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Crowd Charmed by Art and Artists at Gallery Reception

By Cathy Tyson



Wayne Blake posing in the Lafayette Gallery Sculpture Garden with his unique art pieces. Photo Cathy Tyson

Under gloriously sunny skies, with backyard azaleas blooming right on cue, there was a fantastic turnout for the Lafayette Gallery's current exhibit "Imagine," celebrating the seasonal re-opening of the outdoor Sculpture Garden.

What could be more welcoming than being greeted by a guitar player at the entrance, wine and appetizers throughout? Founding member and print maker Linda Yoshizawa commented on the "very festive" atmosphere and the variety of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art pieces. In business since 1990, the Gallery is a collective of 23 artists that sell an array of art: jewelry, craft, sculpture and works in oil, acrylic, mixed media and more. They share the charming house with "The Art Room," an art instruction studio.

One of the many artists featured in the backyard was the team of Wayne Blake and girlfriend Dayna Hinson; together they use laser cut recycled stainless steel and a blow torch to create lovely garden butterflies and dragonflies. When asked about the process, Blake said, "Her torch, my ideas." He has a day job welding at cellular sites for a telecom company and noticed a by-product of the welding was an array of colors on steel.

Although the butterflies were flying out the door, fear not, the couple will be making more. The Gallery, located across the street from Chow Restaurant on Lafayette Circle is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.



Photo Cathy Tyson

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