated up, attendees made their way out to the vendor pavilion. Dave Winship kept things hopping with a Rijke tube that he and Brent Turner had made of 144mm x 4' boro tubing. The Rijke tube is an open-cylinder resonator that uses heat to displace air and create strong harmonic tones. It is much like the fog horn on ocean going vessels. Glass Alchemy and Northstar both showcased new colors of their palette. Every tool imaginable was to among vendors such as ABR Imagery and Winship Designs. All in all, over 300 flameworkers had travelled from all points to check out the premier facility.

As the competition winded down, kegs of refreshments and furnace demonstrations were winding up. There was not a seat in the house as Charlie Lowry and an impromptu team sculpted a massive sea turtle. The demo, lasting over two hours, ending in a climactic meeting with the floor of the glass school. As libations continued to flow, firedancers entertained late into the night.

Mimosas provided vitamin C to competitors and attendees Sunday morning as Thomas Mueller-Litz demonstrated Lauschan montage techniques. A mountain of prizes donated by industry leaders was in

excess of \$15,000. Jenny Newton MC'd as the awards were given to the deserving contestants. The level of work produced this year was incredible. Everyone who attended found themselves incredibly inspired and anxious to get back to their studios. The day ended with lots of good byes to old friends and new. Congratulations to the Eugene Glass School staff and volunteers. We'll see you next year.



The winners of the 2005 Flame-Off events were:

LATHE

1st Place: Dan "Croix Fero" Jensen
 2nd Place: Kelly Green
 3rd Place: Nathan Maris

MARBLE/PAPERWEIGHT

1st Place: Sabina Boehm
 2nd Place: Filip Vogelpohl
 3rd Place: John French

WEARABLES

1st Place: Corinne Winters
 2nd Place: Julie Riggs
 3rd Place: Klaus Pressler

SCULPTURE/GOBLET INDIVIDUAL

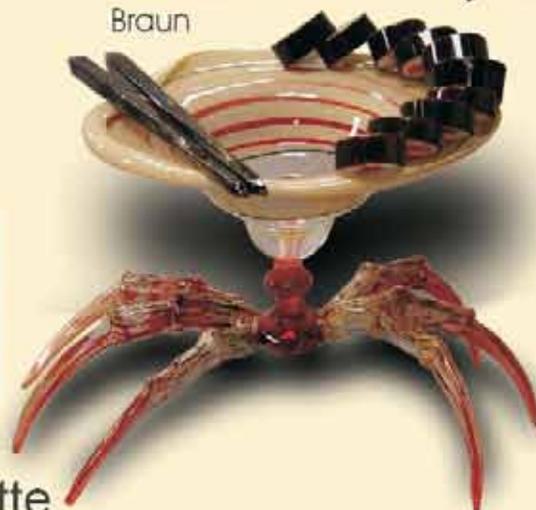
1st Place: Tim Lindemann
 2nd Place: Manuel Amezcua
 3rd Place: Mark McCourt

PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

Gregory Scheyers

SCULPTURE/ GOBLET TEAM

1st Place: Wil Menzies & Tim Lindemann
 2nd Place: Deveron Musgrave & Marcel Braun



In memory of
Renee Wyser-Pratte

It is with great sadness that we announce the tragic death of our friend and Board President, Renee Wyser-Pratte, who was killed in a kayak accident on Sunday, July 31, 2005. Renee was a gift to all of us. Staff, board, visitors and members at the Eugene Glass School will miss her. She dedicated herself, heart and soul, to EGS. Renee was an angel to the cause. With heartfelt condolence to Renee's family, we say goodbye to our friend.