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# Wine and Vine poster unveiled

By Bob Flynn (bflynn@jessaminejournal.com)



Bill Dawson, a prepress operator at the Lexington Herald-Leader and a freelance artist, won the 2008 Kentucky Wine & Vine poster contest with the above entry.

The fifth annual Kentucky Wine & Vine Fest, one of Nicholasville's most popular events, is less than a month away, and event organizers are gearing up for another great event.

This year for the first time the festival committee held a fine arts contest to pick the official Wine & Vine Fest poster design.

The winning poster will be used to market the Wine Fest on posters, postcards and newspaper ads and will be featured on the Fest's kentuckywineandvine.com Website. The winning artist also received \$250.

Nicholasville Now board member, and Wine & Vine Fest volunteer Jeff McDonald said the contest popular and attracted entries from across the state, but the winning design was submitted by Nicholasville resident Bill Dawson.

"The Art Depository really helped promote the contest and with their help we got word about the fest out to

a different audience and we got entries all over the state," McDonald said. "It speaks well of the talent we have in the area that out of all the entries, the winning one was by a local artist."

"There was a good variety of entries, both traditional media, like water color and oils, to computer generated designs like Bill Dawson's," he added.

Dawson who is a prepress operator at the Lexington Herald-Leader and a freelance graphic artist said he decided to enter after seeing the contest advertised in the newspaper.

“I’ve always been interested in drawing and painting and then in 1996 I got into graphics and I love doing graphic designs,” Dawson said. “I saw the contest advertised and I thought ‘why not.’ It was the first contest I have ever entered and I was quiet pleased to win.”

“I knew I had a good design, but you never know what the other entries look like, so you don’t really know how you’ll do, but it was fun,” he added. “I think they liked the classic look of the design.”

The 2008 Kentucky Wine & Vine Fest runs from May 8 through May 10 and opens with Kentucky Wine Country Tours and the Grape Growers Barbecue and Dance on Thursday, May 8.

Friday’s events include the Kentucky Wine & Vine Fest Golf Tournament at Connemara Golf Course and the Wine Social Dance at the Chrisman Mill Winery.

Saturday the festivities include Cooking with Wine demonstrations by local chefs, the Run for the Merlot competition and an International and Domestic Wine Tent featuring wine tastings from approximately 12 Kentucky vineyards and wineries.

The event also has a commercial wine making competition for the first time this year.

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