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SECTION

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KAMLOOPS
THIS WEEK

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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South Kamloops secondary student Josh Kully is finishing up work on a mural outside an art classroom at the school. Dave Eagles/KTW

Student work a legacy for all

By Dale Bass
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Opinion is divided on the mural Josh Kully is creating.

Some people love the artist he has drawn in the montage, but find the graffiti artist included too dark and scary.

Others adore the spray-paint carrying person and the stylized writing just behind him.

The divergent views delight the young artist "because it kind of defeats the purpose of art if it doesn't appeal to everyone in some way."

Josh, 17, is on a tight schedule, though — he's got to have the work done before he graduates later this month, if only to ensure he gets it marked for his final art credit.

Josh says he's been interested in art for as long as he can remember, intrigued by the cartoons he watched as a kid and the panels he read in comic books.

"I never drew stick men,"



he says.

"I usually get into stuff that amuses me at the beginning and then I just keep at it. Like skateboarding. I love it as much as I love art"

Which is why he chose a skateboard theme for an art project he did for a calendar Grade 12 students at the school put together earlier this year.

For the mural, "I chose to put as many forms of art as

I could into it so that there's something that reaches out to everyone."

In addition to the graffiti and the fine-arts people, there's a sketcher and — once he gets it finished — a sculptor.

Tying it together are borders inspired by comic-book art.

Josh's teacher, Lisa Yamaoka, hopes he continues in the field because she's watched his talent and confidence grow

in what she calls his "street art" style.

"It's kind of weird," Josh says of how the mural has come together.

"I had sketched out the artist and the graffiti guy before so that came together and I just freehanded the others.

"I added the sculptor at the last second just to cover more of the art forms."

There was talk at one point of changing the designation of the room in the John Peterson campus of the secondary school where the mural is being painted — and that might have meant seeing his mural painted over.

"But that's not going to happen, so it's going to stay," Josh says.

And, yes, if he comes back for his 10-year reunion, one of the first stops he'll make in the building will be room 116 — just to check in on the little bit of artistic history he's leaving behind.



Performing Arts winners

Kamloops had several winners at the Provincial Performing Arts Festival in Duncan last month, including:

- Intermediate vocal variety: Katherine Bermiller, honourable mention;
- Senior strings: Morgan Gauthier, honourable mention;
- National strings: Colleen Veables, winner;
- Junior chamber group: Haynes Family Trio (Morgan Gauthier, Julien Haynes, Madeleine Haynes), honourable mention;
- Junior speech arts: Brett Cosco, runner-up;
- Intermediate speech arts: Zoe Walter, runner-up;
- Junior Shakespeare: Brett Cosco, runner-up;
- Senior Shakespeare: Zoe Walter, runner-up;
- Ballet III: Emily Cowling, honourable mention;
- Modern II: Lily Zhang, runner-up;
- Choral classes: Serioius Options Men, Noralee Quast conducting, winner; Kamloops Thompson Honour Choir, Christy Gauley conducting, winner and Kamloops Thompson Children's Choir, Jayne Latta conducting, honourable mention;
- Scholarship for most outstanding performance at the national concert: Colleen Venables.

Hey Romeo

The Sunday June 13 concert by the country band Hey Romeo, scheduled for the parking lot outside Lammler's Western Wear at the Summit Shopping Centre, is at 2 p.m.

On stage

The next play to be performed at the TRU Actors Workshop Theatre is *Tests* by Paul Ableman.

The play, directed by Wes Eccleston, is described as an assorted collection of playlets exposing the silliness of a modern human experience.

It features Alana Sayers, Brigitte Ganger, Caitlin Stanley, Conan Carlick, Darren Mortimore, Davis Brunt, Jeremy Avery, Jocelyn Smith, Mela Bilodeau and Shondra MacLaurin.

It runs from June 17 to June 19, starting at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door or can be reserved by calling 250-377-6100.