

ACC PUMPKIN PAINTING WAS A 'SOLD OUT' EVENT

Kannikar Petersen, CCCC Board member



St. Helens Arts and Cultural Commission hosted Pumpkin Painting at the Children's Fair on Saturday, October 26, 2013. The free event was successful beyond anything that the Commission had anticipated. A hearty thank-you is to be extended to the Kiwanis Daybreakers for letting the St. Helens Arts and Cultural Commission take part in the annual Children's Fair at the St. Helens High School and for inviting the Commission back for 2014!

As the doors opened at 10 am, young children and teens poured into the Arts and Cultural Commission's corner to paint their pumpkins. Using the five primary colors: red, blue, yellow, black and white, the young "artists" proved adept at decorating their individual pumpkins. (More photographs are posted on the City of St. Helens' website.) Six volunteers had to work extra-hard to keep up with the demand. Parents snapped shots of their young artists painting their pumpkins and proudly praised and encouraged them. Finished "works of art" were then lined up outside at the entrance of the high school, welcoming or bidding adieu to parents and kids! The "young artists" picked up their pumpkins on their way home to decorate their Halloween 'haunts'!



By about 1 pm, all pumpkins, over 150, were painted! It was a 'sold out' free event. Even though the commissioners were very pleased with the overwhelming success, they were sad to turn away the late-arrivals.

The Pumpkin Patch at Sauvie Island kindly donated the trailer load of pumpkins. This was the second year that the Arts and Cultural Commission had hosted Pumpkin Painting for Halloween. Last year the event was at the Masonic building in downtown St. Helens. The event was in support of the "*Spirit of Halloweentown*" a series of events held in St. Helens during October every year.

St. Helens Arts and Cultural Commission is a City of St. Helens commission with its mission to enrich the community through the arts. This year the Commission also hosted the Art Show at the Maritime Heritage Festival, the Trash Can Painting Competition on the Fourth of July and a series of five free workshops on Arts and Crafts for children and young adults.

