

May 17, 2006

L.A. Davis: Brevard Museum exhibit going to the dogs

They say it's a dog's life. Heck, it seems even people who don't own one react positively to dogs. And when dogs are dressed up all cute and cuddly, well, even better.

But, only at the Brevard Museum of Art and Science could one see dogs and bees -- yes, bees. The exhibit features the work of nationally known California artist **Rose-Lynn Fisher**. But, Fisher's "Doggedly BEEyond" exhibit is not about the birds and the bees, but dogs and bees. Or, at least Fisher's dog, Douglas, and his escapades with bees, said **Jackie Borsanyi**, curator of exhibitions at the museum.

Then, there's the Doggedly BEEyond Dog Parade and Fun Day and a Wanna-Bee Children's Art Activity, which herald the beginning of the exhibit.

The Wanna-Bee Children's Art Activity will begin at 4 p.m. June 1 in the art galleries of the museum. The hands-on program is free and open to the public.

Fisher will conduct a gallery walk of her exhibit at 10 a.m. June 2 also in the museum's art galleries. The walk is free with admission.

Then, comes the dog parade and contest. The dog parade and associated events run from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. June 3 in the parking lot behind the museum. Dogs can win in 12 different categories: from smallest to cutest costume, to best strut by dog and owner. Owners pay \$5 a dog to enter the contest.

Borsanyi said there will be food and other vendors, artists doing quick sketches and silhouette cuttings, photo opportunities for dog owners and their dogs, raffles and more.

"This is a free program and includes free admission to the museum to see the "Doggedly BEEyond" exhibition by Fisher," Borsanyi said.

Borsanyi said Fisher "photographs bees with a scientific electron microscope. That means they are magnified 300 times. You get a good look at their tiny bee bodies. The bee has been revered by every culture, turns nectar into honey and is a spatial genius."

Borsanyi said seeing the bee at microscopic level is art, but so is Douglas, the dog, as he interacts with the bees -- hence the name of the photographic exhibit and the inspiration for the dog parade day.

For information about the Doggedly BEEyond exhibit, which runs from May 27 to July 23, the dog parade or the children's art activity with Fisher, call the museum at 242-0737.