

COMMUNITY

Los Altos DAR chapter honors local artist

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Courtesy of Donna Santistevan

Pictured from left are: Juno Szalay, vice regent of the Los Altos chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution; award-winning artist Holly Van Hart; and Donna Santistevan, chapter regent.

The Los Altos chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution recently gave Holly Van Hart the Women in the Arts Recognition Award, which spotlights women who have made significant achievements in their artistic fields.

Van Hart received the award for her nature-inspired abstract paintings. She creates images of forests, trees, fields and flowers to symbolize abundance and the generation of new life and new ideas.

Van Hart's work has won many awards, including Grand Prize at the California Statewide Painting Competition and Best of Houzz. She received a fellowship from the Clark Hulings Fund for Visual Artists.

Part of the proceeds from various sales of her nature paintings have been donated to Ice911, The Nature Conservancy and Keep A Breast Foundation.

"I've long admired DAR, and feel so honored to be recognized with this award," Van Hart said.

During a small ceremony, DAR representatives revealed that they uncovered a Revolutionary patriot who shared Van Hart's lineage. As a result, she is possibly pursuing membership in the DAR.

For more information on the local DAR, email Juno Szalay at JuPeLi@comcast.net or losaltosdar@gmail.com or visit losaltos.californiadar.org.

To view Van Hart's work, visit hollyvanhart.com.

HISTORY, MEMBERSHIP

The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in 1890 to preserve the memory and spirit of those who contributed to securing American independence.

For more than 125 years, the DAR has strived to bring awareness to the sacrifices and enduring legacy of all patriots who fought for America's freedom.

Through the DAR Genealogical Research System (dar.org/GRS), the public can access a free database of information amassed by the DAR about those patriots.

DAR is a nonprofit, nonpolitical women's service organization with more than 185,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters worldwide. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership.

DAR members carry out the mission of promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism.

For more information on the DAR, visit dar.org.