

special report

Chalk artistry – Time for YOUR talent!

*'Jupiter Jubilee'
Street Chalking
is Saturday*

By **ANDREA
LUSSIER**

Special to The Courier Newsweekly

Jennifer Nichols had piles of sketch books as a child. She knew at an early age, she had a great passion for art. It was destined that she would, one day, become a noted artist. Decades later, Jennifer Nichols is now known as Jennifer Chaparro, Jupiter's own world-traveled, award-winning, chalk artist.

See **TALENT, 11**

ANDREA LUSSIER/
SPECIAL TO THE
COURIER NEWS-
WEEKLY

Jennifer
Chaparro:
Jupiter's own
world-trav-
eled, award
winning chalk
artist.

PROVIDED
PHOTO

Jennin-
fer has
some
fun with
her art.



SPECIAL REPORT



ANDREA LUSSIER/SPECIAL TO THE COURIER NEWSWEEKLY

Come meet award winning chalk artist Jennifer Chaparro at the Jupiter Jubilee on Saturday, Feb. 7.

TALENT from 10

CULTIVATING CREATIVITY

Growing up in St. Joseph, Mich., Jennifer had many close influences that helped cultivate her creative side.

Although her parents were not artists, they supported her passion. Her mother was sure to always have art supplies readily available for the budding artist.

Then there was Jennifer's grandfather, Harry E. Stinson,

"He was totally a big influence," recalls Jennifer of the prominent sculptor and art professor. Her grandmother also painted, contributed to the inspiring environment as well.

Jennifer's talents really developed in high school. Her first painting was sold while on display at a county fair and her paintings captured numerous awards and recognition, all defining moments for the ambitious young artiste.

After high school, she attended UCLA and graduated with a degree in design. Then, real-life began. She became a mother of two daughters and made a living by working in advertising. The talented artist continued to show her beautiful paintings in numerous galleries and events.

DISCOVERING HER PASSION

In 1999 Jennifer, and her family, moved to Palm Beach where she would, in 2004, at a street painting festival in Lake Worth, discover her ultimate artistic passion: Chalk art.

"I finally found an avenue where I could reach people and that's what's so satisfying about it," Jennifer said recently.

She had heard of the festival and

signed up with her oldest daughter Mercedes, who is also a very talented artist.

"I would get to spend the whole weekend with my teenage daughter, I thought - let's give it a try."

She was surprised that she enjoyed it as much as she did. "I never liked chalk until I tried it in a larger medium (street painting)" Consequently, Jennifer didn't get into chalk art until she was over 40.

Jennifer, Mercedes, and her youngest daughter Carmen, who is also very artistically talented, found a new hobby they could do together. Eventually, offers came in for the new chalk artist to create her works of art at special events. In 2009 circumstances enabled her to create chalk art full time.

Amazing Street Painting, Jennifer's new business, was born.

TRAVELING / REWARDS

Jennifer traveled the nation and even the world, creating astounding works of art at street painting festivals everywhere.

Two of her most memorable trips were to Ireland and Germany, where she got to work side by side with other artists from different countries and creative backgrounds. She enjoys the collaborative effort of working with others, claiming it's more fun.

The artist describes chalk art as very rewarding.

"You're getting constant feedback. One of the reasons I brought my daughters into it is because you are getting that constant feedback, it's great for artists to hear that."

The only negative issue she has encountered is the elements. "The

See TALENT, 12

Arts Society



CAROL SAUNDERS

From gallery openings and theater events to charity functions and fundraisers, Carol's got it covered in the Jupiter Courier Newsweekly.



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TALENT from 11

hardest thing is when you don't get to finish it. We always walk away really depressed. "She recalls one time when it rained so hard it washed away the whole painting.

As the years went by, Jennifer had established herself as a well-known chalk artist. She even received a "Maestro Certification" from the

Florida Chalk Artists Association, which officially states that the artist is a full fledged master of chalk art.

The Town of Jupiter was lucky enough to snag Jennifer in her slow times. For the past five years, she has served as a liaison for the town's art committee and as a graphic designer. Three years ago, she created the street painting portion of the Jupiter Jubilee, which has become a great large-crowd pleaser.

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Jennifer's art comes with all types of motifs.



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ART ADVOCACY / JUBILEE

The artist is a huge advocate of art, street painting especially.

Coming from a background where her talents were able to develop, she urges parents to do the same. When asked how this can be accomplished she said: "Expose them to as much art as you can and give them plenty of supplies."

She also started a nonprofit organization called "International Street

Painting Society" that connects street painters worldwide. The group introduces and educates the public, on an international level, to the phenomenon known as street painting.

Come see Jennifer and her works of art at the Jupiter Jubilee Street Chalking Exhibit on Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Jupiter Community Center.

See for yourself what this talented artist creates!

For more information, visit online: <http://www.amazingstreetpainting.com> and <http://www.internationalstreetpaintingsociety.com>.



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Pegasus is one of Jennifer's favorite pieces.



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Jennifer and her two daughters – Mercedes (middle) and Carmen (right) love their hobby that they can do together.

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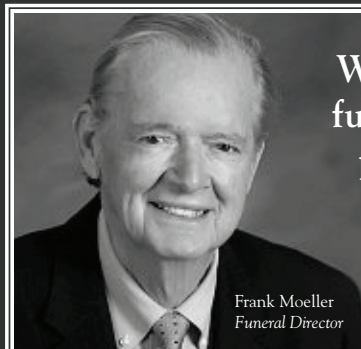
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